



DAWSON CITY, YUKON VOL 2, NO 9, MONTHLY 50 CENTS

Reward Offered in Vandalism Case

by Dan Davidson

Local merchants who suffered break-ins and vandalism here early in January have banded together to offer a \$500.00 reward for any information leading to the capture and conviction of the culprits.

Total value of the damage, originally pegged at about \$4,000.00, has jumped quite a bit since the initial assessment of the event, which took place on New Year's Eve.

At Gold City Tours alone, the damage to the windows of a tour bus is figured to be \$3,000.00. The Sears order office reports losing about \$2,000.00 worth of merchandise, including clothes, a television and a video cassette player. In addition, the Dawson City General Store building, where Sears is housed, suffered an undisclosed amount of damage when

its water pipes froze in the -47 degree (Celsius) weather.

Other stores, such as Arctic Drugs and Maximilian's Goldrush Emporium, suffered broken windows as well.

At the A.L.I.V.E. video store, the thieves were able to enter by pushing in the window in the storm door without breaking it. They made off with most of the "adult" movies and a number of new releases. Manager Jane Dann says the thieves certainly seemed to know exactly where to look for the "blue" movies, which are only rented under the counter.

David "Buffalo" Taylor of Gold City Tours says that the news of the reward has been well received by the R.C.M.P. He says they see it as a gesture of community support against "this kind of garbage".



Annie Henry proudly displays her "Elder of the Year" award, while Granddaughter Cindy DuPont looks on.

Photo by Palma Berger



Rudolph meets "Happy" dwarf alias Stephanie Matchett (left) and Marie Eve Paris.

Photo by Kathy Jones-Gates

The Sun is Back in Town!

by Sue Ward

It is one o'clock Friday, January 11th, and the sun is casting bright shadows as far back as Third Avenue! It was due back on Front Street on Tuesday, January 8th but the constant snow-filled skies made us wait. Thus ends the five sunless weeks! Nothing can hold us now!

Don Loiseau, on duty with "Transport Canada Flight Service Station" at Dawson City Airport cheerfully agreed to check our weather for November and December and this is it. (With all the -45C readings on my front porch before and after Christmas, one is surprised to learn that no December records were shattered.)

Everyone will agree that "It's been a Real Old-fashioned One". Right now the old mercury reads -25C, with a bit of south wind.

November:

- Average temp. -27.0C
- Warmest day -8.8C - Nov 6
- Coldest day -45.3C - Nov 13
- Snowfall
 - Total month 32.6 cm
 - Highest day for snowfall 14.2 cm - Nov 6
- Water content 18.0 mm

December:

- Average temp. -28.3C
- Warmest day -10.8C - Dec 18
- Coldest day -47.8C - Dec 4,5
- Snowfall
 - Total month 43.4 cm
 - Highest day for snowfall 10.4 cm
- Water content 30.2 mm

Records:

- New Record -37.2C - Nov 11
- Tied Record -42.2C - Nov 14

No records broken or tied in December.

Statistics courtesy of Transport Canada Flight Service, Station Dawson City.

Band Hall in Flames Pg. 2
Consumers Guide to G.S.T. Pg. 22

Goldpanning Competition makes
Top 100 Pg. 9



Photo by Kathy Jones-Gates

Dawson Band's Hall Destroyed

by Dan Davidson

Dawson's winter scourge struck again the afternoon of Friday, December 16, when fire claimed the Dawson Indian Band's Tro Chu Tin (or Tro-Ndik) Heritage Centre. While the building is well insured and will likely be replaced, the loss of this important community hall space during the Advent season put quite a damper on local spirits.

Firefighters battled the blaze all day, but it was another one of those fires that was very hard to cope with. Fire chief Dennis Montgomery says his volunteer department responded to the call at about 10:30 in the morning, and didn't wrap up their involvement until after 5:30 that afternoon. While the weather was warmer than at the last major fire, a few weeks earlier, the minus 20's temperatures were still low enough to make the job awkward.

This fire was further complicated by

two factors. The first was that it was hard to pinpoint the exact location of the blaze. Initially it was reported as being in either the kitchen or the boiler room, and appeared to be easy to contain. The boiler room was soon under control, and the crew were working on what appeared to be a small blaze in the kitchen next door, when suddenly the floor in the main auditorium collapsed with a whoosh of flame.

"We beat a judicious retreat," Montgomery said. None of the 3 or 4 firefighters inside were injured but they lost a fire hose and an electrical cord in the mess.

The fire now revealed itself to be centered in the 15-16 inch insulated space between the floor sections, where the utilities and pipes were located. Later investigation showed it had started while workmen were thawing some frozen lines

with an electrical unit, and had spread by following the sewer lines under the main floor of the wooden building.

Getting in to the source meant going through the outside walls, which turned out to be burning under their sheet metal sheathing.

"Most normal fire departments wouldn't get a challenge like this in 20 years," a tired Montgomery said later that evening. He described the fire as a "cooker" or "working fire", one which is well established, extremely hot, and hard to get at by the time a fire department can get to it.

Aside from the hall itself, there was the possibility of danger to other band buildings nearby, including the Chief Isaac Memorial Centre next door and the new Trinke Zho Daycare building, just behind the hall.

At this point the building appears to be

a write-off. That was band manager Margaret Kormendy's preliminary evaluation pending a visit from the insurance over the Christmas holidays.

The loss of the building, which is less than two years old, is a severe one for the band and for the community at large. Tro Chu Tin was the original home of the Trinke Zho Daycare, which moved into its own quarters just about two months ago. Its auditorium has hosted two annual fur shows, many dances, community dinners, theatre productions, Cubs and other events too numerous to mention. Friday was a hard day at Chief Isaac, where most of the band offices are set up.

"It was sad here," Kormendy said. "A few of the staff were crying. It's just a good thing the daycare moved."

After the daycare left, the rooms upstairs were turned into the band's land claims' office, and had just been remodeled for that purpose. Luckily the computers, files, maps and other land claims paraphernalia were evacuated early in the fire, before things got out of hand. At that point, it was just a precaution; later on, it would have been necessary but impossible.

"We will definitely rebuild," Kormendy said on Saturday. "We can't live without it any more."

She believes that insurance coverage should take care of the replacement costs.

Kormendy and Montgomery were both full of praise for Dawsonites who turned out to help during the fire. In short order the firefighters were so encased in ice that they could hardly bend their legs. Other volunteers were on hand to assist in moving hoses, shifting debris and lending aid where they could. Kormendy says that band members themselves were first on the scene, but later on great numbers of other residents turned up to help in evacuating salvageable materials from the ruins.

In the same spirit, the Klondike Visitors Association has agreed to open up Diamond Tooth Gerties to handle a couple of community events that had been planned for the hall over the holiday season. The first one will be the band's community dinner on the 18th, and the other big event is the daycare's New Year's Eve Dance.

3 P.M. Mail Closure Restored

by Sue Ward

The people of Dawson City should take heart in knowing that democracy is still healthy if enough of us stand up and be counted. The return of the 3 p.m. Closure for Outgoing common variety Mail was such a victory. Many voices were heard at the levels of decision. Citizens supported the efforts of The Mayor with letters and through our press.

Items for Priority Post or Special Delivery are accepted until 4:45 p.m.

Letters replying to residents protesting the privatisation of our local Postal Service also inform that "With regard to the issue of the Dawson City Post Office, inquiries we have made recently assure us that the present landlord of the building housing the Corporate outlet will remain Public Works of Canada for at least the medium term. It is our hope that we are able to stay in this building for the long term. IRRESPECTIVE OF ANY CHANGES THAT MAY OR MAY NOT OCCUR IN SEVERAL YEARS, CANADA POST INTENDS TO HAVE A CORPORATE OUTLET IN DAWSON CITY. THERE ARE NO

PLANS TO CHANGE THIS." This paragraph is taken from a more lengthy letter sent to Mayor Jenkins by Marc L'Anglais, Corporate Manager, Canada Post.



Now Here's the Plan

by Dan Davidson

The draft version of the Official Community Plan for the City of Dawson was opened up to public discussion on December 13. The meeting, which was intended to discuss overall community planning concerns, was immediately hijacked by the issue of North End development. Whether this was fair to the larger discussion or not, North End concerns dominated the meeting, and it appears that, for the immediate future, the issue has been given a full airing.

After much discussion it was decided that the North End area should receive a special status designation in the final version of the plan. Specific procedures for public proposals and for gauging public acceptance of such proposals will be set in place so that nothing can be done there without a wide amount of public participation. All of this is vague at the moment, but the general concept was acceptable to the bulk of the 32 people at the public meeting. The designation of TC

(Tourist Commercial) will be removed from the final plan map.

At the core of most comment from the floor was the issue of lines and designations on the poster style plan. The concern clearly expressed by Byrun Shandler and some others was that any deviations from the present designations could be taken as indicators of future zoning changes. Shandler, Helmut Schoener and others felt that the changes showed a gradual erosion of the greenspace within the city boundaries.

It is zoning changes, after all, that could effect the implementation of this general plan. The Plan reflects possible future directions, while zoning will legislate what may actually be done. While the Plan does not have the power to define the zoning, yet the zoning may only be defined legally once a Plan is adopted. This is why the process, which is late, is under way now. The Department of Community and Transportation Services has extended the deadline for the adoption of Dawson's plan to the end of

Cont. on page 27

The City News

In Chambers: Council Report For January 3, 1991

by Dan Davidson

North End Residents Concerned

With residential space at a premium in the Dawson core area, it has long been assumed that steps will have to be taken to make the best use of the available land that remains. Much of the undeveloped land is in the end of town north of Albert Street. One plan that has been discussed in recent months is the realignment of several of the south-north avenues that divide the area. Very few people live there year around now, but those that do are concerned.

Tim Gerberding was at the Jan. 3 council meeting to represent the concerns of the 7 year round residents, and argue in favour of extensive consultation before anything drastic is done. Gerberding was vague on technical details, but opposed any massive restructuring of the streets because of the disruption it would cause for home owners, some of whom would have to have their homes relocated if that were to happen.

Mayor Jenkins and Councillor Lambert Curzon emphasized the need to think of the larger community on this issue. Jenkins pointed out that the city owns more than one third of the rather small lots currently surveyed in that part of town. Moving the streets and eliminating the back lanes between them would result in fewer but larger lots, which would be to Dawson's benefit, Jenkins noted.

Gerberding admitted to a viewpoint with a residential bias, but added that he

merely wanted to raise the issues and have as many alternatives as possible examined.

Jenkins said that any developments in that area of town are probably 2 or 3 years away, at which point he will not be on council to guide the project along.

Post Office Departure Hours to be Restored

The 3 o'clock cutoff for departing mail is to be restored to the Dawson Post Office. Mayor Jenkins reported that in his conversations with Canada Post's area manager, Ken Strachan, he had obtained a commitment to rescind the recent change to a 1 P.M. cutoff.

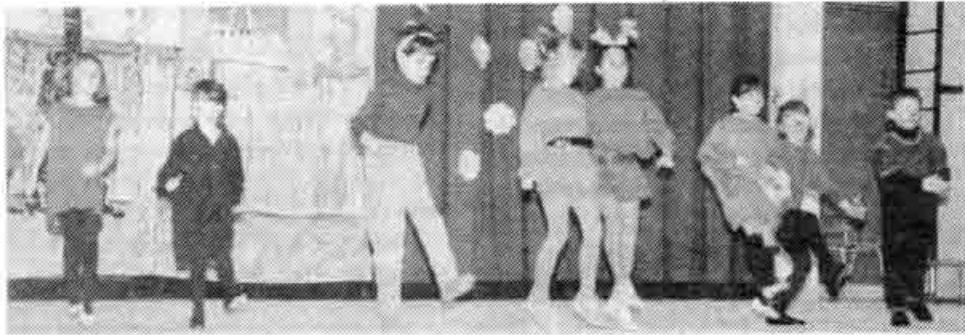
Canada Post had made the changes for the winter in order to increase the safety factor for the mail delivery contractor, 3D Transport. The changes, which took effect November 26, raised a storm of protest in the community.

The change back came into force on January 4.

Municipal Plan Final In January

The final, corrected draft of the official community plan should be on view in the City Offices around the middle of January. There was a little confusion about whether there would be additional public input before the plan was completed, but council has determined that the discussions in December were enough to solve all the problems that had come up.

Photo by Michael Gates



"From the City Office"

by Carol Murray

A public meeting held on December 13th, 1990, to further discuss the Draft Official Community Plan was attended by 21 local residents, City Council, Territorial Government representatives and the City Planning Board. Don Drackley, MCIP, Principal, IMC Consulting Group Inc, Consultant for the project, was in attendance to discuss the proposed draft plan and answer questions.

The area receiving the most concern was the "North Slide Area", which was discussed at length. Other areas of concern were green space and public parks, commercial designations and the Government Reserve Addition.

A summary of agreed actions to produce a final Draft Official Community Plan for approval are:

1. Designate the "North Slide Area" as a special planning area (i.e. development control area), and include policy statements regarding:

- i) importance to community
- ii) wide range of land use possibilities
- iii) sensitivity to adjacent lands
- iv) mixed land use possibilities

v) community input

vi) comprehensive site planning

vii) environmental concerns

2. Designate the block between King St. and Duke St., Third Ave. and Fifth Ave. as Residential Single/Multiple Transition rather than Residential Single to provide a complete mixed use buffer around the commercial core and provide for a variety of housing types within this area.

3. Remove the Tourist Commercial designation and combine with Service Commercial. The distinction between the two types of commercial development is not needed.

4. Recommend that a comprehensive site redevelopment plan be prepared for the Government Block (Turner to Mission) prior to any further developments within this area.

5. Designate the old cemetery on Eighth Ave. as Public/Institutional.

6. Include "Public Park" as a possible land use within Public/Institutional areas.

As a result of the general consensus at the Public Meeting, the plebiscite, as initially proposed in the fall of 1990, will not be moving forward at this time.

Herb Watt Resigns

Another Dawson Councillor Bites the Dust

by Dan Davidson

Subsequent to council's refusal to allow him an extended leave of absence, councillor Herb Watt has resigned his seat on city council. His letter of resignation is effective as of January 3, and closes a council career which has been nothing if not combative.

In a brief interview the next day, Watt said he had been drained by his two years on council, and felt he had nothing more to offer. He had reached the point where he had very little political support from his peers for any of his positions.

"I was being constantly outvoted or told I was out of order," said Watt.

He feels he has always been frank and honest in his dealings as a councillor, but that he has done all that he can.

Watt's request for an extended leave of absence was denied by a unanimous vote of the remaining council taken on December 20. Watt, who has not been present for the last few council meetings (though he did attend the community plan meeting), filed a request on December 17, 1990 to have a "leave-of-absence from Council meetings and return on March 17, 1991..."

No reason for the extended leave, which would be well past the council's self-imposed 6 meeting limit, was given. A 90 day limit is allowed under the Municipal Act, but council is free to make its own

regulations, and did so last fall after Watt requested a similar leave of absence in September. This was denied at the Sept. 20 meeting.

Deepening suspicion and ill will between Watt and Mayor Jenkins, often leading to uncomfortable shouting matches, have fueled speculation that Watt might resign before his term ended, but it now appears that he is alienating the other council members as well. Discussion of his application this time was brief and pointed.

Watt intended to take his time off any way, whether council approved it or not, and so he expected to be removed from his seat by resolution once he had missed six meetings. He resigned now rather than have it come to that.

He will be on Grabiola Island for the next month, but will be returning.

His departure from council brings to four the number of members who have resigned or been removed since the last election. This is a poor record for a five member council. Only Mayor Jenkins and Coun. Lambert Curzon remain from the original slate elected in 1988.

A byelection will be called for the early spring. It takes about 2 months to organize one.

Pioneer Utility Grant Applications

Application deadline is January 31, 1991

A sum of \$600 is available to eligible Yukon senior citizens to assist in maintaining their own residence, whether owned or rented.

Eligibility:

- age 65 or over, or surviving spouse age 60 or over
- 183 days residence in the home, 90 days of which were in winter months
- housing is not subsidized

Application forms are available from Health & Human Resources offices or territorial agents throughout the Yukon, and the Seniors' Information Centre in Whitehorse.

Or you can write:

Pioneer Utility Grant
Health and Human Resources
Box 2703
Whitehorse, Yukon
Y1A 2C6

Yukon

Health and Human Resources
Tony Penikett, Minister

Editorial: "BABY IT'S COLD OUTSIDE!"

by Sue Ward

Few Klondikers, except those native-born, have come to this special place without the romantic influences of Jack London, Robert Service, and such.

The two most remembered words are "gold" and "cold". The most frequent question asked by my bus passengers was "How cold does it get?"

We know how cold it has been for long enough to give us all a severe dose of cabin fever. There are a number of ways to fight it--invite a friend for dinner, read some of those books waiting on the shelf since last summer, tackle some crafts, write a column for your newspaper--make a bee-line for a bar where warmth, friends, music, games, fun and laughter, all with a hot toddy. Coffee too, but one has already swallowed more than is good for mind and body. It's hard to believe that a hot buttered rum doesn't warm the cockles of one's heart.

And how does the saying go? "Time flies when you're having fun." "How many drinks? Who's counting--the night is young. I can handle myself. Baby, it's cold outside! I'm tired of being cooped up. It's so good to feel space, friendly space. Great to jaw with a pal or two."

These could well have been the thoughts of one of Dawson's old timers whom I met at the Veterans' Burnaby Lake Long-term Residence when I took my old guitar to cheer up the boys with "Sourdough Sue" in the winter of 1969. The cheerful "old sweat" related his sad story to me. Yes, he had left his cabin for the warmth of the bar, had had a skin-full, headed unsteadily home, had lost his mitts in the soft snow, been too drowsy to light a fire, awoke to find frozen fingers, was shipped out for amputations, leaving only thumbs. Mr. Old timer no longer had freedom to make a bee-line for a bar, only a monthly pass to visit a niece in Vancouver. No romance left in Mr. Old timer's life--just memories, Klondike memories.

Just after midnight a couple of Saturdays ago, a friend was accompanying her dog for a breather before bedding down. Out of a nearby lane stumbled a woman. She dropped a mitt. My friend retrieved it and when placing it in the cold hand, reminded the owner to pull on her parka hood to avoid freezing her ears. It doesn't take long at forty-five below. A mumbled "Thanks" saw the woman continue up the street. My friend watched with added concern as the traveller fell face forward on the icy road, gaining her feet, she struggled out of sight. Feeling continued concern as she returned with her dog, the friend-in-deed decided she should check on the unstable Saturday nighter, but, finding no trace of her, she wants to believe no harm but a big hangover befell her.

To venture out in forty-five below weather one must insulate the human body from tip to toe. Frost Crystals form on eyelashes as air drawn through a face scarf to protect one's lungs vaporizes. A cocoon does not have to relate to anything outside of itself. A similar feeling overtakes one--ships that pass in the night without recognition. No "How are you doing?" as is the usual custom, especially in Dawson. One has to think deeply to be A Good Samaritan at forty-five below.

Hopefully, people who operate or work in bars will read these words and recall them in the warmth of their public houses. Only they can carry the responsibility for the safe homecoming of their guests. Of what worth is profit or tips at the price of a customer's friendly handshake?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Healing Should Begin With the Young

Dear Editor:

If asked the question: "If you were going to change the community, who would you start with?" What would your answer be? I was asked this question and my reply was immediate: "With teenagers, of course!" If you can manage to help and heal 13-19 year old teenagers you will be influencing those younger and older than themselves. In fact, their parents would be forced to change, as

would all persons who wished to communicate and live amongst these young persons. They would, in effect, become role models for younger children and adults. This age bracket of 13-19 years old has, at once, full intelligence and flexibility. Self-defeating learned behaviours are not so integral to their personalities and coping skills. Intervention at this age would have to include healing, education, self-development, peer support, positive relationship and parenting skills.

Any program that would purport to help and heal teens or anyone, would quite logically



Librarian John Bilton reads "T'was the Night Before Xmas" accompanying the dance recital enactment

The Klondike Sun

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The Klondike Sun's offices are located in the back rooms of the Golden Age Club's Drop-in Centre, corner of Fifth and Church in Dawson City. Mailing address is Bag 6040, Dawson City, Yukon, Y0B 1G0; Second Class Mail Registration No. 8687, telephone number for answering machine is 403-993-6318. We are a volunteer organization, performing a community service.

have to be implemented with the utmost care. Also under the auspices of not only trained professionals, but people who must serve as healthy role models. These persons would be insured of fulfilling this role only if self care is instituted within the program.

In this year of concern over the environment and family violence I see that, perhaps these issues are very closely tied to each other. As I see it our greatest natural resource is our children. The violence that has been done to the family unit is directly responsible for the stunting, erosion and deaths occurring in our greatest natural resource - our children.

Recent statistics show that there are 950,000 single parent families (not on welfare) and 60% of those are living below the poverty line -- right here in Canada. Then there are the two (2) parent families 50% of whom are two income families. These figures add up to 25% of Canadian families being fortunate enough to have one parent in the home responsible for raising the children - at least during the day. 75% of the children are being "raised" by whom? Who are their role models as they become a young man or young woman? Who is teaching them to become a parent in a healthy open family system? How can anyone, realistically, expect parents to teach their children what they themselves were not taught? No small wonder that this era seems to have spawned a new echelon of "hobby parents" - the job of parenting seems to have been "given" to institutions, agencies and government departments (schools, group homes, day care centres, correctional institutions, etc.) instead of being a parental responsibility.

In the Yukon we are being handed back our community responsibilities through the new

Education and Health Acts, as well as, others in the making. All communities are 100% made up of families and given the current state of families nationwide, just who is going to be responsible for the taking over our responsibilities, - this time? Do you know? Do you care?

Do you think it's about time we all learned the new 3 R's? Reason and Respect = Responsibility.....

Thank you

John Kolda, N.N.A.D.A.P.

Watt Speaks Out

When I first ran for council, my platform was to provide honesty and equality to all. After two full years on council, I feel that I fulfilled my mandate in responding to peoples request to the best of my abilities.

Twice Dawson's council has refused my request for a leave of absence. Therefore, I tendered my resignation as a councillor, rather than have the council resolution me from council.

Although I can honestly say that I have not enjoyed my last year on council; it is with much regret that I have made the decision to resign. I feel I fought for what was right and did what was best; but now is the time for some new energy.

I have always been frank and honest (sometime overdoing it so they tell me) and I hope the successor to my seat in council will be as determined and sincere as I have tried.

Sincerely, Herb Watt

P.S. Previously there has been some confusion on the intent for my leave of absence and although I do intend to spend next month down on Gabriola Island my address is still Box 213, Dawson City and will remain so until whenever.

Letters cont. Pg. 5

YES!

I'd like a subscription to ☐
or I would like a gift subscription for ☐
THE KLONDIKE SUN
Bag 6040, Dawson City, Yukon Y0B 1G0

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Address

Postal Code

PAYMENT ENCLOSED FOR 12 ISSUES

☐ \$16.00 IN CANADA ☐ \$20.00 IN U.S.A.
+7% G.S.T. U.S.A. mailed first class.)

☐ \$30.00 OVERSEAS ☐ RENEWAL
(Overseas sent airmail.)

Post Office Article Called Unfair

To the Editor:

I would like to be afforded the opportunity to respond to the article "Dawson Demands Return of 3 p.m. Closure" by Sue Ward in your December 13, 1990 issue.

It is my turn to be appalled that the writer chose to report only one side of the story and in doing so has passed erroneous information on to the reader. In my opinion it indicates poor taste in journalism and was handled in an unprofessional manner. As she chose to write about me without any consultation, I would like to ensure that the residents of Dawson know all the facts prior to "putting their two cents worth" into Mr. L'Anglais.

When I submitted a tender for the mail service to Dawson, the schedule of service had departure times from Dawson at 1700 hours during the summer months and 1500 hours during the winter months. I am attaching a copy of that schedule for your perusal. I'm sure your readers will remember that the mail had been dispatched at 3:00 p.m. from Dawson in the winter months for six years prior to my successful bid in December 1988. This fact could probably be confirmed with the former contractor, Kinney Trucking. The schedule was later changed as a result of the Postmaster's successful efforts.

The reason for the current schedule now being changed is not to "avoid an extra two hour layover" as suggested by Ms. Ward, but

to ensure that emergency assistance is available if needed. I would like to advise the writer that I have never encountered any problem obtaining emergency assistance en route to Dawson. Departure from Whitehorse is at 1630 hours with arrival in Dawson at 200 hours. If an emergency situation occurs beyond Stewart Crossing, I can always rely on Klondike River Lodge for assistance. Both Don and Lewis McGillvray have responded to my call even at 3:00 a.m. for which I am very thankful. I'm sure if Ms. Ward did some research, as all good journalists do, she would learn that Repairs Unlimited at Stewart Crossing and U Save Mobile in Mayo have also assisted me when called.

John Mitchell did indeed tow the mail truck on one occasion. I was in the vehicle with him at all times and not once did he indicate or did I feel that there was any danger. He did raise a concern that the truck heaters in his vehicle weren't performing up to standard. He has never advised me that he would not tow the truck again if called on to do so. Perhaps this now does leave me without any emergency coverage on the return trip to Whitehorse.

I do agree however, with Ms. Ward, that I "should ensure the vehicle is in proper mechanical condition for travel involved and know the road and its challenges". Let me assure her that I take every precaution, but

have no control over sub 40 degree temperatures and wind chills that lead to a vehicle freezing up. If I had as much control of the situation as she seems to think, I would be travelling during daylight hours - not at night when all other travellers are tucked safely in at home.

As a point of interest for the readers, Faro has the same three day service as Dawson, with a departure time from there at 1430 hours and the travelling time to Whitehorse is about four and one-half hours.

I do sympathize with the Dawson residents to some degree concerning the turn around reply service, but would like to suggest that there are alternatives, two great inventions, the telephone and fax machine, that could accommodate those urgent matters.

I would like the residents of Dawson to know that I perceive this situation as a continuation of the harassment that I have had to deal with for the past two years. I commend Mayor Jenkins and the local Postmaster for the direction they have taken this time to make their statement. I hope not all Dawsonites react as quickly without knowing all the facts.

Wishing you all a "Prosperous New Year".

Your mail contractor,

Dale Kinney
3D Transport

SCHEDULE "A"

WHITEHORSE AND DAWSON HIGHWAY SERVICE

SCHEDULE OF SERVICE

TRIP 175	TRIP 176	
Tues. Thurs.	Mon. Wed..Mon.	
Wed. Sun.	Fri. (Summer)	Fri. (Winter)
1700Load/Unload	0410	0210
1730 Whitehorse	0400	0200
2100 Carmacks	0030	2230
2230Pelly Crossing	2300	2100
0030 Mayo	2030	1830
0430 Dawson	1700	1500
0440Unload/Load	1645	1445

(Editor's Note: Some good points are raised here. It remains true that later posting time provided Dawsonites with a better level of service. Canada Post's Northern Branch brags regularly about how longer hours and full noon hours are helping us, but it all falls apart if we can't get our mail out. Use of telephones and fax machines simply adds yet more costs to life in an already expensive place, and helps not at all when it come to getting our cheques out on time.)

Valley T.V. - No Guarantees

November 13, 1990

Audrey McLaughlin, M.P. Yukon
Leader of the New Democratic Party
531-S, House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario
K1Y 0A6

Dear Audrey:

Re: CBC Television Service - Dawson City

The Dawson City project has, as its main purpose, the consolidation of three CBC sites into one. This will provide for greater efficiency in servicing the equipment, and greater economy of operation.

It will also have the effect of extending service to some of the areas of the Creeks. It is not absolutely clear at this point how far the service will reach, but it seems fairly certain that the topography will not permit the signal

to get into Rock Creek.

The project is slated in our planning book for the next fiscal year (1991-92), but it has not yet been approved by our Engineering Headquarters so there is no guarantee that it will be accomplished within that period.

A complicating factor is negotiations going on with the TVNC to co-site with us in Dawson City. If they agree, the project would more likely go ahead soon. If they do not, there could be further delays.

That's the best information I can give you at this point. If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch with me.

Sincerely,

James A Boyles
Area Manager
CBC Yukon
3103-3rd Avenue
Whitehorse, Yukon
Y1A

copy is enclosed for your information.

According to the letter, it unfortunately appears your wishes for inclusion of CBC television services doesn't sound favourable, even if the consolidation project does go ahead.

Thanks again for your correspondence and if you feel that I may be of further assistance in some way, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Audrey McLaughlin, M.P. Yukon
Leader of the New Democratic Party

Ottawa
November 30, 1990

Wanda Schmidt
Box 315
Dawson City, Yukon
Y0B 1G0

Re: CBC Television Service - Klondike Valley

Dear Wanda:

I have received a reply to my letter of September 11, 1990, concerning the CBC Television Service in the Klondike Valley. A

Dear Dawsonites

Belated wishes for a Happy Yuletide from Bob, Julia and Lorraine (Gertie) and Glen Stevenson (now sailing in the Caribbean). "Thank you Dawson for your wonderful hospitality which made our summer a great experience" Lorraine Butler "Gertie"

Dear Editor:

Keep up the good work as I do enjoy the Sun. I recycle them to one here and then on to Doug & Gwen Wright (Middleton, N.B.) Dalsy Roblason
Vernon, Ontario

Copy of a letter to Coleman Johnson
Dawson City General Hockey Club
Dear Mr. Johnson:

Kindly accept my deep appreciation for inviting the Greatest Hockey Legends on Ice in Dawson City.

We were all taken by the professional and efficient manner your community planned, prepared and organized the event. The players in particular, thoroughly enjoyed the warmth and enthusiasm generated by the fans,

which, we know brought back old memories for all concerned.

As a past participant in this community-oriented event, we trust that we will have a place on your calendar in the future.

All the players and staff join me in wishing you the best for the coming season.

Sincerely,
Greatest Hockey Legends on Ice
Marc Verreault,
President

Check the Date on Your Plate

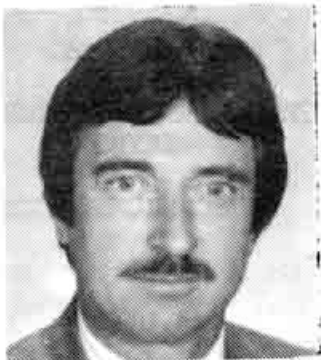
Motor Vehicles is no longer able to issue a notice to renew your vehicle registration, so maybe it's time to check the expiry date on your licence plate. Renewal deadline is the end of the month indicated on your plate.

You can renew up to two full months prior to your renewal month at no extra cost.

If it's time for you to renew, just bring your current registration and pink card (proof of insurance) to the Motor Vehicles Branch. If you live outside Whitehorse, you can go to the territorial agent in Dawson City, Mayo, Watson Lake, Haines Junction, or Faro. Or watch for the mobile registration service which covers most other communities every two or three months.

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Words from Webster

by Art Webster - MLA for Klondike

projects assisted financially by the Community Development Fund, several new housing starts and renovations, and some private sector activity will all contribute to keeping suppliers busy, and those who want to work employed.

Tourism will see a modest increase in visitors with the two major tour companies, but independent travellers to the Klondike will be fewer as the recession outside deepens and a significant number of travellers delay their visit until the 1992 Alaska Highway Anniversary celebrations. Thus maintaining our share of the tourist dollar will depend on our ability to encourage visitors to explore our area more thoroughly, to experience all of our local attractions and to purchase more of the quality and unique gifts we have to offer.

As we say good-bye to 1990 and welcome in 1991, it is difficult to resist the temptation to gaze into the proverbial crystal ball. After all, it's far more exciting and entertaining to speculate on what the new year may bring than to review what has already occurred over the past twelve months. So here are my thoughts on 1991 for Dawson City and the Klondike.

Economically, it should be a good year, but not a great one. For example, construction will not reach the heights established in recent years, but a few initiatives by governments, a couple of

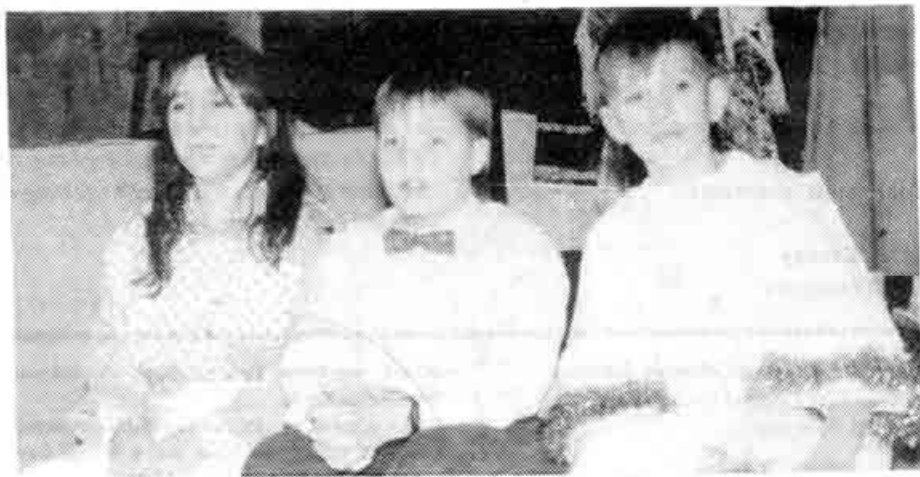
The mining sector will experience a mixed year. Whereas placer mining may continue its gradual decline in activity as a result of several factors (one of which being the price of gold which is anything but predictable), hard rock mining shows promise. As mining companies concentrate less on exploration and more on bringing new prospects into production, it is likely that an announcement to develop a new mine will be made this year.

A year-round mining operation, an increasing appeal as a destination for tourists during this decade of Klondike Gold Rush centennial celebrations, and a long term plan to decentralize Government of Yukon positions from Whitehorse all point favourable to steady growth for the Dawson City area. This is most welcomed news as there will continue to be an insatiable demand on both longtime and new residents to volunteer for service on committees, associations, organizations and clubs concerned with supporting and promoting the numerous social, recreational, political, religious, emergency service and economic interests that make Dawson City and area the vibrant community for which it is known throughout the Territory!

1991 will be an interesting year politically, for there will be a municipal election with the majority of council, including the Mayor (or so he insists) not seeking re-election. Given the increased attention to proposed by-laws and zoning issues by a growing number of concerned citizens, I would not be surprised if more than enough candidates step forward to produce an election and a campaign that will dominate discussion over coffee breaks throughout the fall. Throughout the year, the Dawson Indian Band, with its strong council and support staff, will continue to make steady progress in negotiating its land claim settlement.

With respect to the Klondike Valley, there may be serious consideration given to seeking hamlet status as a means for permanent residents to have more influence than the City of Dawson and summer people in making decisions on matters that directly affect their lives. The success achieved in establishing a volunteer fire department has given valley residents the confidence and desire to assume more autonomy and the accompanying responsibilities.

And to conclude on a personal note, suffice to say that there will be some changes in 1991, and some surprises.



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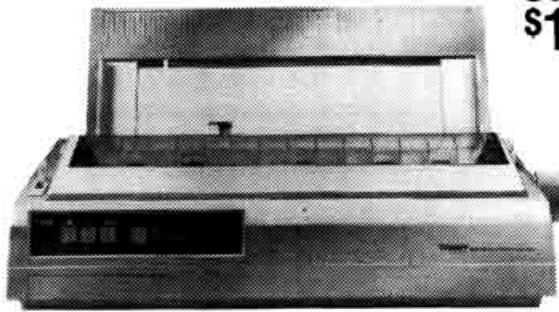
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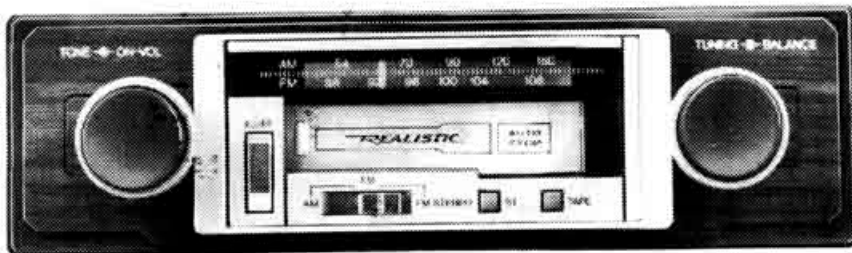
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Furs Show Increase in Quality

by Dan Davidson

The third annual Dawson Fur Show almost didn't get off the ground when the Tro Chu Tin (or Tron Dik) Hall burned down just before Christmas but, like several other events that were planned for that facility, the show found a home at Diamond Tooth Gerties, courtesy of the Klondike Visitors Association, and was able to continue on January 3.

Organized by the local trappers' association, with the support of Renewable Resources and the trapper's association in Whitehorse, the fur show aims to be a public relations and educational showcase for the trappers' art. Money for the prizes given for the best fur preparation was provided from a fund established to promote the industry, and created by a 1% deduction made on all fur sales from the Yukon.

The prizes are small, but organizer Jack Fraser says they are an incentive to trappers to try to do their best with their pelts.

Fraser also sees the event as a chance to foster cooperation between the various groups using the land. As a miner and trapper, Fraser is well aware of the need to reconcile competing claims for land use.

"All of the surrounding area is on somebody's trapline," Fraser noted, "and so if the public is wanting to go cross country skiing or this sort of thing, simply knowing that there's a trapper in that area, there's a better chance that they'll get together and talk things over and work things out. There's generally a solution (to any conflict) if they can talk it over and the results are much better."

"There is in excess of 40 trappers in the Dawson area, and there's fully 30 or 35 that have this as their sole winter occupation," said Fraser, stressing the importance of the industry to the area.

Market conditions this year have caused some trappers to pull out.

"Much of the fur has taken a pretty serious drop," Fraser said.

Still, there were 20 trappers who entered pelts in the various competitions, which were judged 5 classes: martin (19), lynx (5), fox (3), wolverine (2) and kids (2).

In the martin class, competitors had to present 3 pelts to the judges.

For Fraser the most striking thing about the show was the number and quality of the martin pelts, which he says has been going up over the years.

"The overall quality of the pelt preparation is increasing," said Fraser. "It's certainly much better - a lot better, a lot cleaner, and more uniform - than what they did three years ago. This is part of what the show is all about."

"Competition really works in that respect," he continued. "If a younger trapper sees somebody else with better furs than theirs, they are very quick to find out why and try to get that turned around - to have their's right up at the top there. It's almost like kind of a peer pressure and it works very well."

The end result should be better furs, better sales and better prices.

Judges for the furs were Fred Berger, the local fur buyer; Neale Wortley, with Renewable Resources; and Ivan Burian, a long-time trapper and resident in the area.

Contest Results:

Martin: 1. James Boulton - \$100.00
2. Roger Mendelsohn - \$75.00
3. Max Lanzinger - \$50.00
4. Henry Hanulik - \$50.00

Lynx: 1. Roger Mendelsohn - \$100.00
2. Jack Fraser - \$75.00
3. James Boulton - \$50.00

Fox: 1. Poncho Rudniski - \$100.00
2. Raymond Caley - \$75.00
3. James Boulton - \$50.00

Wolverine: 1. Max Lanzinger - \$100.00
2. Wayne Fraughton - \$75.00

Kids Contest:

Squirrels: 1. Trevor and Cody Rudniski

In Dawson the fur depot is at Fred Berger's Arctic Drugs store. Berger had a shipment ready to go out on the Friday after the fur show. He says that trappers come in on an irregular basis, but that any given week sees him sending out some furs.

Library Pages

by John Bilton

Here we are again after another month of great things happening at your local library. As I reported last month the library sponsored a showing of the excellent film "A Child's Christmas In Wales". This film was shown at 7:30 pm on Friday, 21 December to an enthusiastic group of about twenty-five at the film room in the museum. The library is getting such good response to this type of programming it may mean more events will be forthcoming for the community's enjoyment. We would like to thank the museum for allowing us the use of their film room at this very busy period.

On 12 December nine pre-schoolers sat and watched the Walt Disney movie "Bambi" which replaced the regular story hour. This has always been a favourite of mine and I thoroughly enjoyed it again along with the children. Story hour has taken a brief holiday and will start again on 16 January in the new year. The first segment went along much better than I had anticipated and we are all looking forward to doing many new things next year.

The library has been quite busy this past month with many new arrivals which include a complete set of books on computers published by Time-Life books. These books are in the reference section of the library but may be taken out by patrons. We have also received a new block book shipment from Whitehorse which included adult fiction, youth fiction and easy books for the younger set. Some of the new titles we have received for our own library are:

A Day of Rhymes by Sarah Pooley
The Oxford Companion to Canadian Theatre (reference book)
Cranberry Hallowe'en by Wende and Harry Devlin
No Such Thing As A Witch by Ruth Chew
Sharks by Sheena M. Coupe
Illustration and Design: Techniques and Materials by Terence Dalley
The Clip Art Book (5000 designs and pictures that may be reproduced)
Condo Vacations by Pamela Lanier (reference book)

The Library Board recently passed a resolution to purchase a total of ten new Talking Books (books on cassette) for our library. These books have been purchased and will be sent to Whitehorse for processing and cataloguing. When they return I will publish the titles for your information.

The Library Board sadly received the resignation of Aleta Melashenko a long time member who has moved on to a different vocation away from Dawson. At the last board meeting held on 26 November the Board was pleased to greet two new members who are Joni Vickers and Karen Keenan. Anyone who is interested in being on the Library Board can contact either Joanne Smith, the chairperson or leave their name with John Bilton at the library. The meetings are normally once a month on the last Monday of the month at 7 pm. We still have a couple of vacancies on the Board so come on out and learn what your Library Board does and how gratifying the work can be.

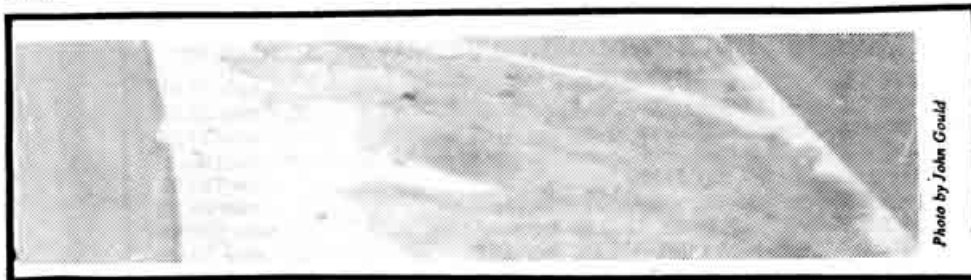


Photo by John Gould

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Remember St. Paul's Thrift Shop

by Sue Ward

Back in the early 1950's several caring parishioners of St. Paul's Anglican Church saw the need to have on hand a selection of good clean used clothing and other articles which could be used in times of fires, floods and other emergencies. Winter was coming and the need would be there. Rev. Allen Hallenby arranged use of the Presbyterian Manse, and each day the ladies planned to come to sort and mend the items, he would light a hefty fire in a drum heater which stood on end, allowing the top lid to be swung off. These heaters were called KLONDIKE HEATERS and would burn for many hours when stoked properly.

Olivia Haines had seen a Thrift Shop when out on holidays in the States, so she, Lil Munroe, and Lyn Hainsworth got busy painting boards and boxes at the ideal time when "Chappie" Chapman was closing out his store, making many donations of unsold stock. The Shop was opened for business twice a month when townsfolk could pick up good clean garments for a few cents and all monies were donated to the Church. Used clothes were washed and mended by the ladies, a chore no longer practiced.

Other W.A. Members sharing the task of love included Alice Ravenhill, "Brownie" Foth, Ruth Troberg, Marion Hadley, and Marjorie Profeit. Coins could become as much as a hundred dollars in one month, a tremendous help to St. Paul's capital.

Lil Munroe thought the operation moved into the Good Samaritan Hall about four years later. While in the Manse, visitors used to drop in to enjoy a cup of tea in the front room. At the time of the second flood Marion Hadley and Lil Munroe raised all of the many boxes on to the tables, hoping to keep the stock

Goldpanning Championships Makes Top 100 Events List

By Kathy Jones Gates

The American Bus Association has selected the Yukon Goldpanning Championships, in Dawson City, June 29-July 1, for its Top 100 Events in North America for 1991. The selection was announced Dec. 3 at the ABA Marketplace in Niagara Falls, N.Y.

The association's week long meeting, held annually in December, brings together members of the travel industry with motorcoach operators to increase their tour and charter business. This year's meeting, Dec. 2-7 in Niagara Falls, N.Y. and Ontario, is ABA's first-ever International Marketplace.

Mr. G. Snyder, Executive Vice President of the American Bus Association in announcing the Awards early in December at the ABA Marketplace said "the Top 100 Events for 1991 are as exceptional as ever... and the events are sure to increase tourism for the event and its state or province (territory)".

Two events - one in the United States and one in Canada - are chosen as the Top Events in North America. This year's honours go to the Mount Rushmore Golden Anniversary Celebration and

Formal Dedication in South Dakota and the International Gathering of the clans in Nova Scotia.

Similar to a patchwork quilt, the Top 100 Events list pieces together the small-town folklife, ethnic festivals, and big-

members operate regular route, charter, tour, airport express, and commuter services. Collectively, ABA member bus companies provide about 90 per cent of the private bus service in the United States. Another 2,000 members are travel



Photo by Kathy Jones-Gates

time events that show a North American celebration of life at its finest. In addition to the top two events and the 98 events selected for 1991, ABA list internationally known events that are annual favourites.

Selections are based on nominations submitted to ABA by state and provincial tourism officials. A committee, made up of travel industry and bus operator professionals, looks at several factors including the significance of the event for motorcoach travel and the travelling public, the level of community support and/or the function's national reputation, and expected attendance.

The American Bus Association is the national trade association of the intercity bus industry. Its nearly 700 bus company

and tourism organizations who work in partnership with the bus industry to promote travel and tourism.

Giovanni Castellarin, Chairman of the Klondike Visitors Association said they were honoured to have the Yukon Goldpanning Championship chosen as one of the Top 100 Attractions in 1991.

Mr. Castellarin said the 1991 Yukon Goldpanning Championship will be the 14th Annual, and the receiving of this recognition is due to the thousands of hours of work put in by the volunteers and participants to make the event so successful. Of the Top 100 Events in North America, 19 are in Canada, and the Yukon Goldpanning Championship is one of them and is held every July 1st in the Heart of the Klondike, Dawson City.

dry. Fate decreed otherwise as the waters rose high enough to soak just a half inch of the carton bottoms. Lil tells of the challenge when all the bottoms of the cartons gave way. My notes say "BIG MESS!"

Later, Archdeacon Ken Snider arrived with his family and Aldene Snider joined in the work. And so the willing hands continue to this day. Thanks to the oil furnace the shop is open more often. Joyce Caley, Evelyn MacDonald, Alena Hempl, and Debbie Algotsson, open the doors on Tuesdays 7-9 p.m. and Saturdays 1-3 p.m.

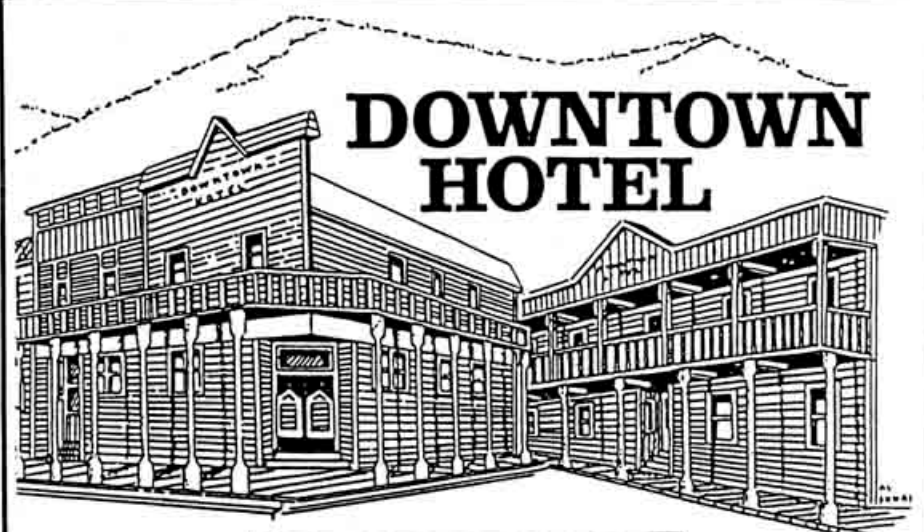
But never at forty below!! "Brownie" Foth joins her daughter Debbie when "home" for the summers.

Donations of clean clothing are welcome. And don't let the GST get you down. You'll find all sorts of tax-free bargains at the Thrift Shop now located in the Richard Martin Chapel building.



Photo by Sue Ward

Lil Munroe and Ringo enroute to open Thrift Shop
in Good Samaritan Hall, January 1969.



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Photo by Kathy Jones-Gates

DANCING THE SEASON IN

by Dan Davidson

Dance didn't seem like a major item in the City of Dawson's Fall Recreational Brochure, but when 48 participants in the various programs hit the stage on December 14, the community woke up to the fact that something major had been going on.

"Twas the Night Before Christmas" was the name of the production, and it featured the talents of many ladies and few men, ranging in ages from quite young to definitely mommy. After a brisk round of sing-a-long carols led by Peter Menzies, the performance began.

First up were the older set, a bevy of long-john clad beauties dubbed the "Buff Taylor Dancers". The youngsters held most of the stage for the rest of the hour.

The framework for the dance routines was Moore's old Christmas chestnut, ably read by public librarian John Bilton. At the words "not even a mouse" out trooped the cat and mouse dancers. When "visions of sugarplums danced in their heads", the sugarplum fairies twirled on stage. As "Mama in her kerchief and I in

my cap" began to settle down for that long winter's nap, a trio of sleepwalkers made their way across the stage.

The "moon on the breast of the new fallen snow" conjured up the winter wonderland jazz dancers, while the hooves that pranced and pawed on the roof were a team of reindeer led by Rudolph himself.

Santa refused to slither down the stove pipe, making his entrance and exit through the door, along with his eleven little helpers, and Snow White, who seemed to have gotten lost in the wrong fantasy. The show came to a stunning conclusion in a crowded production number that brought everyone back to the stage and the audience to its feet.

The recorded music featured a wide variety of styles, from jazz and blues to regular Christmas sounds and classical, the better to showcase the talents of the jazz, tap and ballet classes. The only problem with this performance was that they didn't do it twice.



Photo by Sue Ward

L. to R. Jo-Anna Davidson Harmony Hunter, Kristin Grabowski, Tina Grenon, Melissa Flynn, Marlissa Mann



These are the mice who were stirring when Santa came ("Twas the Night Before Xmas")

Photo by Kathy Jones-Gates



Photo by Kathy Jones-Gates



The Buff Taylor Dancers

Photo by Kathy Jones-Gates

Dawson Indian Band Annual Community Dinner

Photos by Palma Berger

by Palma Berger

The very popular community dinner put on by the Dawson Indian Band, met with a seeming tragedy. The Tro Chu Chin Hall burnt down, and this hall was to house the dinner.

The Klondike Visitors Association kindly made Diamond Tooth Gerties available.

On the night of the dinner the hall was packed. Annie Henry led the people in prayer. The Trinke Zoo Daycare children put on the Xmas show.

After the meal, Steve Taylor, the newly elected Chief, performed his first duties in that position. A most pleasurable duty as he presented the year's awards. First were the employee awards, as follows:

- Special mention-Steve Titus
- Volunteer of the Year-Delores Anderson
- Employee of the Year-John Bierlmier

Community Membership Awards:

- Special mention-Bertha McLeod
- Elder of the Year-Annie Henry
- Volunteer of the Year-Henry Henry
- Band member of the Year-Joe Mason

Then Steve Taylor acted as Santa Claus as he handed out bags of candy to all the children.



Archie Roberts leads the children of the Trinke Zoo Day Care in a song with "rattling sticks". The song was really a New Years Eve song, and "Rattling Sticks" is the name that best describes the sticks.

This song originated in the village of Moosehide where Archie lived as a child. It was called "Shrohonchay" (phonetic spelling), meaning in the Han language

"Happy Day". This condensed version of the song sang of walking to town (from Moosehide), buying lots of groceries, and having a celebration. In those days at Moosehide they began celebrating before Christmas and a party or gathering went on for 12 days.

This is a song of rejoicing because everybody is happy at getting together.

Dancing was done to the beat of drums

and the dancers carried seven-foot poles with coffee cans filled with buckshot at the end of the pole. Hence the name "Rattling Sticks". Streamers also were attached to the pole.

After the singing and dancing on New Years Eve, the men gathered on the bank at midnight and fired their rifles off across the river. A loud welcome to the New Year.



Chief Steve Taylor happily hands out bags of goodies



One of the happy recipients, Briteny Schmidt



Bertha McLeod and some performers

Young and the not-so-young were there. Carmen Roberts and Doug Stubbs



Lynette Peterson was Mary

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Joanne Smith Becomes Dawson's Third J.P.

by Sue Ward

Joanne Smith, Supt. of McDonald Lodge joined Mrs. Vi Campbell and Carol McCauley, Principal of Robert Service School, as a Justice of the Peace, thus allowing our town ample Judiciary Staff, enabling the court system to function without delay.

officials such as members of City Council, Child Protection, and presiding at court locally.

There are three levels of Training Sessions, for which a stipend is received, as one becomes more knowledgeable and experienced. Mrs. Smith attended some



Joanne's commitment requires her to be available on a twenty-four hours a day basis, and she will attend two weekend training sessions, spring and fall, plus giving much time to studying of the paperwork involved. To be recommended by local citizens for the public office of Justice of the Peace, one must be considered a fair-minded, active citizen, and a resident of the Territory. There is much "learning on the job" as the local level of court action is the key to setting the Wheels of Justice moving to the higher courts where necessary. The Community Service offered as a Magistrate is often a citizen's first exposure into the legal world. Other duties involve "swearing in" of new

training sessions before accepting the appointment, Mrs. McCauley, having brought her qualification with her as she was J.P. in Carmacks, trains at the Second Level. Mrs. Vi Campbell, who accepted office on April 26, 1984 has already studied at the Third Level which involves Mediation.

Mrs. Smith's appointment was necessitated by the retirement of John Bilton, who was sworn in on the 25th of February 1980, stepping aside in the summer of 1990, having trained successfully at all three levels.

When John took office, the remuneration was five dollars an hour, and there being no Court Clerk, the local Magistrates had to fill in all forms. In

early 1990 the hourly rate was raised to twenty-five dollars an hour. A further recent increase puts the cost to taxpayers at fifty dollars per hour. This remuneration was stated as "God awful" by Judge H. Lilles. What price prestige? What price democracy! The honour is ongoing as no retirement age is legislated. Dawson City is now served by three judges of the female sex.

A Quick Guide to Wartime Press Releases

"American troops don't attack, they 'assume an offensive posture', which usually occurs during a 'lethal intervention' or war. 'Airborne vector' means germ warfare, while 'employment of incapacitatory agents' is using nerve gas. 'Locating areas for concentration of resources' means identifying targets for bombing attacks, while 'eroding the will of the population' means bombing civilians. A 'special weapon' is an atomic bomb. In today's army it's not killing the enemy, it's 'servicing the target'."

From *Doublespeak* by William Lutz, Harper Perennial Books, December 1990, \$11.95

Dawson City's "Good Joe" Bob Laking

by Sue Ward

Let's hear it for Dawson City's Good Joe, Bob Laking!

When the -45 degree temps showed no sign of warming, a number of folk were gazing at empty larders. Downtown Hotel Manager, Bob Laking heated up his passenger van, put an ad on the local TV roller, and invited folks to phone in for a free pick-up, shopping trip, and escort home to firesides. It was greatly appreciated, not only by some who do not have cars, but to those who couldn't think of rolling the wheels at such bitter temperatures. Visiting the market places seemed as exciting as a trip to a Whitehorse Mall. All things are relative!



Photo by Sue Ward

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YUKON ENERGY CORPORATION THANK YOU

To all those people who attended our Open Houses in Mayo on November 14 and in Dawson City on November 15. We appreciate the time you took to find out about our proposed transmission line between Mayo and Dawson City and the comments you passed on to us. These comments will help us a great deal in planning the final route and substation sites.

If you were not able to attend one of our Open Houses and would like to obtain more information about the proposed project, please call our local office in Mayo at 996-2387, or in Dawson City at 993-5565. Detailed maps of the project will be available in the offices for public viewing (between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. in Dawson City and between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. in Mayo) Monday to Friday and we will be pleased to answer your questions.

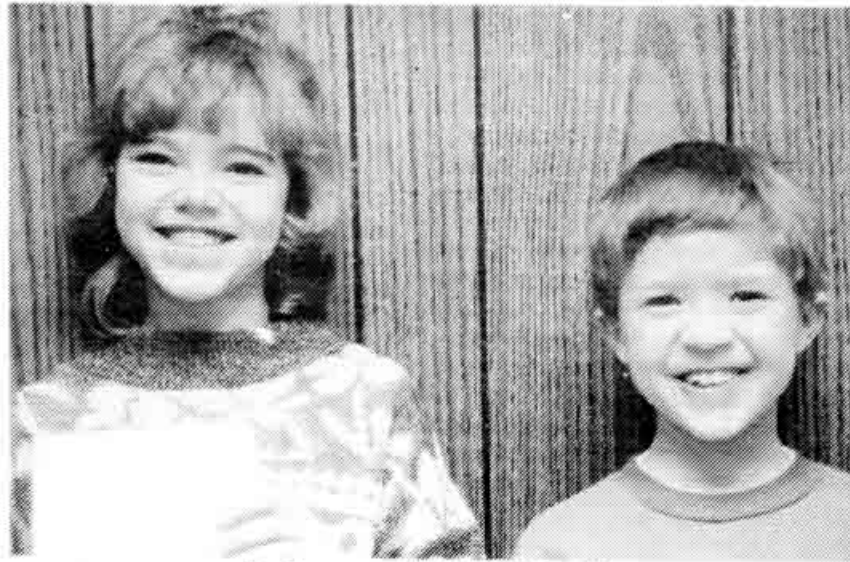
In addition, you can also call John Carroll, Project Manager, of The Yukon Electrical Company Limited at 668-5211 (collect) in Whitehorse, to obtain further details about the proposed project, or to arrange for viewing of the project maps.

THE YUKON ELECTRICAL COMPANY LTD.

A Christmas Tradition at K.N.H.S.



K.N.H.S. Superintendent Al Fisk and Alexander Hakonson

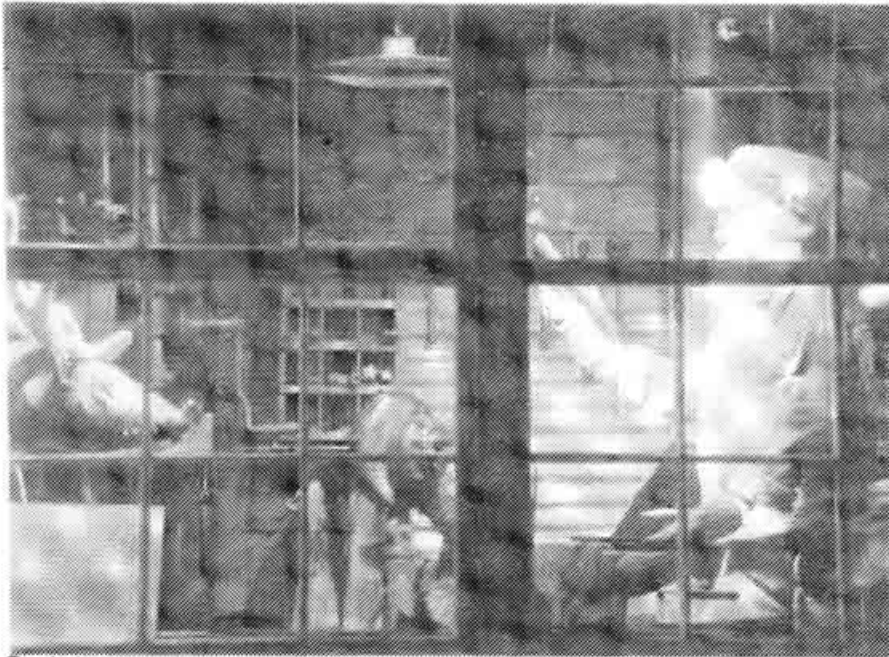


Jo-Anna and Michael Davidson

In keeping with the Christmas tradition, Klondike Historic Sites trimmed the decks of the Steamer Keno with white lights, and the Yukon Electric Co. kindly donated the power. Throughout downtown Dawson, the usual historic window displays contained special Christmas theme surprises, with specially costumed marionettes peeping out to greet passers-by.

At Billy Biggs Blacksmith Shop, Santa was busy forging Christmas delights while Rudolph looked on. All grades at the Robert Service School created colourful jumbo Christmas cards which were displayed in the Oak Hall large front window. Other festive displays could be found at the Theatre, Madame Tremblays, the K.T.M. Dawson Daily News and Ruby's.

The K.N.H.S. sponsored Christmas contest with gift vouchers from Maximilians, were won by: Under 5 age group: Alexander Hakonson; Age 6-8: Michael Davidson; Age 9-12 Jo-Anna Davidson.



Rudolph and Santa take time out from delivering presents to inspect Billy Bigg's Blacksmith Shop



One of the puppets



K.N.H.S. employs approximately 25 fulltime staff. From their expressions, its obviously the happiest workplace in town!

Ruth Von Spalding's Eagle Capers



by Sue Ward

Late last August when the sun was warming us for about fifteen hours a day and Front Street was plugged solid with RV's and buses, Ruth von Spalding wheeled her huge motorcycle into town on a return trip from Germany. She told us she would drive to Anchorage, get some Army Surplus Arctic gear, and head to Eagle, Alaska, to spend the winter in the bush. It occurred to me that we would all enjoy learning how she made out, and Ruth, true to her word, made time and effort to let us share her chilly winter, it being -45° C as I jot down this introduction. Remember, English is Ruth's second or third language, and we're not editing or translating. Should we do so, you might forget that this gal's home is in West Germany, and that everything is a first-time round experience.

I'm wondering how Ruth will feel about all the changes taking place in her country since she left it last year before The Wall came down. I recall she must return as her Visa has run its course. Must ask her when next we touch bases upon her return to Eagle.

12-6-1991, Alaska

Dear Sue,

I wanted to drop you a short note from the bush. The northern winter is wonderful, It felt already like winter even if it start in two weeks. Knee deep snow temperature -40 -50 but with the right cloth it is not a problem. My new expirience are start in the kitchen with the wood stove, baking sweet and herb bread with help of yeast and sourdough. Developing new and different ways to have salmon and moose meals. We use whole wheat fresh graine at the cabin. Natural honey for sweet. We have stored a lot of food in 20 l bukets. Dog mushing is a lot of fun. I learned to drive the sled first so later once the snow got enough we used the tobagen it was almost a piece of cake to drive it. Our 6 Huskies doing a good job. They got used to me and my german akcent. It's nice to see how they follow my comands. Water we get out of the ice-hole we shop in the ice. We are visiting some friends up river and have nice time with the 3 kids and the parents.

I'll write you more once I come back to Eagle in January. I'll be very glad to get the newspaper or only the page were you put your article about me in. I'm angious to see it. In Haines I met travellers who read about my trip in Whitehorse, so I figured out my article must be in the September issue.

Please send it to Eagle. I wish you a nice Christmas and a happy new year. How is your live going?

Bye, Ruth

Christmas Eve at St. Paul's

by Sue Ward

The Good Lord truly smiled on the huge crowd of worshippers as they gathered in St. Paul's Anglican Church for the Christmas Eve Ecumenical Candlelight Carol Service and Childrens' Pageant. With the outside temperature reading -18° C and Parks Canada's portable furnace blowing warm air through the east wall and the kerosene industrial blower catching the chill at the west, it was actually warm enough to have parkas open and hoods thrown back, inviting everyone to sing lustily the familiar carols, one last time.

It has become the custom for each person to hold a white candle, and when Rev. Andrew Wilson lights the Christmas Candle in the Advent Wreath at the altar, the flame is taken by him to key worshippers and the full darkened church becomes alive with the soft candleglow. Only then does the choir move forth with the Processional Hymn, and not until everyone has gained an allotted position are the candles snuffed and lights switched on.

This year's music was especially unique with Bruce Campbell's mellow trumpet harmonizing with Bill Jackson's bagpipes. A surprisingly arousing and melodic sound.

The choir, which was ecumenical, led and directed by Betty Davidson, sang with confidence and clarity, proving hours of practice and preparation.

Members of the Sunday School under the loving care of mothers, Chris Hunter,

Bonnie Nordling, Holly Reeves and Lorie Sprockreeff presented The Childrens' Pageant, an enactment of the Manger Scene.

A pleasing new voice was that of Marion Stobbe. When accompanied by Bruce Campbell on piano, she sang "Season to Rejoice." Bruce also accompanied Betty Davidson's solo rendition of "O Holy Night".

The Robert Service Choir, with director Betty Davidson, rendered "Rejoice, Rejoice" allowing the congregation to catch its breath before singing all four verses of "O Little Town of Bethlehem".

Leaders of each of Dawson's Protestant Congregations have embraced this special Christian celebration, encouraging everyone to participate as soloists, choir members, or to swell the congregation to a standing room only happening.

With commercialism dominating the Christmas season everywhere, this Christmas Eve Carol Service and Childrens' Pageant at St. Paul's Church has become Dawson's pure Christian experience.

While some folks and families shared a warm 'cuppa' and homebaked treat in cosy Richard Martin Chapel, and others left swiftly to catch up on last minute home preparations, the snow sprinkled a fresh soft mantle of purity over this blessed land. Everyone knew Dawsonites had shared a peaceful moment-in-time in the turbulent December world of 1990.



Photo by Sue Ward

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Uffish Thoughts A Little Christmas Warmth

by Dan Davidson

We celebrated what I sincerely hope will be the end of an era here on Christmas Eve. I wouldn't want to be misunderstood on this point. In the 6 Christmases I have lived here, it has never seriously occurred to me to miss the Christmas Eve service at St. Paul's Anglican Church, but there are years when I have been tempted. Why? Because I knew it was going to be COLD in there.

I learned this my very first Christmas here. The priest and I were both new to the idea of Christmas services in unheated buildings at that point. All I was sure of at the practices was that the two large kerosene heaters made a noise like a pair of small jets in that cavernous space, and that they had to be turned off when the time actually came to say anything or else the entire hour might as well be close captioned for the hearing impaired.

Apparently the senses will only allow one overload at a time so it wasn't until the noise stopped that you became aware of the truly marvelous stench the heaters put out. It wasn't quite so bad if you had been in the sanctuary while the heaters were on. Then you sort of got used to it. Walking in the door singing in procession after being out in the brisk air was another matter.

While you were recovering from the olfactory shock you had time to wonder if the candle-lit opening was a really good idea after all. If there was half as much gas in there as it smelled like, all of those candles could spell trouble. You knew there wasn't, but it gave you pause.

The other funny thing about the heat was how long it lasted. Even allowing for the fact that late comers to the service tended to let in blasts of arctic air after things had begun, it still seemed to be an incredibly short period of time before the congregation began to steam visibly with each line of the carols.

Heat rises, I thought to myself during that first practice. If we could hold the service up there in the rafters - two stories overhead - everything would be fine. And looking up I saw two fans. I'm sure lots of other people knew about these and would have pointed them out in good time, but I still felt the pleasant glow of applied intelligence as I twisted the rheostats, watched the blades begin to turn and felt the warm air being pushed back down to where it was most desperately needed.

I've enjoyed that feeling every year since, this year as much as any, even though there was less need.

The other adjustment that had to be made was in the scheduling of events. Some years I have played the guitar for a choir number or as part of the children's



pageant. I found that my strings went out of tune and my fingers refused to work properly if my part of the service happened any more than 15 minutes after the heaters were turned off.

I had it easy by comparison, though. The pianists, sometimes my wife, sometimes other people, would still have to make their cold-stiffened finger joints perform right down to the end of the service. We developed a habit of placing an electric space heater over by the piano to help them get by.

For the last two years we've had a local minister add some real oomph to music with his trumpet. Last year he had to hide it under his coat between songs. While it probably wasn't to keep it from sticking to his lips, the thought that it was crossed my mind more than once.

Costumes for the children's pageant were always interesting. Just as at Hallowe'en the kids had to wear the shepherds' robes, lambs' wool and angels' wings over their snowsuits or else risk pneumonia for Christmas.

Any Christmas message was, of course, short and very much to the point, but you couldn't really whittle down the readings or ceremonial aspects without detracting from the occasion. It was more a question of how fast you could do them. From the time the heaters went off it was a countdown to the discomfort zone, and the combined body heat of a packed congregation with standing room only was not enough to do more than delay that time.

But not this year.

This year Parks Canada rode to the rescue with a brand new toy, a portable trailer mounted furnace with sufficient capacity to heat most buildings. St. Paul's is a challenge, mind you. The place has been frozen solid for a month by Christmas Eve. The cracked plaster radiates cold. The laths leer through at you in the broken places as if to challenge any attempt to ease the arctic chill. The porta-furnace was up to the challenge. Though it took the better part of two days to work the miracle, it needed only a token assist from the old kerosene stinkers to make the place quite comfortable by service time.

The veterans in the choir kept looking at each other, waiting for the comfort to end, for the cold to come seeping back in, for the feet to turn numb and the teeth to begin chattering. It didn't happen.

We sang "In excelsis Deo!" with extra feeling that night, I can tell you.

This may have been the end of another Klondike tradition, but I dare to suggest that it's one that won't be missed.

Photo by Michael Gates



These bunnies hopped at the school's Christmas Concert.

News From the Rock

Correspondent - Marjie Mann



Ah - the season of great over-indulgence and high spirits is over for another year. But, wasn't it great!! Klondike Christmas's are hard to beat. Friends and food and children and lights and open houses and...that feeling, that "Spirit of Christmas", that can't be seen or touched, but holds us all close to its warm bosom. I think the only thing that I personally missed this year was the little Christmas tree that the Levesques always have in their front yard every year - it is always one of the first signs of Christmas for those of us commuting to the "suburbs" and it offers that little beacon of "glad tidings and good will". I guess the Levesques must have been on holidays this year...I did miss their tree!

Most Rock Creekers stayed pretty close to home over this last holiday season - Marg Van Dusen made a trip out to visit family, and Barb and Pat Hogan and boys went on a skiing holiday in B.C. Most of the rest of us tried to catch up on some visiting with our neighbours - although I found I couldn't spend all the time I would have liked with everyone I would have liked. I guess that's life in the fast lane...

So now is the time for making New Years' Resolutions, trying to shed a few pounds gained in the last month, wondering if we'll make it to the next holiday, wondering if we have enough wood to get us through the next few months, and looking forward to the Return of the Sun. Yes, coming to your windows any day! Polish up those window crystals and enjoy the Return!

Rock Creek's population has grown by 1 - welcome to Wayne Richard DuPont - brand new son of Dawne and Brian. Little Wayne came a little early - luckily Mom and Dad just happened to be in Whitehorse at the time! He was 5 lbs. 1 oz. - and is not only Rock Creek's first baby of the year (maybe the only one?) but also the Yukon's first. Congratulations Dawne and Brian!

And Rock Creek will grow by 1 more February 1st when Ross Knox moves back! Ross's position as Municipal Adviser for YTG is being moved to Dawson City, and no one could be happier than Gail Kreitzer who has been keeping the torch burning for almost 6 years!! Hurrah!!

Klondike Valley Firefighters Association News

by Margie Mann

Fire Association News is that our turn-out gear is in, we have a phone (993-6133), a pump and hoses and...gee, we may be ready to respond pretty quick! We will be deciding this week how that would work out best. We still have a major communications problem - what is the most effective way for someone in distress to contact us, and what is the most effective way of contacting our fire fighters so they can respond? Any ideas out there? We have a base station and a couple of hand-held radios, so ground communications during a situation is possible. But...communications equipment

is extremely expensive, so we are looking for interim measures - or some MAJOR fund-raising! If you feel you have something to offer on this, or any other issue, please give me a call at 993-5064. Or come to our next meeting on February 5th at the Fire Hall at 7:30 p.m. Practice nights for the next few weeks are January 15th, January 29th and February 11th.

Anyone interested in becoming a volunteer fire fighter is more than welcome - practice starts at 7 p.m. sharp!

So, get out those shades, stoke up that fire, and, for now, bye!



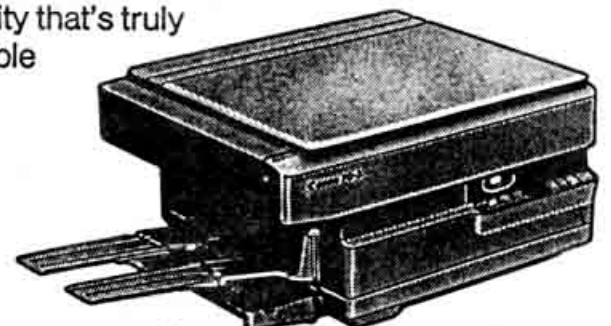
New Years Baby

photo by Mike Thomas, courtesy of the Whitehorse Star

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CREATURE COMFORTS

by Shelley Hakonson



I love breads of all types, it just feels good to pull a golden brown crusty loaf or a fruit-filled sweet braid from the oven and present them to family or friends. I have here a few which should warm up the cold days of January a little.

CRANBERRY BRAID, 2 LOAVES

Filling:

one 12 oz. package cranberries

1 cup sugar

1 tbsp. cornstarch

1/3 cup orange juice

Bread Dough:

1 1/3 cups water

3/4 cup soft butter

7 to 7 1/2 cups flour

2 tbsp. yeast

2/3 cup sugar

2 tbsp. grated orange rind

1 tsp. salt

4 large eggs

Filling: rinse and pick over the cranberries. In a 3 qt. saucepan, combine the sugar and cornstarch until well mixed, stir in the orange juice and cranberries. Heat to boiling over medium heat, stirring constantly. Continue to cook and stir until the berries are crushed and the mixture thickens to the consistency of preserves (10-15 min.), remove from heat and cool, chill until filling is cold.

Bread: While the filling is cooling, prepare the bread. Warm up 1/3 cup of the water, add a little of the sugar in this recipe and then the 2 tbsp. yeast. Let rise or "proof" in a warm place 10 min. Heat the rest of the water and the butter until warm and pour into a large bowl, add the orange rind, the salt, 2 cups flour, sugar and yeast mixture. Beat with a wooden spoon for 100 strokes, adding 3 eggs to the mixture. Separate the 4th egg, reserving the white in a cup and adding the yolk to the dough. Beat well with the spoon, stirring in more flour to make a stiff dough. Turn out onto floured surface. Lightly oil a large bowl and set aside. Knead the dough, working in more flour until it is smooth and elastic, about 5 mins. Shape the dough into a ball and place in the bowl, buttering the top of the dough as well. Cover loosely with a clean cloth and let rise in a warm place 1 to 1 1/4 hours.

Grease 2 baking sheets. Turn the dough out onto a floured surface and split in

half, shape each half into a ball and let rest 5 mins. With a floured rolling pin, roll each ball into a 14" x 10" rectangle and place them on the baking sheets, lightly brush them with some slightly beaten egg white. spread one half the cranberry filling in a 3" wide strip lengthwise down the center of each rectangle to 1" from the short edges of the dough. Cut the dough crosswise on each side of the filling into 1" strips and fold the strips alternately across the filling for a braided effect. Cover the braids loosely with clean cloths and let them rise again until they are almost double in size. 20 mins.

Heat the oven to 350 degrees. Brush the braids with the remaining egg white, and bake 20 mins. Brush again with the egg white and bake 10 mins. more or until they sound hollow when tapped. Cool on the baking sheets for 5 mins. then remove and put on wire racks and cool completely.

These are delicious for a late brunch or mid-afternoon coffee.

I've tried quite a few French bread recipes and this is the one I like best, it's from Bernard Claytons "Book of Breads".

BLUE RIBBON FRENCH BREAD

1 tbsp. yeast

2 tbsp. dry nonfat milk

1 tbsp. sugar

1 tbsp. salt

4-5 cups unbleached white flour

2 cups warm water

1 tbsp. soft butter

1 tbsp. cold water

coarse salt (optional)

In a large bowl stir together the dry milk, sugar, salt and 2 cups of flour. Out of the 2 cups warm water take 1/3 cup and put in a small bowl with 1 tsp. of the sugar, add the yeast and put it in a warm place to proof about 8-10 mins.

Add the yeast mixture to the dry ingredients along with the rest of the warm water and the butter and blend with 100 strong strokes of a wooden spoon. Stir in the balance of the flour, 1/2 cup at a time, first with the spoon and when it gets too hard to handle, turn out onto a floured board and knead it together for a minute, then let it rest 10 mins. Knead with the rhythmic 1-2-3 motion of push, turn and fold. The dough will become smooth and elastic and bubbles

may rise under the surface of the dough. Break the kneading rhythm by slamming the dough down hard against the work surface (not amidst the flour, or you'll be covered with it) and knead for 10 mins.

Place dough in a buttered bowl and cover with plastic wrap to retain moisture and leave at room temp. until it doubles-1 1/4 hours. Punch the dough down and turn it onto a floured board and knead for a few minutes to press out the bubbles, split into 2 pieces and form each into a ball.

Using a rolling pin roll each ball out into a rectangle 10" x 16" and then roll up on the long edge, pinch seams together and place seam side down on baking sheets that have been sprinkled with cornmeal.

Place in a warm place and let rise 45-50 mins. or until doubled in volume. Preheat oven to 400 degrees, 20 mins. before bread

is ready to bake. Place a pie plate with about 1" of hot water on the lower shelf of the oven, slash diagonal cuts in the loaves with a very sharp knife or razor, brush with cold water and sprinkle with

coarse salt and put on the center shelf of the oven and bake until the loaves are golden brown, 45 mins. or so. Shift the pans 1/2 way through the baking time. Remove from oven and place on wire rack to cool. This bread freezes well and is great reheated uncovered in a 350 degree oven for 20 mins.

NORDIC CHEESE ROLLS

12 rolls

These cheese rolls are great with any meal, I usually throw in extra cheese when I make them.

1 tbsp. yeast

1 cup warm milk

1 tsp. butter

1 tsp. sugar

1 egg slightly beaten

1/2-3/4 cup grated sharp cheese

3/4 tsp. salt

1/2 cup whole wheat flour

about 2 1/2 cups unbleached white flour

In a large bowl, dissolve the yeast in the milk and sugar for 10 mins., add the remaining ingredients and work them into a dough, turn the dough out onto a lightly floured board and knead for 5 mins. until the dough is smooth and glossy. Return the dough to the mixing bowl, buttering the dough a little and put in a warm place to rise 45 mins. Divide into 12 pieces and shape into rolls, set 1 to 1 1/2" apart on a greased baking sheet, cover the rolls with a towel and rise in a warm place 30-45 mins. Bake in a 375 degree oven for 20 mins. and cool on a rack. These heat up again well.

Trades Updating and Upgrading Courses

The Advanced Education Branch of the Department of Education is considering offering the following courses in Whitehorse for certified trades people and (where space permits) upper year apprentices:

For Automotive Mechanics:

GASOLINE FUEL INJECTION AND COMPUTERIZED IGNITION

January 11, 12, 18 & 19

Fridays and Saturdays, 8 am to 4:30 pm (30 hours)

Cost: \$66

For Heavy Equipment Mechanics:

DIESEL ENGINE TUNE-UP AND ADVANCED FUEL INJECTION

March 15, 16, 22 & 23

Fridays and Saturdays, 8 am to 4:30 pm (30 hours)

Cost: \$66

For Electricians:

ELECTRICAL ESTIMATING

March 7 & 8

Thursday and Friday, 8 am to 4:30 pm (16 hours)

Cost: \$66 plus approximately \$50 for course manual

The following course is also under consideration for individuals who wish to obtain their journeyman level certification and are able to verify the equivalent of six years full-time employment as a carpenter:

For Carpenters:

JOURNEYMAN LEVEL UPGRADING

February 25 to March 28

Monday to Friday, 8 am to 4 pm (5 weeks full-time days)

Cost: \$231 plus approximately \$60 for books

A registration fee of \$20 in addition to course costs will also be charged if student is attending Yukon College for the first time.

Qualified applicants will be accepted on a first come, first served basis. Applications must be submitted at least two weeks prior to the start of the course.

For further information and applications, contact:

Sheila Parkin, Industrial Training Officer
Advanced Education Branch, Department of Education
Government of the Yukon
Box 2703, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C6
Phone 667-5298 or toll free at 1-800-661-0408



David Campbell, Clint Brickner and Kevin McCauley as the 3 Wise Men

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