

# The KLONDIKE Sun

DAWSON CITY, YUKON VOL 2, NO 2, MONTHLY 50 CENTS



Photo by Kathy Jones Gates

## Bears Prompt Concerns Council Considers Garbage Options

by Dan Davidson

Stimulated by numerous complaints of bear problems on the Dome, Dawson's councillors have indicated their desire to relocate the dump as soon as it is feasible to do so, and to examine putting its replacement somewhere other than on the Dome.

Councillor Lambert Curzon felt that the public concern now would only increase in the future as more residential lots are opened on the Dome. The situation could only get worse as time goes on.

"People are paranoid about bears," said Mayor Jenkins. "They should phone Game Branch when they have problems. If they get enough complaints they will do something."

Curzon agreed that the fear of the bears was probably worse than the real danger, but felt that it would be hard to explain

this to the Stobbe family, who have already had to shoot one bear, and have subsequently had another one drop by to examine their outdoor freezer.

Councillor MacKenzie, considering the Stobbe situation and complaints from the Dawson Ski Association, said, "These people expect us to solve this problem tonight."

Jenkins said that was impossible. The studies and soil tests to select a new dump site would take nine months to complete even if the city were ready to begin them immediately. Council has recently taken steps to expand the dump slightly in order to get two final years of operation out of the site.

Having perused the 1986 pre-design report on possible new dump sites, council members decided to have the consultant come to Dawson and meet with them to determine the town's best options. Of a dozen sites examined in the document, only three seemed viable at that time. One of these is on a mining claim, which Jenkins says will likely price it out of contention. One of the others is a second Dome site, while the other is near Goring Creek, a good half hour's drive from the city.

Jenkins reiterated to council his concern that the selection of this site would nearly triple the cost of garbage disposal in the town, involving as it does a much longer round trip hauling time and far higher expenses on the part of the contractor who does the job.

## Federal Building Under Review Mayor Says Post Office Threatened

by Dan Davidson

Mayor Peter Jenkins feels quite certain that the days of the Dawson outlet of Canada Post are numbered, and he addressed June 21's council meeting on this subject.

"Privatisation (of Canada Post) is not in the best interests of the city," Jenkins told council members, but he added that he is certain Canada Post will be attempting it here.

Jenkins outlined the scenario that he believes will occur. In his mind the life span of the present federal building, which houses Canada Post on 5th Avenue is limited. It will be found to be inadequate and in need of replacement. When the plans are drawn it will be found that Canada Post, which enjoys a generous rental deal in the present building, no longer fits into the new design. At that point the drama will play itself out much as it did in Whitehorse a few years ago, ending with postal operations located in a franchise private outlet.

Jenkins produced a copy of a May 15th letter from the federal Minister of Public Works, Elmer MacKay, which had been routed to him by Yukon M.P. Audrey McLaughlin. The letter indicates that the fate of the Dawson building is under review and that "a decision about the future of the building should be finalized within the next two months."

"If we decide to dispose of the building," MacKay wrote to McLaughlin,

"we will consult with Canada Post on the future of the post office and the Corporation's continued occupancy. In addition, Public Works and Canada Post will carry out information sessions with the local authorities and yourself, regarding our respective proposed actions. I wish to point out, however, that our decision regarding the facility in no way affects Canada Post's decision regarding the nature of its operation in Dawson City."

It is well known that the corporation has already sought interested bidders on the operation under what it calls a service enhancement scheme, but so far only Chief Isaac Inc., the business arm of the Dawson Indian Band, is known to have responded. Over at that office, administrator Doug Beaumont says that the discussions have been very preliminary.

Some other business operators, who would prefer not to be identified, say that they have received a fairly hard sell approach from the post office regional management on the benefits of having an outlet in their stores. They agree with Jenkins that privatisation is not in the best interests of the community, and further feel that the ill will they would incur by opening an outlet in their stores would not be offset by the increased customer traffic that the corporation holds out as its main carrot in such operations.



Photo by Michael Gates

FIRE DEPT. HAS NEW HANG OUT! Cam Holloway (top) and Dennis Montgomery (bottom) practice rappelling on Crocus bluff. Under the watchful eye of Myk Kurth the volunteers learn new techniques that can be applied to rescue work.

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Yukon Order  
Of Pioneers  
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AND MUCH MORE!



## YEC Begins First Phase Study of Power Line from Mayo to Dawson City

Whitehorse - Tony Penikett, minister responsible for the Yukon Energy Corporation (YEC), announced on June 21st that the YEC board had decided to proceed with the first phase of work on the development of a power transmission line to connect the Mayo hydro generating system with Dawson City. The preliminary estimate of the cost of the power line is between \$16 and \$18 million.

The Dawson system is currently supplied entirely by diesel generators and, in 1989, the plant consumed approximately three million litres of diesel fuel worth almost \$1 million. Present growth rates indicate that this could increase to four million litres per year by the end of the decade. Connection Dawson to the Mayo hydro system would save more than 100 million litres of diesel fuel over the life of the power line.

"There are several positive aspects to this project," Penikett said. "It will replace imported diesel fuel and reduce the emissions associated with diesel generators, and it represents wise use of our renewable hydro resource."

He also pointed out the YEC would be creating employment opportunities during the construction phase of the power line, and would be promoting economic growth in Dawson by providing predictable, cost-effective power.

Phase one (of three phases) includes detailed engineering, cost estimating, identification of alternative routes and review of the financial aspects of project. Identification of environmental and socio-economic impacts of the potential project will also take place at this time. This phase will cost about \$200,000. After its completion, the YEC board will review the project before deciding whether or not to proceed with the next phase.

During the next several weeks, YEC will contact the regulatory bodies that are responsible for reviewing and licensing the activities involved in the construction and operation of a power line. These include the Regional Environmental Review Committee (RERC), which is part of the federal Environmental Assessment and review



Spotted at the Dump: 2 black bears, a fat brown bear and 3 cubs. They are not appreciated by the new Dome sub-division residents, but our visitors are taking advantage of the opportunity to photograph "wildlife" - even at the dump.

Photo by Kathy Jones-Gates

Process (EARP), and the Yukon Territory Water Board.

Obtaining the appropriate regulatory approval will require at least one year. If a decision is made to proceed, construction would require a further 1 1/2 years.

Prior to the closure of the United Keno Hill Mine (UKHM) in January, 1989, the Mayo hydro system generated about 34 million kw (GW) hours of electricity per year. Mayo currently uses about 8 GW hours per year and Dawson City requires about 10 GW hours per year.

The Mayo system has sufficient surplus hydro energy to meet Dawson's needs in the foreseeable future. If UKHM, or a new owner, were to begin operating again, Mayo's hydro system could meet both the mine's primary energy needs and Dawson's requirements for a number of years.

Happy  
Birthday  
Sourdough  
Sue!  
From the Sun staff.

## Bears Roam Ski Hill

by Dan Davidson

Dome residents are not the only folks having trouble with bears on the mountain. Members of the Dawson Ski Association are also reporting problems with local bruins.

Ski Club members are working on the Moose Mountain Ski Hill this summer, trying to get the T-bar system installed for use next winter. The downhill ski site is inside the city limits and just at the right of the present city dump, which is one of the local bears' favorite snacking spots.

"They're dragging their garbage all across the bottom of the hill," says ski club member Lori Sprockreeff.

They aren't just doing this at night or when the hill is deserted, either. Sprockreeff reports a sighting of 2 black bears and a brown on June 10, while she and some others were doing clearing and work at the site selected for the T-bar's motor housing.

"These bears had no fear of people," she says. She and her fellow workers cleared out of the area, back up the hill to where the men were working on something else.

This sort of thing really puts a crimp in the association's summer work plans. Work parties will still be going up the Dome to get things ready, but they will be going in larger groups and someone will be standing watch with a rifle while the others work.

"There were jobs up there that I could have done, or the kids could have done," said the mother of three elementary school age boys, "but we won't be going up there alone."

Sprockreeff concedes that the placement of the dump predates both the establishment of the ski hill and any other activity that might be on the Dome, but she thinks the expansion of the city boundaries a couple of years back should have hastened plans to move the dump, which she sees as a potential fire hazard as well as a nuisance and a bear attraction.

## Dawson Dump Should be Trashed, Says Resident

By Dan Davidson

"I believe the Dome Dump is a hazard," Marion Stobbe told a recent meeting of Dawson's city council. Stobbe and husband David are among the twelve owners of country residential housing lots in the new Dome subdivision. They are concerned about the dump for a number of reasons, but the major one is that it attracts bears.

"I don't want them passing through (my yard) on the way to the restaurant," Stobbe told council. Several have made it a habit in recent weeks. One got too bold and finally came to the door of the Stobbe's residence. David shot it. Right then Marion decided to start a petition to have the dump relocated. She was at

council to serve notice of this intent and to request that something be done about removing the dump as soon as possible.

She was not pleased to hear that it could take up to two years to get the present dump moved, and that the location favoured by Mayor Peter Jenkins was another site further up the Dome Road.

"A dump should not be within seven miles of habitation," Stobbe told councillors, citing the opinion she had received from the territorial wildlife office in Dawson.

"Your concerns are very valid," Jenkins responded, but he went on to add that the present dump has an effective life of two more years and that it will take that long

to go through the paperwork and procedures needed to select and prepare a new site.

Stobbe was not happy with this.

"Anything that can be done in two years should be done sooner," she said. "With two small children any bear is a hazard."

Jenkins was sympathetic, but firm.

"We just might have to shoot bears for a few years," he said, indicating that they would have to be treated like any other nuisance animal.

Stobbe was not particularly comforted by any of this, nor by Councillor Lynne MacKenzie's suggestion that all the Dome lot buyers know what they were getting into when they bought their lots.

"You did move to a wilderness area,"

MacKenzie said.

Jenkins could only promise that the dump relocation would be addressed in next year's city budget. His only other suggestion was that the city would be happy to buy back the Stobbe's lot for the original purchase price if the family was really that dissatisfied.

Stobbe rejected that idea and indicated that she would be going ahead with her petition to have the dump moved sooner. Furthermore, she would not be in favour of any future dump being relocated on the Dome Road.

The city has plans to open up another 20 Dome lots over the next year, so the problem will probably get worse before it gets better.



# The City News

## RCMP News Releases



On Thursday, June 14th, 1990, at approximately 1300 hours, Dawson City RCMP responded to a call at the corner of 5th Ave. and York St. Upon arrival, a male, approximately 45 years of age was found.

Police and ambulance personnel transported the man to Dawson City Nursing Station. Subject was pronounced

dead on arrival at the Nursing Station.

The Dawson City RCMP and the Yukon Coroner's office are investigating. An autopsy has been ordered and will be conducted in Vancouver. Cause of death is unknown.

Deceased has been identified as William Paul Vivian of Vancouver, B.C.

## Accident Investigation Continues

On June 13th, 1990, at approximately 2025 hours, Mr. Dean Foucher (21 years of age) from Maple Ridge, B.C., was accidentally shot in the back by a friend. Mr. Foucher was just walking out of his cabin at the Pay Dirt Holding Ltd. mining camp, located at Black Hills Creek, near Dawson City, Yukon. The weapon used was a .22 calibre rifle.

The police and medical personnel

attended the scene. Mr. Foucher was medicated to Dawson City via Trans North Turbo helicopter, and subsequently flown to Whitehorse for further medical attention. He is scheduled to undergo surgery on June 15th to remove the bullet still lodged in his chest. His condition is reported to be stable at this time.

The investigation into this matter is ongoing.



Photo by Kathy Jones-Gates

## Changes in the North End

# Lot Survey Planned

by Dan Davidson

A drive to the North End of Dawson City into the area identified on the municipal maps as the "government addition" reveals many mysteries. With the exception of Front Street, none of the remaining avenues line up. Some, like Third Ave, cease to exist. On a map First to Tenth Avenues are squeezed into the same space occupied by Front Street to Seventh Avenue in the rest of the town. Lots here are dwarfed in comparison with others in the community.

All this may soon end. There is a plan before council to resurvey the area north of Albert Street, line up the streets properly, re-size the lots, eliminate the back lanes (most of which exist only on maps) and generally make the area more usable for residential development.

The immediate spur for this plan is the proposed sewer and water extension in the block O area (bounded by Albert and Duke Streets, between 4rd and 5th Avenues) which will be going in later this summer at a cost of over half a million dollars.

Mayor Peter Jenkins explains that any plans for further extensions into the

unserved North End run into two problems. The first is that the area is low in comparison to the rest of the community. The second is that the existing streets don't line up at all, making for water and sewer pipes with zigs and zags in them. The combination of the two things would make necessary the construction of a step-up plant to move the sewage south. Realigning the streets would, according to the engineers with whom Jenkins has been talking, eliminate that need.

Aside from that, a re-survey would increase the size of the lots in the area and make them more attractive for housing development later on. Presently the lots are 50' x 60'. Jenkins sees the new lots as being 50' x 105'. Much of the land in that area is owned by the city.

Private landowners would see their lots increase in size in exchange for some land swaps and other considerations. Jenkins says he has talked to most area residents and that they agree with the idea so far.

Council has approved funding of \$3,000.00 for a preliminary study into the feasibility of the scheme.

## As Complaints Mount

# Dogs to Be Shot

by Dan Davidson

Dawson's council is doggedly tired of canine complaints, and has decided to take a tough line. All dogs found running loose between July 5 and July 19 will be deemed dangerous to the public interest and may be shot on sight says a council resolution.

The only problem is that the city has no dog catcher to carry out the job. The ad to hire one has been rolling on the DCTV

television bulletin channel for weeks, but there have been no applicants.

Jenkins says he has received numerous complaints about roving packs of dogs over the last week or so. In particular he cited the case of a horse and carriage tour operator who says that dogs have been chasing his carriage, running up behind his horses and nipping their legs.

Dogs are not the only nuisance animals around the community. Councillors report having received many calls and letters about them, as well as about the bears which have been roaming the Dome. Councillor Janet Lyon even reported receiving a call about a vicious cat which was attacking dogs.

City employees spray jets of water over newly seeded land beside the dike on Front Street.

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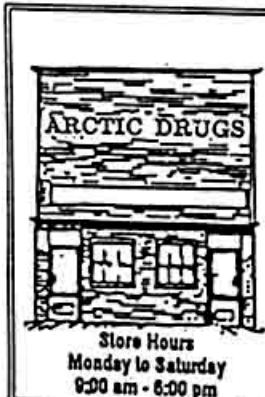
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## Editorial: Mind Your Manners

by Dan Davidson

Much has been said about extending courtesy to our guests while they are among us this summer. At the Sun we certainly have no quarrel with that philosophy, but we'd like to see it extended to everyone. Some of the staff around town are new enough to the community that they've taken to being a bit abrupt with the locals, and that isn't very nice either. Basic shop manners still include being polite, trying to get the prices right when you're ringing them up, and not taking out your personal problems on the customers.

No one's suggesting that you be little Johnny or Mary Sunshine all the time, but if you're holding down so many jobs that you can't do each of them with a certain amount of style, it won't be long before both you and the business suffer losses.

## Music Festival Insert

At this writing, the plan is to have the program for the Dawson City Music Festival appear as an insert in this paper. It's our first cooperative venture of this sort and we're all kind of excited about it. The idea was helped along considerably by the fact that our two groups share a few volunteers, but even if we didn't, it's still a neat development, and one which we hope will set the standard for other ventures in the future. There's already some talk about handling the Discovery Days brochure in the same way. We'll see how this one is received first.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### The Editor

I was horrified to hear on the news that in of all places the Yukon, the government of which have seen fit to grant benefits to so-called "gays and lesbian couples". I never thought I would live to see the day when something so offensive and disgusting would even be considered as a lifestyle let alone its acceptance. Just look at what they have already reaped AIDS. I remember when this sort of activity was a serious crime (sodomy). It should be put back in that category and soon. Indeed, to even think that such an ugly "blight" has come to mar the lovely wholesome countryside of the Yukon is to say the least, devastating, and must admit I'm ashamed for the Yukon, especially since I was born there.

Yours Sincerely  
Violet Thompson  
Vancouver, B.C.

(Ed. Note: It should be noted AIDS is far from exclusively a "gay disease" and that, in most of the world, those with HIV infection are more evenly split, sexually speaking. Not being homosexual will not, in itself, protect you from the virus. It may be spread by unprotected and promiscuous sex of any

description, poor health standards, and sharing of needles. In Romania, after the fall of the Communist regime there, it was found that thousands of innocent children had been infected by improper hospital procedures.)

### Greetings!

From the Northwest of England.

My children have asked me to help them to find a penfriend. Could you forward their names to your local school, or perhaps to some children you may know of the same age.

My daughter is aged 9 years. Her name is Tammy Marie Davies.

My son is aged 7, nearly 8 years. His name is Shane Christopher Davies.

They enjoy most sports and games and if I may say so, are two of the best children in the whole wide world.

Thanks. I know I can trust you to help me.

Sincere best wishes,

Mr. Robin C. Davies

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## The Klondike Sun

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Copy of letter sent to Piers McDonald,  
Minister of Education, YTG

Dear Mr. McDonald:

As a resident of Dawson City and a parent of a child in Robert Service School, I feel a grave injustice is occurring in my community.

Ms. Shirley Pennell has been a teacher and vice principal at Robert Service School for 14 years now. I have been in Dawson since she first started to teach here and have been involved with her in various capacities over the years. I have witnessed her skills and seen them demonstrated in a variety of ways.

When Jim Montgomery was hired as principal I felt very strongly, at that time, that she had been passed over for consideration as principal as a result of chronic lack of any vision or foresight by the Dept. of Education and I was suspicious that the "old boys network" along with too many "old boys attitudes" were still very much in play at the management levels in Education. However, because Ms. Pennell, always the professional, didn't call foul at that time, I assumed she felt she needed just a tad more education to be...as Charlotte Witton said was required for women to get into positions of pay and power: "be twice as qualified, work twice as hard, be twice as competent to get half as far...". Anyway...at that time I didn't complain about what I saw as an injustice but it wasn't because one hadn't occurred.

Now...to discover that after having been sent out for further Administration education (50% having been paid for by the department) after having attained her masters degree, after having been Vice Principal officially or unofficially for seven short-term southern minded male principals Ms. Pennell was prevented from even submitting her application for consideration because the terms of reference of the competition made certain to exclude her...I am beyond shocked and dismayed. This woman is eligible to apply for the principal's job at the largest high school in the Territory, F.H. Collins, that has a school population 3-4 times Robert Service School, but is NOT ALLOWED TO APPLY IN DAWSON.

What is wrong with the decision makers in your department? Are they on drugs? Are they missing significant portions of their brain cells along with their hair? Are they lacking foresight? Do they have a vendetta against Dawson Residents getting opportunities to compete in the top positions? Or are they so steeped in their "old boy's" antiquated attitudes they are blind to social reality?

Ms. Pennell has demonstrated her commitment to Dawson by buying a home here, by getting involved in the community. All the principals Ms. Pennell has trained have taken nothing but advantage of my town and moved on when it's been convenient and profitable. Even the superintendents have made no attempt to be home owners or get involved in the community except somewhat and only on a job level. What a shame. Principal after principal (and the superintendents) have only barely understood this community by the time they left. Rarely

## OOPS!

In the June issue, there were a few errors that we would like to rectify.

APOLOGIES to the Gulstads at the GOLD POKE. . . . . we had Kim working at another store . . . . in Whitehorse . . . . in the rescue article on page 1.

KEITH McMASTERS says that he won't speak to us because his name was incorrectly spelled in the June issue . . . . sorry KEITH . . . . and next time we will know that your surname has an 's' at the end!

APOLOGIES to the Taylor family regarding the cropping of the photo at Granny Taylor's birthday party; however, we did not have that photo, it was printed in Whitehorse for us and that was where the cropping took place.

The North Slope conference photo does not show Percy Henry as the caption indicates. Again, this photo was supplied from Whitehorse, we understood that we would have a photo that included Percy.

has the principal stayed long enough to know anything about the families of the children or the students except for exceptional cases. Their view of the community and students has been skewed by their superficial, self serving and brief contact. Yet in the last newsletter the superintendent bemoaned the loss of so many principals and teachers...gee wouldn't it be a good idea to do something to encourage the ones who do stay...what a novel idea.

Finally we had an opportunity for a real change. A dedicated resident of Dawson should have had a shot at this position but she was denied even the opportunity. I am sure that the new principal (Ed. Note: Carol McCauley, who has been teaching in Carmacks since 1976, and who has been principal there since 1988.) that has been hired, DESPITE THIS WHOLE ISSUE BEING IN A GRIEVANCE STATUS (Ed. Note: "Grievance" is a legal term relating to contractual matters. In this case, "grievance" was not deemed admissible as a grounds for protest.) ...is a very nice person. Since she is now trying desperately to complete her masters degree in time for the start of the school year she and her family have yet to move to Dawson. Strange...is it not...that Ms. Pennell with a completed masters degree, in effect higher qualifications, with 14 years as acting principal, vice principal and acting vice

Cont. Page 5





## Words from Webster

by Art Webster - MLA for Klondike

I have been asked by several constituents over the past couple of months for my opinion of the 1987 Amendment to the Constitution of Canada which is more commonly known and referred to as the Meech Lake Accord. Always clear from the beginning of my response has been my enthusiastic support for its stated purpose - to welcome Quebec back into the Constitutional family of Canada. But because the Accord went far beyond what was necessary to achieve this desirable goal, I could not accept it in its original form. However, when New Brunswick Premier McKenna introduced a "companion accord" to the Meech Lake Accord which addressed the legitimate concerns of Northerners, and properly considered the rights of women and aboriginal people, it became acceptable only with the understanding that a totally new and improved process for constitutional reform to replace the undemocratic one currently in place would be implemented.

Now that the deadline to ratify the Meech Lake Accord has passed without the required approval of all ten provincial legislatures and the Federal Parliament, the space for Quebec's signature on our Constitution remains blank. And with Quebec celebrating St. Jean Baptiste Day in patriotic fashion while not joining the rest of the country to celebrate Canada Day all within one week of the Accord's demise, emotions are running high and there is much speculation that Quebec is moving to secede.

Fortunately however, summer has arrived, and most Canadians have begun to enjoy the leisure activities of the season. Hopefully we will take some time over the summer for some quiet reflection about the problems that face our nation, as well as the strengths and diversity of our uniquely Canadian character. I am confident that the outcome of this process for each of us will be a better understanding of and greater respect for the reasons why Canada is so special. And from that will flow a deeper appreciation of why our country is worth keeping together, and a committed resolve to do so.

### Letters Cont. from Page 4

principal didn't even get a chance to apply?

I'd say you have some management staff with serious judgement problems.

So what is going to happen now? As a resident and parent I want to see some equity and justice demonstrated at this our "model school". If the model school can't demonstrate some social responsibility, logical thought, fairness, reward for long and tireless effort we're sending out a pretty pathetic message to our students. And this is after all the objective of the model school or any Yukon School isn't it...a good faculty run by a good administration. An administration based on honesty, integrity and an example to the client user...the student body.

I trust I will receive a complete and speedy response to by letter.

Sincerely  
Pauline Scott  
Dawson City, Y.T.

### Editor:

The Canadian Cancer Society would like to thank the following organizations and individuals who contributed to the success of our booth at the Dawson City Gold Show;

Thank you to:

The City of Dawson, Chamber of Commerce, Klondike Placer Miners Association, and Klondike Visitors Association for providing booth space.

Farmer's Market for donating oranges and organic apples.

Karen DuBois of Yukon College for use of the T.V. and V.C.R.

Warnsby Holdings for sponsoring our draws.

Taylor-Chevrolet-Oldsmobile for filling our balloons with helium.

The Grocery People for collecting donations on our behalf.

Rita Anderson, Bonnie Barber, Vi Campbell, Madeleine Gould and Donna Stutter for helping at the booth. Special thanks to Bonnie for organizing the Dawson end.

The winners of our draws for the mini-fruit baskets were Pat Webster, Ben Gattie, Doug Gritner and Dawne Mitchell.

The people of Dawson purchased 15 cookbooks, 2 Erma Bombeck books, 14 sweatshirts, 4 sweat pants and 12 golf shirts for a sales total of \$1,014.25. Our donation box yielded \$105.52. Donations from the Grocery People's box of \$523.48 brought our total to \$1,643.25.

Anyone wishing to make further purchases, please contact Bonnie or call 668-6440 and leave a message.

Thank you all for making this such a successful and enjoyable weekend.

Sincerely  
Loretta Warnsby, Office Co-Ordinator  
Diana Lafferty, Reach to Recovery Chair

Cont. Page 6

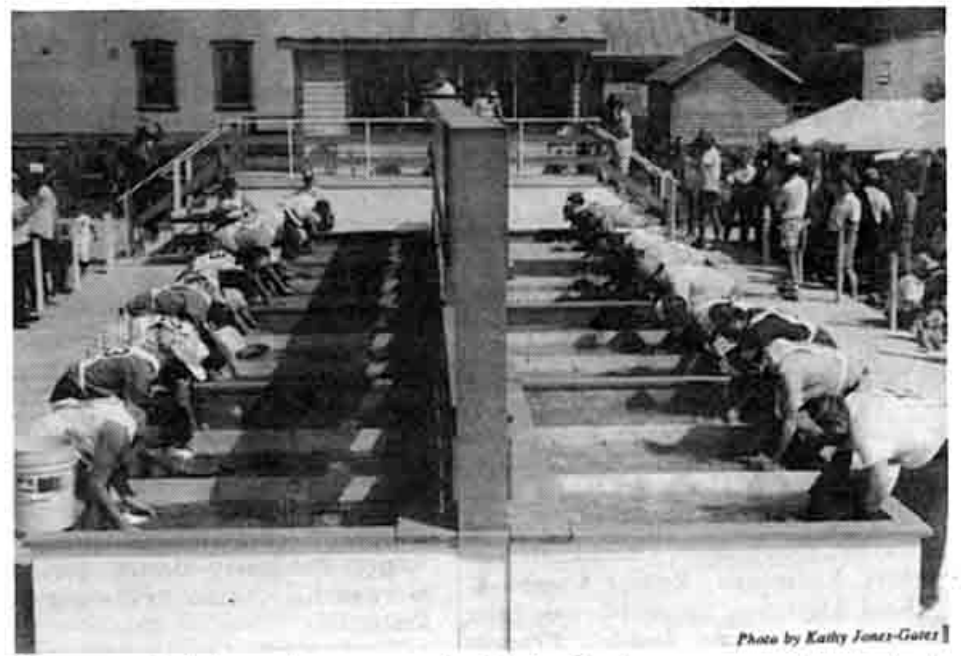


Photo by Kathy Jones-Gates

The new Goldpanning venue in Minto Park was a real asset at this year's contest. See story on page 8.

## More Canadians Visiting the Yukon

**WHITEHORSE** - The number of Canadians visiting the Yukon rose by a healthy 38 per cent last year, and the number of overseas visitors rose by 22 per cent, according to Tourism Yukon's 1989 Industry Highlights Report, released June 11, 1990. The report estimates that tourism revenues increased by three per cent in 1989.

Last year 183,000 tourists visited the Yukon between June and September, the peak tourist season. The report also points out the emergence of a trend for tourists to stay longer in the territory: Canadian tourists stay for an average of nine and a half nights, while Americans stay for an average of six and a half nights.

"It's encouraging to note that more Canadians are making the Yukon their holiday destination," said Tourism Yukon Minister Art Webster. "This is a promising sign for our new 'Destination Yukon' marketing campaign, which is designed to attract even more Canadians to vacation longer in the territory."

The report summarizes the initiatives and activities launched by Tourism Yukon, the tourism industry and communities during 1989 to help the tourism industry become more competitive. These included:

- preparing a strategic plan and consumer demand analysis for wildlife viewing;

- publishing two 'how-to' guidebooks to help Yukon communities and entrepreneurs identify and develop

tourism opportunities;

- signing the 'Tourism North' Agreement between the Yukon, B.C. and Alaska, promoting northern independent highway travel;

- beginning a major U.S. marketing campaign by the Tourism Industry Association of the Yukon (TIAY);

- hosting the first 'Rendez-vous Yukon', a mini-marketplace show which brought 28 Yukon tour operators together with 11 European tour wholesalers;

- and completing a Yukon Museums Policy in cooperation with local community associations, the Council for Yukon Indians, and the Yukon Historical and Museums Association.

The report contains detailed summaries of regional initiatives, and provides an update on the Yukon Economic Strategy. TIAY completed a needs assessment study for industry staff training and tourism Yukon created regional tourism development plans.

The report also includes tourism statistics for 1989, such as seasonality of visitors, attendance at Yukon attractions, mode of travel, length of stay, country of origin, and typical expenditures by person and party.

Copies of the report are available from Tourism Yukon, 211 Hawkins Street, Whitehorse Y1A 2C6, or through the Tourism Development Branch at 667, 5449. Outside of Whitehorse, call toll free 1-800-661-0408.

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# Students Honoured Awards to End the Year

By Dan Davidson

The instructional year at the Robert Service School wrapped up on June 22 with awards ceremonies for the elementary and high school divisions.

Twenty students made the elementary honour roll: Spruce Gerberding, Alex Bowie, Jordan Doenz, Clare Sheerin, Willie Wing, Jay J. Flynn, Kieran Hogan, Jo-Anna Davidson, Tammy Taylor, Shawn Blais, Charissa Reeves, Alex Kormendy, Robert Campbell, Karl Algotsson, Sarah Winton, Clint Brickner, Kimmy Jenkins, Frances Kormendy, Amanda Montgomery and David Campbell. They were presented with certificates.

Certificates, school pins and a permanent name plate on the trophy went to Top Academic Achievers Sarah Winton (grade 4), David Campbell (grade 5), Patrick Sack (grade 6) and Daniel Kerklywich (grade 7).

A special award for her work in the school choir went to Amanda Montgomery, while Terry Grabowski won the King Solomon Mines Award for consistent effort. Hard worker awards went to Charlie Taylor (grade 4) and

Meridith Couture (grade 5).

The high school awards list led off with the presentation of the Female and Male Athlete of the Year awards to grade 10's Renee Brickner and grade 12's Gary Zeller.

High school honours awards were presented to Jeremy Roscoe, Trevor Van Rump, Kelly Burns, Kyla Burns, Carrie Docken, Cyndi O'Rourke, Renee Brickner, Derick Bilodeau, Gordon Kerr, Atlin Bowie and Gary Zeller.

Top Academic Awards went to Jeremy Roscoe (grade 8), Carrie Docken (grade 9), Renee Brickner (grade 10) and Derick Bilodeau (grade 11).

The Mary Gartside Award, a \$200.00 bursary presented to the top ranking grade 12 student went to Atlin Bowie. She was also the recipient of the \$200.00 Audrey McLaughlin Bursary, and the Citizenship Trophy. Earlier in the month, Bowie was the valedictorian for the 1990 Grad class.

Clayton Berriman was the winner of the R.C.M.P. Appreciation Award, while Tina Braga was given the King Solomon Mines Award.



The Federal Building, home of Canada Post, Mining Recorder, & Forestry. This building is under review and may not be with us much longer. See story on page 1.

Letters Cont. from Page 5

The Editor

Pollution - Asbestos - Woodsmoke

I don't understand the worries over the so-called health hazard that the asbestos saturated gravels from the gravel pit at the north end of town are supposed to have on the health of the people of Dawson.

Where does the risk come from? Who says it is a health risk? I have never seen anything that said so. Apparently the report on the health hazard of air borne asbestos is not conclusive. I agree with the Mayor that the hazard is minimal. It must be - I was born in St. Mary's Hospital that was built on the

asbestos ore body at the north end of Front Street, as were many hundreds of others. I have lived most of my 70 years here in Dawson as have many others who are much older than I.

The same with wood smoke. Many years ago the only fuel used in Dawson was wood, not just a few cords but thousands of cords a year. Yet many of us are well up in years and seem to suffer no ill effects from these pollutants.

Sincerely

John Gould, a long-time Dawsonite

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## Discovery Days

**News Release** - The Discovery Day Committee has been meeting over the past three months planning this year's celebrations. Committee members this year are Dave Millar, Axel Speers, Myrna Butterworth, Len Maruk, Akio Saito, Lawrie Stewart, Leslie Sommerton, Brenda Caley and Peter Menzies.

Events planned for this year include the parade, ball tournament, kids games, canoe race, bar-b-q's, raft race, nail driving, log sawing, horse shoeing, tug-of-war, mini-golf, horse shoe and other games. As in past years, there will also be a dance and horticulture display. Other events are being considered.

Two additions this year are a soapbox derby race and a square dance. The Derby Race will be run on Harper Street. Youth

will be asked to build their own race cars for the events. A dance band from Alaska will provide the music for an evening of square dancing. The caller will both teach and lead the dances.

The Committee needs organizations to manage concessions and security for the dances and suppers. Organizations will receive donations from the committee for looking after a portion of the weekend's events.

Volunteers are required to help with the Celebration. Those wishing to be a part of Discovery Days should leave their name with the Recreation Department (993-5434). If you have any ideas, contact the committee members or the Recreation Office.

## The King Salmon have come home!



photo by Jean Evans (Sun File Photo)

By Sue Ward

Caught Roger Mendelsohn making his river boat ready to check his gillnets down river. He told me the salmon are back, and that commercial fishing is being restricted in order to allow more fish to reach the spawning grounds in the Pelly and Ross River headwaters. The fish stocks have been depleted and must be rebuilt. Native Indians are permitted to

fish for their personal needs at this time. Commercial fishermen have had one twenty-four hour period and a second will be allowed the weekend of July 8th.

This item should make mouths water from here to everywhere where former Dawsonites hear the news. For those less familiar with mileage, these wonderful fish have already travelled 1500 river miles upstream from the Bering Sea. They must swim at least a further 300 miles to reach their birthplace. Fantastic!

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	Dawson City	2:00PM	Mayo	2:40PM	Tue
602	Mayo	2:45PM	Whitehorse	4:00PM	Thurs
603	Whitehorse	12:00PM	Mayo	1:05PM	
	Mayo	1:20PM	Dawson City	2:00PM	
604	Dawson City	2:30PM	Whitehorse	4:00PM	Mon, Fri

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# Sun Shines On Dawson's Canada Day

by Davidson and Gates

Canada Day started out in style in Dawson City. Shortly after 11 am Sourdough Sue Ward and Diamond Tooth Gertie, (Lorraine Butler), arrived in Klondike finery perched on the back of the fire department's 1940 pumper.

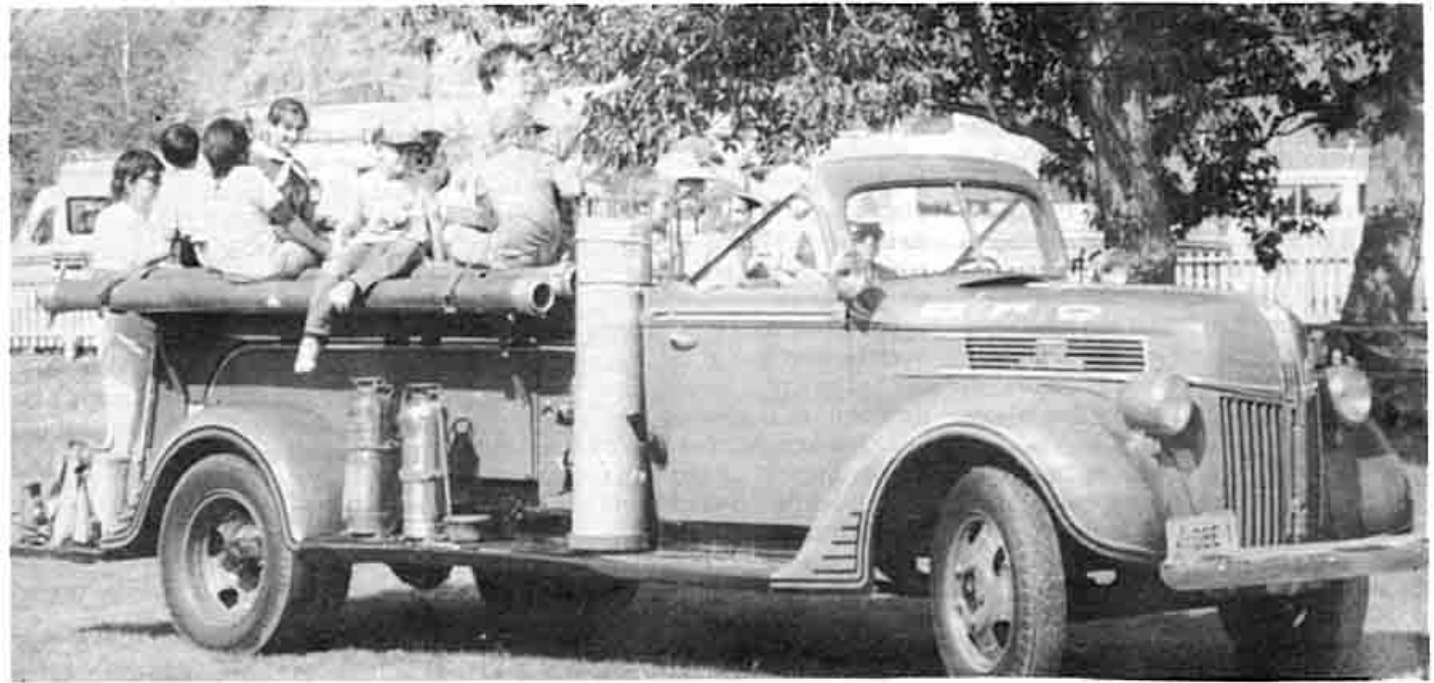
They had been invited to preside over the official opening of the day and the singing of "O Canada". They were flanked by a colour guard comprised of local girl guides, one Brownie and Cadet Phillip Coombs of 896 Pioneer Squadron, who oversaw the raising of the flags.

Art Webster, Klondike's MLA and Minister of Tourism spoke briefly about the importance of national symbols of unity, especially in these post-Meech Lake days. Recreation director Peter Menzies, speaking on behalf of the City of Dawson, welcomed everyone to the morning's events, managing to sneak in a plug for recreation generally, along the way.

Ralph Nordling, President of Dawson Lodge No. 1 Y.O.O.P., said a few words in honour of Helen Boutillier, who celebrates her 92nd birthday on July 14th, and who received a gift as Dawson's oldest citizen.

The first singing of the national anthem having been a success, the ceremonies concluded with a more lustier rendition by those present.

Canada Day dawned bright and beautiful in Dawson City and stayed pretty much that way until mid afternoon. Minto Park was a delightful stage for the morning's fun, which



The Fire Dept.'s 1940 pumper was a hit with the kids.

By Kathy Jones-Gates

included face painting, a concession table, kids games, slices of watermelon to munch, and some acoustic music at the gazebo. Mural painting was a hit, and so were the 300 pieces of an enormous birthday cake prepared by Shelly Hakonson.

The Dawson Community Library gave away a large selection of kids books provided by Read Canada.

Perhaps, more exciting of all for the little ones... visitors and locals, were the

free rides on the fire truck (complete with siren), offered by Chief Dennis Montgomery and his crew.

Some American visitors, obviously enjoying the free food, flags to stick in their hats and friendly locals indicated that

this was about the best "down home celebration" that they had attended for many a year.

Lawrie Stewart, the city's program coordinator, estimated that about 200 people took part in the various activities.



Lining up to go hunt for the tiger's tale.



Photos by Kathy Jones-Gates

Colour guard joins Lorraine Bulter (back left) and Sourdough Sue Ward for a photo.

## Ross Peterson: The New Edgar Cayce

The well known lecturer, consultant and psychic, Ross Peterson, will be returning to Dawson City for the months of July and August.

Look for posters around town as Ross will be facilitating a variety of workshops this summer including:

"Anger as the key to falling in love for keeps"

"Psychic development"

"How to gamble more effectively"

If you wish a private 1 hour intuitive reading and consultation with Ross to explore your own growth, personality, development, future and career opportunities phone 993-6410 to book ahead, as these readings will be on a limited basis.



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# ARCHIBALD TAKES PANNING TITLE

by Dan Davidson

For the second year in a row Jim Archibald has taken the trophy in the Yukon Open event at the Yukon Goldpanning Championships. Dawson's Archibald was the only one of 19 panners to find all 9 flakes of gold. He did this in 4 minutes and 56 seconds, 50 seconds off his pace from last year.

Second place Len Millar and third place Art Sailor were faster panners with 3:30 and 3:37 respectively, but they each missed a flake and had to take five minute penalties.

Millar is allowed a berth in the World Goldpanning event, all expenses paid, which doesn't mean a lot to the Dawson based placer miner. Archibald will also be at the Aug. event, but will first use his \$1500.00 prize to attend the Canadian Goldpanning Championships in Edmonton later in July.

Dawsonites. There were eight contestants in the event.

There was a West German sweep in the Cheechako Open. This event is open to all visitors to the Yukon and the first three places went to Manfred Finger, Genn Reiner and Christian Burger, three gentlemen from Frankfurt. There were 24 contestants in all.

The Klondike Open is open to anyone over 16 who isn't going to participate in the Yukon Open. Seventeen worthies tried their skill in this event, which was won by Zinniker Marcus of Switzerland. Dawna Stewart of Dawson took second place while Switzerland's Walter Majolet came in third.

Four teams were entered in the Corporate Challenge relay event. Each team needed to find 20 pieces of gold. Stuart Placers found 19 in an adjusted time of 17:20. Mogul Gold came in



Tony Kosuta & Pete Foth

The day's events actually kicked off with 12 panners vying for awards in the Senior's event. Dawson's Irene Crayford took that prize with a time of 3:47. Trudi Leibundcut of Switzerland came second in 7:23 while Tony Kosuta of Dawson lost one of the 5 flakes and ended up with an adjusted time of 8:28.

In the 11-15 Youth event it was Axel Schmidt, followed by Alexander Fras, both local boys. In the 10 and under group it was Doug Gritner followed by Onica Sprökkreeff. All the youngsters were

second at 20:17; Fraser Ventures took third with 48:30 (lost 6 flakes) and Guggieville Enterprises pulled in last with 89:85, having found only 6 flakes and picked up 70 minutes in penalties.

The contest whizzed by in just about 2 hours this year, rather than the usual four. Chuck Holloway, manager of the Klondike Visitors Association, attributes this to the addition of more panning stations to the permanent venue which has been erected here to handle the World Goldpanning Championships in August.



Irene Crayford, Harold Shannon & Peter Jenkins

## Champ Again!!

by Kathy Jones-Gates

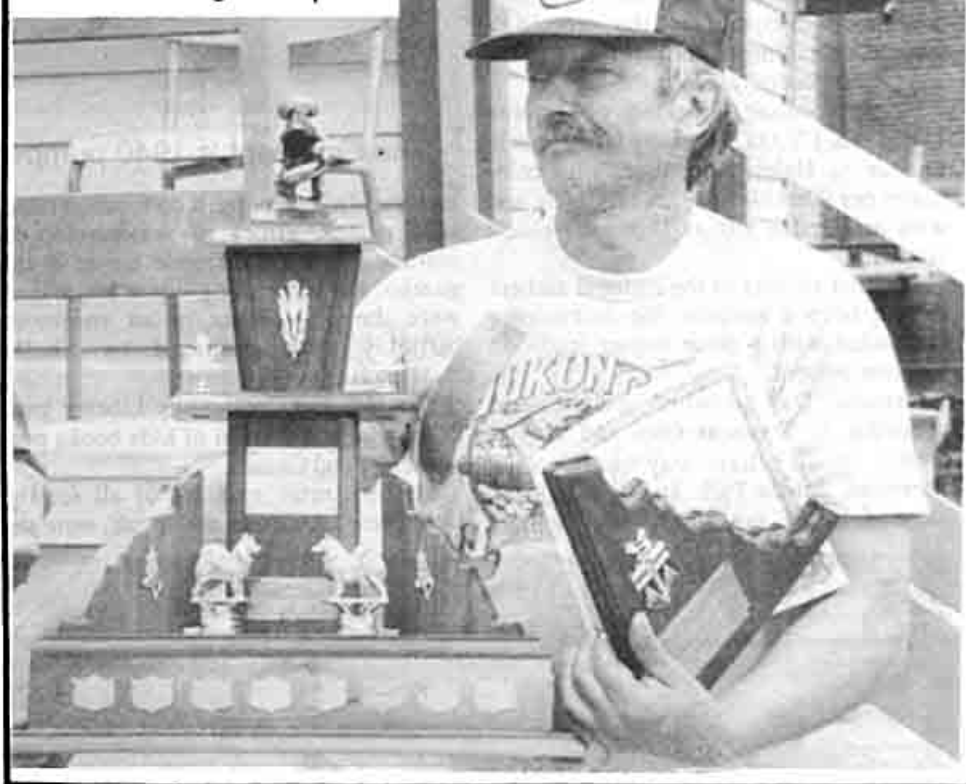
Jim Archibald said it was a "Great Feeling" to achieve back to back wins in the annual Yukon Goldpanning Championships. He thought he was a little slow with his panning this year, but it paid off with him being the only contestant to recover all 9 flakes.

The Yukon Open Champion receives a large trophy which will be encribed with his/her name, and for Jim, there is something special about this trophy. Jim made it in 1982 and it was donated by the Klondike Placer Miners Association. This is Jim's third win ... he was champion in 1981 as well as in 1989.

His first place prize of \$1,500 towards attending the Goldpanning event in Edmonton later this month also takes him back to a championship that he has competed in 4 times.

He was champion of Alberta twice and the champion used to then compete at Taylor B.C.'s version of the World goldpanning, where Jim was crowned World Champion in 1982. Jim is also looking forward to competing at the World Goldpanning event here in Dawson from August 20th to 26th. When the World Championships were held in Dawson in 1984, Jim placed 3rd in the prestigious Men's event.

Jim Archibald  
Gold Panning Champion



Panning photos  
by Kathy Jones-Gates

These Bladders & Panning Troughs constructed by Yukon College Carpenters helper students.

- PETER HENRI
- MICHAEL JOSEPH
- EEBRGE FRASER
- ROBERT RUSSEL
- TEDDY TAYLOR
- FRANK BLANCHARD
- JOE JOSEPH

Instructor: Garth Sloughden  
Funding assistance provided by the Yukon Government Community Development Fund  
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As well, the final results were tabulated very quickly on a portable computer in the judge's booth.

Mayor Peter Jenkins was on hand to give out the awards and congratulate the participants. The stands were full most of the afternoon, so something like 300 people stopped off to watch the event.



Dawne Mitchell

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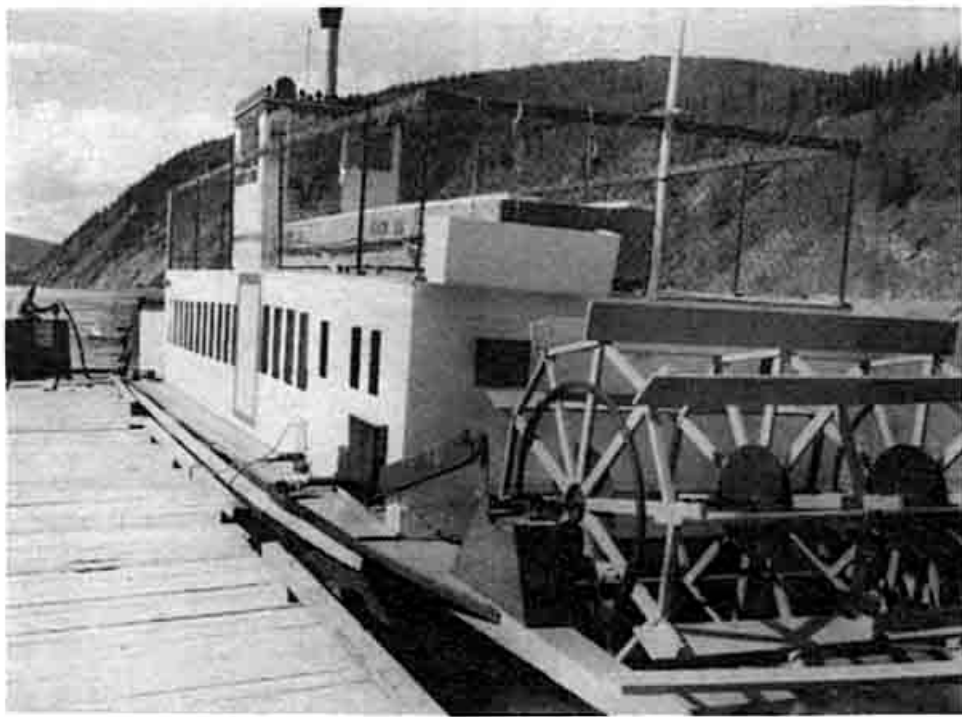


Photo by Dawne Mitchell

Yukon Lou, berthed at the floating dock, is refueled by Capt. Dick.

## Local Boats Pass Inspection

By Sue Ward

It was Wm. J. Pemberton's first inspection of Yukon river boats which convey passengers. Mr. Pemberton is a Marine Surveyor with Canadian Coast Guard out of Prince Rupert.

Ferry patrons one and all had to cool their heels or their motors for quite some time as the *George Black* was gone over from stem to stern mechanically, and with various pressures taken, plus the dinghy was lowered and raised on her davits by crew members who were also given fire drill testing. The inspection included a return trip aboard the loaded vessel on the morning of July 4th.

There is a floatation raft affectionately known as a "birps" with a capacity for 75 persons readily available to be tossed over the side, a "one shot" piece of equipment, plus the lifeboat. Asked if the crew was trained in launching the "birps" Mr. Pemberton replied, "Oh yes, and they would no doubt have plenty of added help from passengers."

The Canadian Coast Guard is not the authority which specifies the size of blocks used to deter movement of vehicles while making the river crossing.

Mr. Pemberton had earlier inspected the *Yukon Lou* which passed muster first class. He informed me that the *Lou* carries a fine auxiliary motor should one fail. There are 56 adult and 8 children's

life jackets visible and readily available on the lower deck. There was a discussion of wooden hulls and the Inspector told me that all vessels are inspected out of the water every five years. Wooden hulls are pierced with a tool like an ice pick to discover boards requiring replacement. He informed me that there are wood-hulled fishing boats sailing year round in saltwater out of Prince Rupert built as long ago as 1908, while the *Yukon Lou* is only in fresh water for four months each year.

The *Yukon Queen* is an American vessel, and therefore not under the jurisdiction of the Canadian Coast Guard. The craft would be fully inspected by an equivalent American authority in her home port. Though a comparatively new craft, she has reportedly suffered breakdowns as she settles in to her challenging 206 mile return voyages to Eagle, Alaska.

There are, in Canada, ninety-eight (98) different sets of regulations related to water vessels. There are four carriers sailing Yukon waterways including the Pelly Ferry on the Ross River.

River ferries belonging to the Yukon Territorial Government receive an added government inspection.



Photo by Sue Ward

"Hometown Boys" return to dispense hospitality and information to visitors and adventurers. Tony Berger works the Visitor Reception Centre for Tourism Yukon, while Richard Snider unfolds the magic of the Dempster Highway, access route to the Northwest Territories.



Photo by Sue Ward



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## As the DCMF Grows Residents Wonder About Festival Noise

by Dan Davidson

Dawson residents should not be concerned that the doubled gate at the 12th annual Dawson City Music Festival will mean that the weekend will be twice as loud and twice as inconvenient for those who live right around Minto Park. Festival office manager Kim Tuson is quick to note that this won't happen.

The increase in the number of tickets this year - up to 700 from last year's 350 - was prompted in part by local complaints that Dawsonites couldn't get tickets. Last year they sold out in less than fifteen minutes. This year 300 tickets will be on sale here at the Downtown and Eldorado Hotels on July 1, two days before they go on sale in Whitehorse.

All this will do, according to Tuson, and to organizing committee member Karen Dubois, is look after the people who used to sit outside the striped tent and listen to the concert because they couldn't get a ticket to go inside. In addition it will, of course, bring more revenue to the Dawson City Music Festival Society.

Ticket manager Don Armitage says that the festival has borrowed a second tent from the Northern Storytelling Festival. The two tents are compatible and will link together, thus allowing the increased ticket sales and the plan to relocate the annual dance from Diamond Tooth Gerties to the Minto Park festival site. In the past, the number of people that could be fit into Gerties for a dance has been one of the factors limiting the number of \$40.00 weekend passes that could be sold.

Still, the thought of a larger presence in the park has caused some worries among south end residents. Tuson says she was accosted in the Post Office one day recently by a person who expressed just these concerns and wanted to know why the festival wasn't being moved to a less populated part of town. Minto Park is smack in the middle of a residential area, and the music from the festival can be heard for blocks during the July weekend.

Tuson and Dubois have even heard that some people have approached the R.C.M.P. about potential problems: drinkers, highway and child safety, and noise.

"Please tell these people to come to us," said Tuson, "so we can talk about the problems and try to solve some of them."

Organizers are well aware that it would be better to relocate the festival. Some would like to take it to the north

end of town in a new park they would like to see established beside the Yukon River. It has even been suggested that it could take place at the foot of the Moose Mountain ski hill run. These are options for the future, perhaps. For now the festival remains where it is, and Tuson feels quite certain that it will be no louder, nor more of a problem than it has been in earlier years.

For the sake of safety, 6th Avenue will be blocked from the kids' playground to the end of the ball park concession stand during the July 20-22 weekend. Beer sales will be restricted to the later afternoon and evening and will take place at a beergarden in the new goldpanning venue, next to the museum.

Ticket sales have been brisk so far. The 200 mail order tickets were gone by June 18. The brief interview for this article was interrupted 4 times by telephone calls inquiring about tickets.

"Everyone's looking for a special deal," Tuson sighed.

There have been a few changes in the proposed line-up since the original announcements two weeks ago. L. Kabong, a Vancouver based underground band, will not be coming after all. Armitage says this is not a problem. The line-up was so crowded already that it was getting hard to schedule all the groups.

Still on the musical program are Melwood Cutlery and the Fashion Plates, Daisy DeBolt, Jaques Lussier, Nyetz, New Wine and Lucie Blue Tremblay. Returning to the festival for his second year is harmonica master Gerald Laroche.

The Checkerboard Guy, an entertainer and juggler, will be along to perform and assist with the master of ceremonies chores.

Territorial musicians will abound as well. The list includes Marie Gogo & Herbie Bowman, King Frog, Dizzy Grizzly, Trish Barclay & Annie Avery, Bruce & Debbie Bergman, and Dave Haddock.

As usual workshops during the weekend will be held in the main tent and at other locations around town, including the McDonald Lodge and St. Paul's Anglican Church.

A full program for the festival can be found elsewhere in this issue of the *Klondike Sun*. It has been prepared by Music Festival volunteers, with the assistance of the *Sun* staff, some of whom are the same people.



Kim Tuson (front) and Craig Moddle (rear) at recent D.C.M.F. Auction. It raised about \$2,500.00

Photo by Dawne Mitchell

## Are the Bugs Lunching On You?

With the summer sun and outdoor living in Dawson there is a hazard we all have to contend with - "insects". An insect sting can spoil your time outdoors or cause serious concerns of having an allergic reaction. Approximately 0.5% of the population has allergic reactions to insect stings. The reactions can vary from local to emergency situations:

### Usual Reaction:

1. Normal local reaction - pain, redness, swelling and itching at the site. These symptoms should subside with 1 to 2 hours.

2. Large local reaction - swelling beyond the initial bite area. Develops over hours, peaks 6 to 12 hours and subsides in 24 to 36 hours.

3. Severe large local reaction - peaks at 48 to 72 hours and may last up to a week.

### First Aid:

1. Remove any embedded stinger using horizontal scraping motion. Pulling out the stinger will squeeze more venom into the bite.

2. Wash sting site with soap and water.

3. Apply cold compresses or ice and water for 15 to 20 minutes then calamine

lotion or baking soda paste or a meat tenderizer paste.

4. Aspirin or acetaminophen for pain.

5. Antihistamines may be required such as benadryl, seldane, dimetane, extantabs, hismanal, actifed, chlortripton (all available through local stores). Read the instructions and give the appropriate doses for 2 to 4 days. "For children under 2 years of age - call the Nursing Station to check doses!"

### Unusual Reaction:

Mild whole body reaction which would have signs and symptoms removed from the sting site. These can include scattered hives, itching, redness (a boiled lobster appearance) or even swelling and redness of eyelids.

Treatment - same as local reactions

### Emergency Situations:

Signs and symptoms usually occur within minutes of the sting and they are:

Weakness, nausea, pale, cold clammy skin, dizziness, fast breathing or breathing problems.

Call immediately Medical Emergency, DAWSON CITY NURSING STATION, 993-5333

## Dawson City Museum



### NEW FEATURES

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## Obituary

**Stanley Roberts**

March 10, 1909 - June 6, 1990

A member of the Wolf Clan, Stanley was born at Moosehide to Sarah Jane, wife of Robert Charles. He was raised by Esau Harper. Stanley grew up with great respect for his people, always helping at various events such as Potlaches, special festivities, etc. - one of his duties being the head cook.

Stanley served in the Pacific Rangers - Home base during W.W.2 Along with being near his people, practising his hunting, fishing and trapping skills, he worked in many capacities, such as Longshoreman, Y.C.G.C., Proctor Construction, Clinton Creek, slashing - up until the early 70's cooking for the firefighter crew for Forestry. Stanley was filled with stories, his humour and teasing will linger with all who remember him. Stanley was very fond of his people, especially the children. Because of his wealth in Indian History and Traditional and Cultural values that were so important to him, he willingly gave and passed on his stories and Han Language - for us today in respect for his people's survival. Through this, he worked very closely with John Ritter to share his language. In 1980, Stanley was the recipient of the Arts Council Award in Heritage (reviving of the Han Language). Stanley was the last surviving descendant of the late Chief Charles of Arctic Village, Alaska.

**Pre-deceased by :** father and mother, Robert Charles and Sarah Jane. Brother and Sisters, David Roberts, Gladys Johns, Mary Rivers, Sarah Curry and Bertha Russell.

**Forever Remembered by :** Daughter, Mary, grandson, Daniel, Nieces and nephews, Ada Haskin of Skagway, Alaska, Freddie Harper, Sarah Jenkins, Stanley Rivers, Archie Roberts, Sarah DeWolfe, Mary Bergman, Edward Roberts, Doris Adair, Herbie Roberts, Martha Kates and Marion Roberts. 31 grand nieces and nephews and many great grand nieces and nephews. His many friends around will remember him always.

## Welcome

Welcome to Dawson to Klondike National Historic Sites new General Works manager Gary McMillan wife Barb Smith and dog Duffy. They arrived July 1st. weekend, and are loving their new home - the restored 1901 Macauley House on Princess and 7th Ave. Gary was previously employed by the N.W.T. government department of Public Works in Inuvik.

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## Drama On George Black Ferry WINNEBAGO NEARLY ROLLS OFF

by Dawne Mitchell



Photo by Sue Ward

Deckhands on the George Black ferry held their breaths momentarily in mid-river, as a large Winnebago rolled over its protective blocking, broke through a heavy-link chain and onto a hydraulic ramp at the end of the vessel.

The RV came to rest against a one metre high "tailgate" extension of the exit ramp as the ferry was working its way across the Yukon River with a full load of vehicles.

## Celebrating the Motherlode

Wise-cracking family and friends gathered to help Vi Campbell celebrate her 65th birthday, Saturday, July 7th. (Vi's birthday was actually July 4th). Vi's sister, Doris Poland and husband Larry from Drumheller, Alberta attended, in addition to out-of-town family members, son Jeff Hunston and his wife Sylvia Neschokat from Whitehorse; other out-of-town guests were Doris Gates, Gloria Coxford, Jean Graham.

The gathering took place at Peter Jenkins residence, with the Eldorado Hotel catering a steak Bar-B-Q. Birthday speeches included some good-natured ribbing from son Jeff, who says he fondly refers to his mother as the "Motherlode". Vi's sister Doris who would like to have Vi's clothes and jewellery when she reaches 65, and husband Harry remembering the legendary trips to the West Edmonton Mall which resulted in him phoning Points North Trucking to freight Vi's purchases home.!!!!!!

"It was a heart-stopper," said Danielle Thornington, who was working on the boat Tuesday. "I saw a Winnebago start rolling forward. There was about a foot between it and the vehicle in front. It must have gained some momentum then, because when it started rolling backwards it went right over the blocking".

Thornington, who described the RV as "one of the really long, huge ones", said a co-worker threw another block under the RV's wheels to stop it. But it rolled right over that one, too. A tail-light and rear-mounted ladder were damaged.

The driver, apparently, left the vehicle in neutral and did not apply the emergency brake after he drove onto the ferry, said Tommy Nakashima, acting foreman for the Yukon Highways department. The driver also left the driver's seat to go to the kitchen area of

his RV.

Deckhands immediately alerted the occupants of the RV to the danger. The driver got back into the front seat, started the engine and pulled forward off the ramp.

"The extra tailgate on the ramp is a second safety measure," said another deckhand aboard the ferry, which provides free service between Dawson City and the Top of the World Highway. It has a strong hydraulic system to enable the ramp to be lowered or raised onto the gravel access road on either side of the river.

"Lucky the hydraulics of the ramp held", said Thornington. "Or it would have been game over for that person."

Built by Allied Shipyards of Vancouver in 1967, the George Black ferry can carry up to 10 cars at a time.

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## Mime Time

by Dan Davidson

"Mime." The word conjures up images of a white-faced Marcel Marceau running into invisible walls and pulling sad, silent faces. Modern mime can be considerably more noisy than that, as two Manitoba mime troops demonstrated to a packed house in Dawson City recently.

"Canadian Content", a trio of hard working ladies, was certainly the loudest of the two troops. While the usual prancing and pratfalls were part of their act, they also make extensive use of an array of keyboards and synthesizers in their presentation. Part dance, part vaudeville, part educational, part audience participation, the three performers kept the audience hopping and clapping to mixture of dinosaur songs, wise-cracking playing cards and air-band antics.

"Mimeworks", the second half of the show, featured five performers in what would probably be a more traditional mime show based largely around recreational activities and sports. A hulking-looking male appeared on stage and, after much difficulty, hoisted an imaginary barbell. That was straightforward enough, but he had just as much, if not more, trouble getting it back down again. That set the tone for the rest of the show, which lampooned cross-country skiing, boxing, barflies, tanning, and sundry other past times. If the first troop had inspired clapping and participation, the second provided lots of honest belly-laughs.

This was another excellent evening's entertainment for all ages, sponsored by the Canada Council and the Yukon Arts Council's touring program.



Photo by Dan Davidson

## Russell & Van Rump Wedding

by Marjie Mann

A wedding in the traditional Dawson style was held on the evening of Saturday, June 30th, between Robbie Van Rump and Pat Russell. Traditional Dawson Style is relaxed, good humoured, and loving. The ceremony took place at the Commissioner's Residence, and the reception followed in Robbie and Pat's back yard at the C.O.'s Residence.

The ceremony was scheduled for 6:00 p.m. As is the norm for summer Dawson weather, the day was perfect and hot, but the clouds started brewing in the late afternoon. What was planned as an outdoor ceremony ended up being quickly re-located to the veranda of the Commissioner's Residence when the wind and rain started up. By the time the bride showed up in a horse-drawn carriage, accompanied by her brother John, from Calgary, her best friend and "Mistress of Honour" Ann Westlake from Toronto and flower girl Melissa, Robbie's 7 year old daughter, the rain had ebbed. Even so, the party was assisted with umbrellas from the coach to the veranda and the guests were able to enjoy the entrance of the bride and her party musically accompanied by Bill Jackson on the bagpipes.

Melissa wearing a lovely pink dress and decorated with tiny white flowers in her hair was the perfect flower girl. Ann wore a printed dress with lively hues of purple and blue. And the Bride - she wowed us all, radiant and splendid in a purple creation, shipped especially for her from the U.S. The effect of the dress was topped off with an original veil made by Eileen Leier.

The Bride's party joined the Groom's party, Best Man Mitch Sprockreeff and Usher Trevor Van Rump, on the veranda and the ceremony began, led by Justice of the Peace, John Bilton. Although the weather was threatening at the beginning, the sun streamed through just as the vows were being taken, as though offering an omen of love and happiness to the couple.

The celebration of love included Celtic duets by Bill Jackson and Peter Menzies and Jane Olynyk sang "The Wind Beneath My Wings", accompanied by Peter Menzies on the guitar. And, as a token of warmth and good humour, the usually staid J.P. allowed the Bride to - yes, it's true - snap his suspenders. When all was done, the happy couple and their entourage toured Dawson in the horse-drawn carriage.

Guests met again on the grounds of the C.O.'s Residence, for a fabulous pot-luck dinner. Mistress of Ceremonies, Joanne Smith, welcomed all the guests. Along with local well-wishers, Pat's brother



Photo by Michael Gates

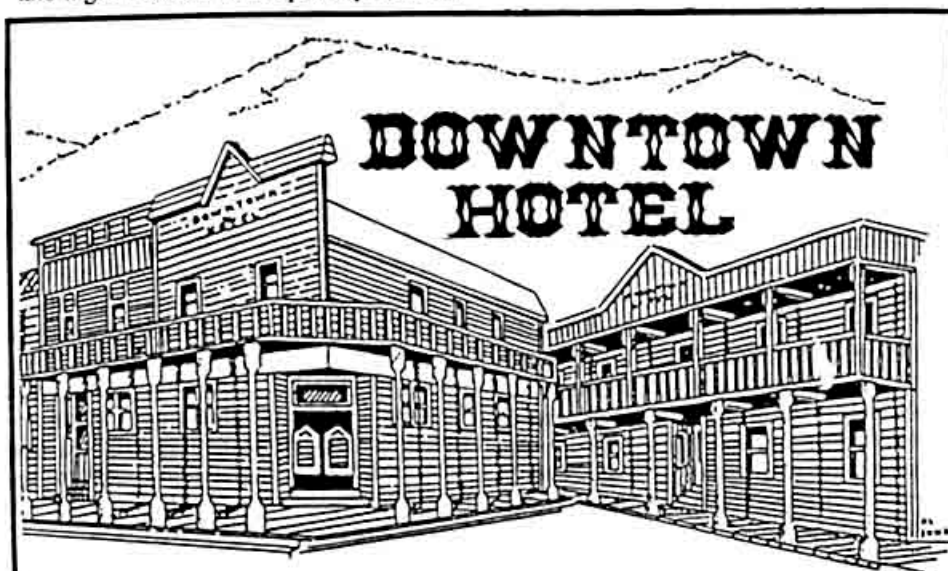
Robbie and Pat are flanked by:  
L to R - Mr. and Mrs. Hank Van Rump, Trevor & Melissa, Mitch Sprockreeff, Ann Westlake, John, Gail and Lisa Russell.

and his family, John, Gail and Lisa Russell, were up from Calgary as well as Ann Westlake on a "speed of light" trip from Toronto, and Robbie's folks, Rita and Hank Van Rump from Ottawa. Up from Whitehorse to join the celebrations was Lillian McGuire, a special colleague of Pat's, and her husband Karl. Former Dawson residents Nancy Dunbar and sons, and Jim, Barb and Robbie Elliott also attended from Whitehorse. Another Dawson tradition, the special quilt, was offered to Pat and Robbie as a gift of love from some of their friends. This was probably the first Dawson quilt made in the last 3 years that did not have a square made by Pat. Even so, it is a lovely quilt and a gift that left them quite speechless.

The celebration continued on through the evening with food, dancing, reminiscing with old friends and a wonderful, wonderful time.

It is difficult to say something profound when your best friends fall in love, and make a promise to keep that love alive forever. For Pat and Robbie, it is a dream come true - like a fairy tale. And we wish their life together will be as happy, and loving as they truly deserve.

In closing, I would like to say that I know for a fact that Cupid was hanging around our drying shed in Rock Creek 4 years ago when Pat and Robbie were there. Cupid may still be hanging around and the drying shed is available to those who may be searching for true love...



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Photo by Kathy Jones-Gates

## Happy Birthday Helen!

Helen Boutillier, affectionately called "Henny" by the family, was honoured at the Canada Day celebrations as Dawson's oldest resident. Helen shares the home of her sister Margie and Margie's husband Art Fry. Her parents were from New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, but moved to Berlin, New Hampshire, where Helen and sister Hazel and brothers Donald and Harold were born.

In 1904, her father came to the Yukon, and staked claims in the Kluane area. Helen and her mother and brothers and sisters arrived in the Yukon in 1907 and lived for a while in Whitehorse. In 1914 the family, now increased by two... Margie and her brother Jack, moved to Dawson. Helen went to school for one year in Dawson. She later worked at the phone office. Helen celebrates her 92nd birthday on July 14th.

## INSIDE/OUTSIDE

Nicolaas Jansen is really enjoying a special Dawson summer this year; his grandparents, Jan and Lene Jansen from Holland are visiting with Mom and Dad Romy and Renee for the summer.

Kathy Webster and son Matthew have been enjoying a visit by Kathy's parents, Frank and Eleanor Lane of Burnaby, B.C.

"Gramma" Close thinks summer is just great this year! Daughter Gail Selch, accompanied by grandchildren Taralyn and Amberlea arrived in time for Gail to return to work as Banker at Diamond Tooth Gerties, and now the house is bulging a little more, as son-in-law Bruce Selch and grandson Gregory are now here for the next couple of months.

Another Dawson home, bulging at the seams is the Bilton residence. Joan, John and Wendy have been entertaining John's Mom, Mrs. Barbara Bilton, from Collingwood, Ontario; to add to the excitement, up from Whitehorse are son Mark Bilton, with his wife Darra, and their children Brett and Kelsi-Natasha... making four generations of Bilttons all under one roof! Now, that really ought to "snap John's suspenders!!!"

### STORK REPORT

Born to Kim Besharah and Herb Watt a girl, Darcy, born in Dawson Hospital at 5:30 am, a real spoiler for any plans to celebrate the summer solstice. But congratulations to all.

## Klondike National Historic Sites Program

The summer season is now in full swing. All our summer Visitor Activities are fully staffed and the sites open. PLEASE CHECK AT THE VISITOR CENTRE ON KING STREET AND FRONT STREET FOR ALL THE LATEST SCHEDULES OF EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES.

All Klondike National Historic Sites Visitor activities are Free.

July 1st was the opening of our new Matinee show. Cottonwood productions... "Klondike Kapers". Pat Henmen, Bill Costin and Dale Cooper have put together a delightful entertainment full of song, dance, music, drama and fun. The matinee is every Wednesday, Friday and Sunday at 3:30 pm at the Palace Grand Theatre until mid-August.

Opening July 4th with a whole new cast of marionettes is "The Ballad of Barman Bill Blame". This show was written, produced, costumed, set designed, staged, advertised and performed by several staff members at Klondike National Historic Sites. We'd like to give special mention though, to Glenda Bolt and Carleen Sheerin for taking the idea and building it into a show. This season we hope to turn all our Visitor Activities Staff into Marionette handling experts. Do come join us at Oak Hall every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday afternoons at 3:30 pm for the show.

Throughout the season we offer the following Visitor Activities:

\*Tours of the Palace Grand Theatre which include Klondike Kate's room and the new photo exhibit on the Palace

Grand. Rare before and after shots of the reconstruction. Open Daily 10am to 6pm

\*Town Core Walking Tours leaves 5 times daily from the visitor centre. At 9 am, 9:30 am, 10 am, 1 pm, and 4 pm.

\*Fort Herchmer Walking Tours start at the Commissioner's Residence at 11 am and 4:30 pm.

\*Movie "City of Gold" 2:30 pm, daily at the Palace Grand.

\*Videos and Laser Disc on demand 9 am to 9 pm at the Visitor Centre.

\*Special Interpretive Programs daily at the Palace Grand Theatre at 1:30 pm. Watch for posters.

\*Dredge #4 tours and exhibits daily 9 am to 5 pm on Bonanza Creek.

\*Robert Service Cabin open daily 9 am to 12 noon and 1 pm to 5 pm.

\*Photo Exhibit "Dawson As They Saw It" open daily at Harrington's Store 11:am to 5 p.m.

\*Old Post Office open daily from 12 noon to 6 pm. Stamp sales, historic ink stamp and mail drop.

\*Tour of Bear Creek with Heritage North. Open daily 10 a.m. to 6pm. Joint pass \$5.00 with the Museum or \$3.00 for adults and \$2.00 for seniors.

\*Exhibits and window displays in various locations throughout town.

\*SPECIAL EVENTS: watch for dates and times on the posters.

If you have any comments, questions, or need clarification on any of the programs we bring you, please don't hesitate to give us a call. Contact Linda Bierlmeier at 993-5462 during office hours.



Herb Dewald - Historic Sites Interpreter at the Old Post Office

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## In Bear Creek - Voices of the Past Still Echo

by Dawne Mitchell

Bear Creek Compound is a modern ghost town, just a few miles south of here, with a short but fascinating history.

Originally built in the early 1900's, the community was headquarters for the Yukon Consolidated Gold Corporation. During this part of the Klondike's history, the company employed 700 men, operated 12 huge dredging machines and mined about \$80 million in gold between 1923 and 1966, when gold was worth \$35 an ounce.

A recent open house at Bear Creek was a welcome invitation for visitors and local people to tour the old building and, perhaps meet a ghost or two.

One could easily imagine the sounds of grinding metal and clangs of the blacksmith's hammer striking the huge anvil in the machine shop. In the gold room, the image of grimed men weighing out and sorting the buckets of gold was easy to conjure up.

Bear Creek was once a lively community where workers ate, slept and toiled during the long hours of the short summer mining season. It was the time when the famous likes of Joe Boyle, king of the Klondike, strutted the dusty streets.

Close to 40 families lived in the neat company-style houses. They had all the amenities of a southern town, including a school, church, volunteer fire department,

tennis courts, curling rink and gardens in summer.

On the technical side, the corporation's machine shop was the best equipped north of San Francisco, until the 1950's, with its drill presses, band saws, high-frame hammers and forges. Anything could be made there for the company's gold dredges working on the creeks.

Engineers even produced their own oxygen and acetylene in a building next to the machine shop.

Today, when the tour guide takes you through the buildings, it feels like everyone left at a moment's notice. Even the old jacket hanging on a rusty hook suggests someone just finished their shift, forgot their jacket and never came back to fetch it. On the grounds, the 40-ton spud and 12-foot gear (spare parts for one of the gold dredges) sit idle amongst the tall grass and fireweed.

When the Yukon Consolidated Gold Corporation gave up its operation in the Klondike, it virtually walked away from property and machines. A scrap dealer bought everything from the company at a bargain price. He reportedly made a tidy profit by selling the copper and bronze he stripped from the dredges.

Bear Creek was eventually rescued from certain decay by Parks Canada. The federal government has since restored some of the buildings. Klondike National Historic Sites uses many of the old warehouses to store some of its Dawson

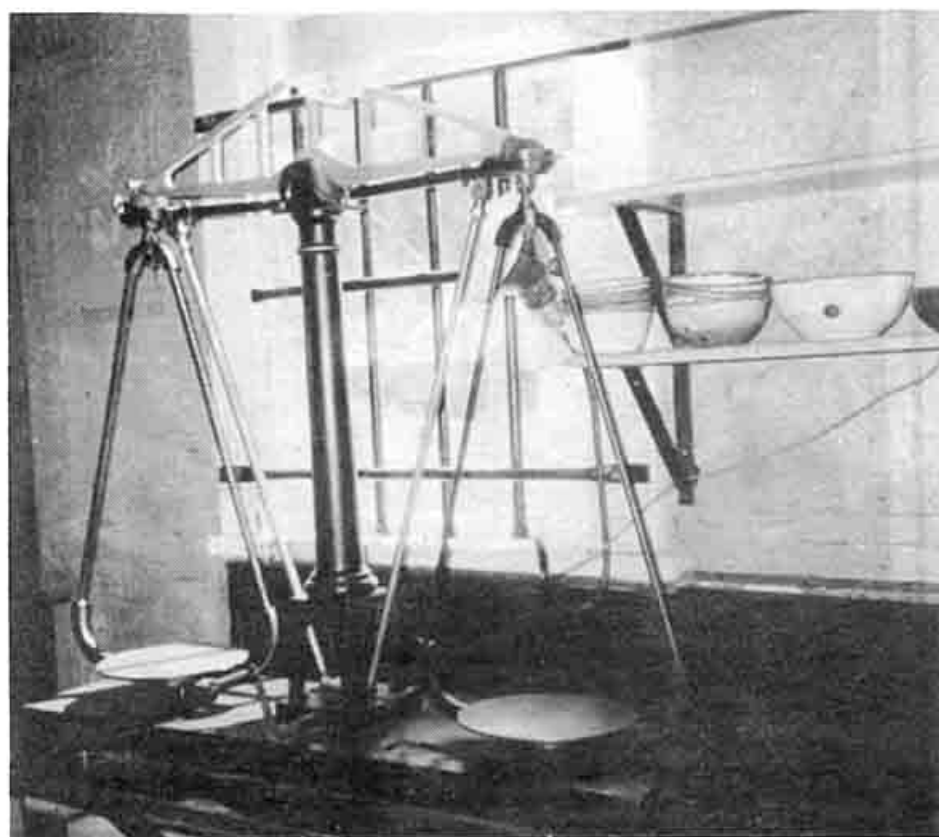


Photo by Palma Berger

City artifacts.

In 1987, a non-profit organization called Heritage North took on the task of conducting guided tours through the ghost town. It is the society's mandate to work in co-operation with the national parks system to preserve and develop the Yukon's history.

Since the first public tour, Bear Creek has come alive as one of the favourite sites for summer visitors to the Klondike area.

Last summer, 5,000 people toured the old community. Some of them had lived in Bear Creek at one time and had come back to reminisce about those years.

The co-ordinators of the tours hope that this summer just as many visitors will drop by. The site is open daily and there is a small admission charge.

Present day inhabitants of Bear Creek are a caretaker and a faint echo of the voices of the many men who worked and lived there during its 60-odd years of existence.

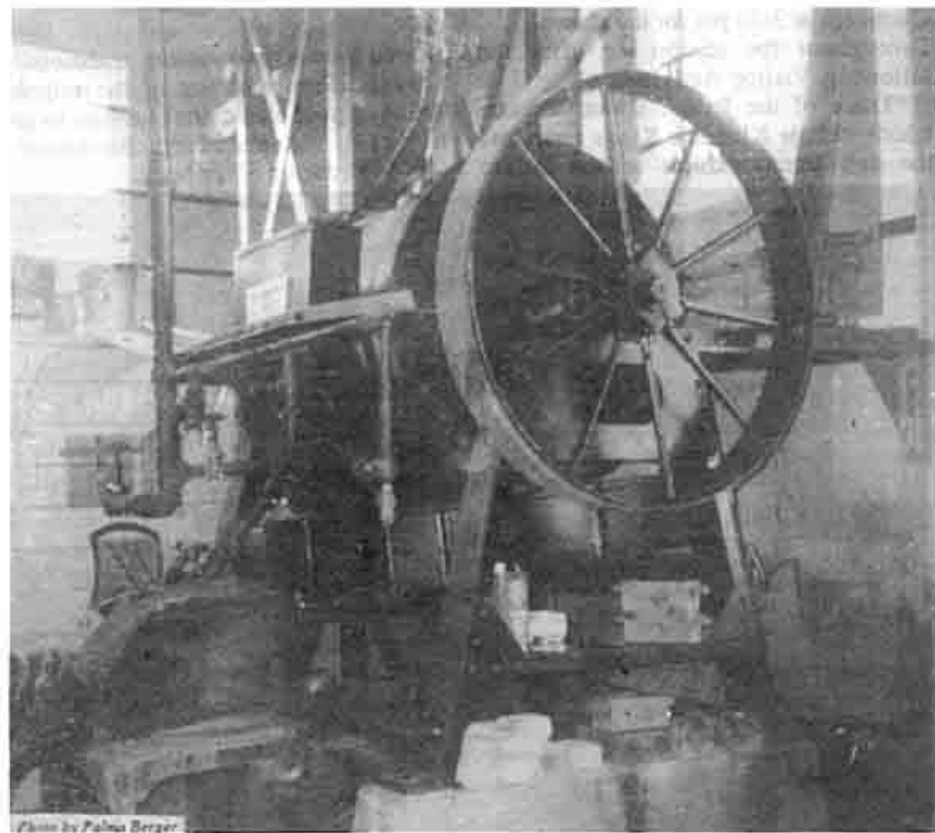


Photo by Palma Berger



Photo by Kathy Jones-Gates

Charlotte Thompson(L) and Holly Reeves (R) with Brownie Troop

It wasn't difficult for the Dawson Brownies to find a worthy recipient of some extra funds that the Brownies had in their bank account. Approximately \$200.00 was used to purchase toys for the Father Judge Memorial Nursing Station. According to Nurse in charge, Charlotte Thompson, toys do not get funded. They

are available for Well Baby Clinics and to offer for play should a child have to remain in hospital overnight.

Thompson and her staff enjoyed selecting from the "Discovery Toys" catalogue. These toys and books are sold by Irene LaPrairie Lane who generously gave the Brownies a 10% discount.

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## INSIDE/OUTSIDE

K.V.A. manager Chuck Holloway had a hard time during a recent telephone interview when his staff suddenly barged into his office with a birthday cake. Chuck isn't saying how old he is, but he did say there were 9 candles on the cake and that the big one stood for 50. There was so much background noise after that, that we can't wait to see how the article turns out.

If Music Festival office manager Kim Tuson hesitates before answering to her name these days, it's because she's still getting used to being married. Officially she is now Kim Tuson Bensky. She's still trying to decide whether to switch, hyphenate or keep her stage name for professional purposes.

Farewell to public librarian Kay (Tinkler) Gee, who will be off to Vancouver in mid-month to put the finishing touches on her immigration to Fairbanks.

Pat Montgomery (ex-Grade 3) claims she will never forgive husband Jim (ex-principal) for making her give up her career yet again ("The first time was to have his children..."), but we expect she'll get over it once they get settled in Nanaimo.

Farewell to the Davidsons. Betty (Happy Birthday!) is off to the University of Victoria for summer school. Jo-Anna is off to visit family in Toronto and Michael has been enticed to Nova Scotia by Grammie Helen, who will be returning when the whole clan comes back in mid-August. Dan's still kicking around, learning more about computers and writing up a storm.

Bridal Falls, B.C. will become home for Jackie Delleman and Naomi, Jessica and Luke as school begins in September. Jackie will be back for the Fall Session of the Court, and no matter what, she will return with the swallows in 1991. Good Luck to you all.

## Happy to be Back, But... "Graveyards Are a Shambles"

Contributed

During the first week of June Otto Blehr revisited Dawson City for the first time since 1952. In 1952, Blehr had emigrated from Norway, and after a job as a car washer in Calgary, came north to serve as a deckhand on the steamer Casca, which together with the Keno and Klondike, was running between Whitehorse and Dawson that year.

The one-time deckhand, who left Canada after four years, is now an anthropologist and works for the Norwegian government as a research scholar. When he was attending a conference on hunting and gathering societies, held recently in Fairbanks, he heard that Air North was flying from Fairbanks into Dawson. He decided to take the opportunity and revisit the place that had once lured him north to the Yukon.

When asked if he found the city much changed, he answered by explaining how the arrival and departure of the "Casca" back in 1952 were events that brought the

majority of the then-small town population down to the dock to watch. At that time, the boats were one of the few links to the outside. Today, he feels that the commitment of the Canadian Parks Service to the area has opened the city to the visitors, and thereby for commercial exploitation. Making no secret of the fact that he believes that this form of exploitation also has its bad side, he admitted that he was happy to see that the living standard appeared to be higher, likely as a result of the visitor influx.

Only on one issue was he adamant: he finds that it is a great shame that the city does not pay more attention to their dead. He thinks the graveyards are in a shambles, including the small one for the Mounted Police. When it was pointed out that the graveyards are not the responsibility of the Canadian Parks Service, he insisted that they should be made so, and that some money going into building restoration should be allocated



Photo by Michael Gater

### Otto Blehr

to cleaning the graveyards.

Despite this, Blehr felt the visit was worthwhile. To be back in Dawson and again to see the places he knew in his youth, and thought he would never see again, gave him deep satisfaction. He added "All the tourists in the world would not be able to spoil the happiness I feel."

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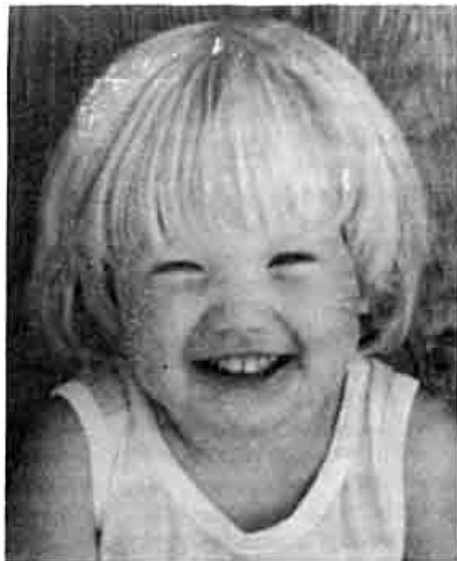
Kyla Boivin



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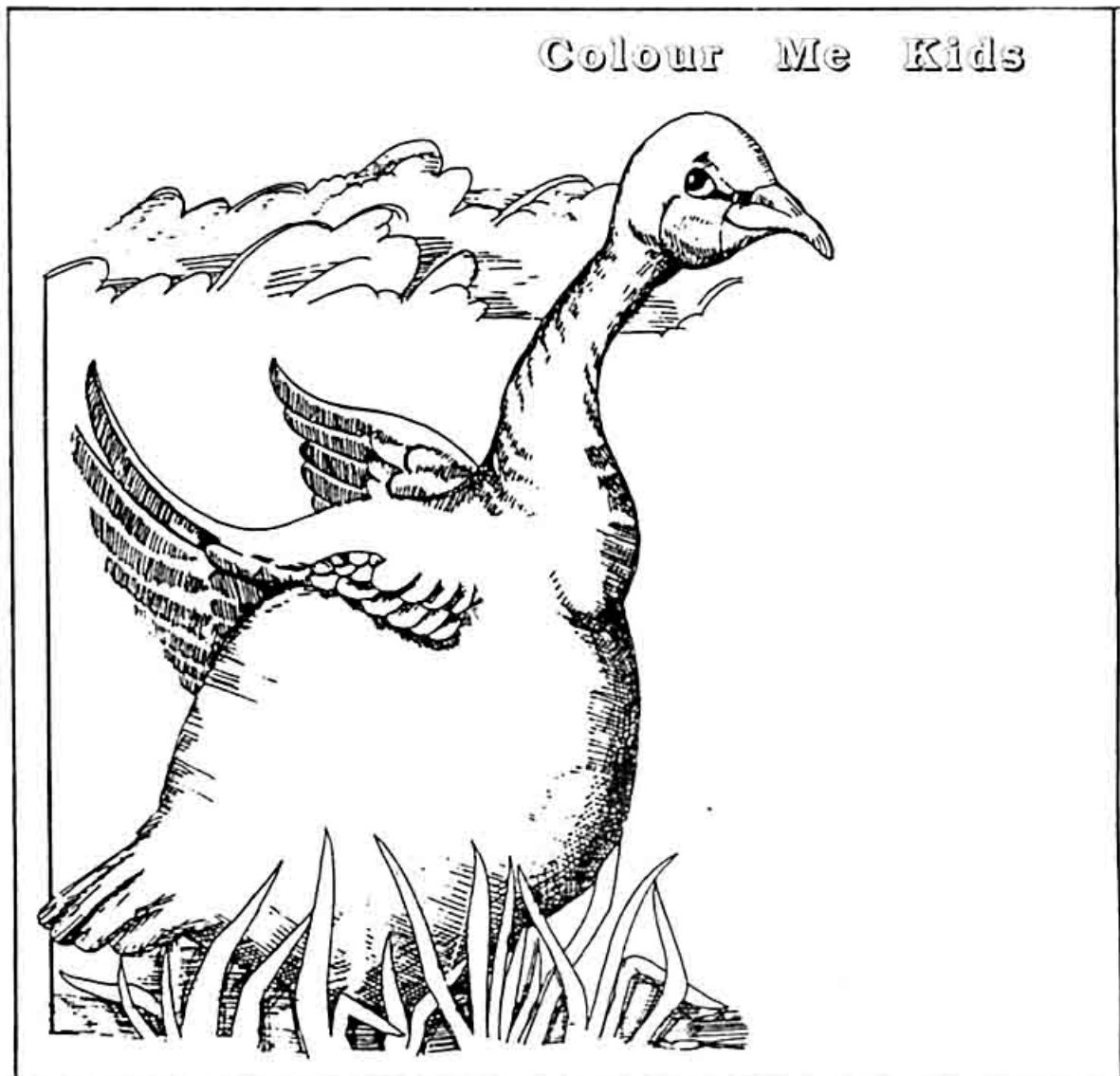
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