



June 15
through
August 20

From Great Falls, MT
to
Alaska
to
Prince George, BC

Arrival and Meet and Greet



The entrance to Dick's RV Park begins with going under an old Great Northern Railroad Bridge. We were



greeted by the Wagon Master's decorations. All started arriving early and everyone was in on Saturday, June 15th. The spots were level and gravel.



That evening we kicked off our adventure with a dinner at the Historic Hotel Arvon in downtown Great Falls, Montana. The Dark Horse Hall and Wine Snug in the basement of the hotel hosted us. The Dark Horse Hall earlier life was as a stable for the horses. Above the stable was the livery for the hotel next door. The livery has been converted into rooms for the hotel



The hotel is restored from a 1980s establishment and is on the National Historic Registry.

The Welcome Meeting



Day 2 brought on the "Briefing". We learned all that our "leaders" thought we ought to know and then some. We discussed travels, looking out for each other and how to conduct a roll call. We ended the meeting with cake to celebrate Father's Day.

Day 3 was a free day to complete last minute tasks.

North to Alaska

Today we pushed off toward Alaska. Our stop for the night was Daisy May Campground in Ft. MacLeod, Alberta. Most of us crossed the border with no problems. A few had to make a stop for 15 minutes or so to fill out paperwork. No one was subjected to a full inspection.

Along the way we would pass through bear country. We stopped at places of interest to take pictures and get information. At the end of the day we all safely arrived at Daisy May Campground.

Ft Whoop Up



Lined up and ready to go



At the border



Made it!!

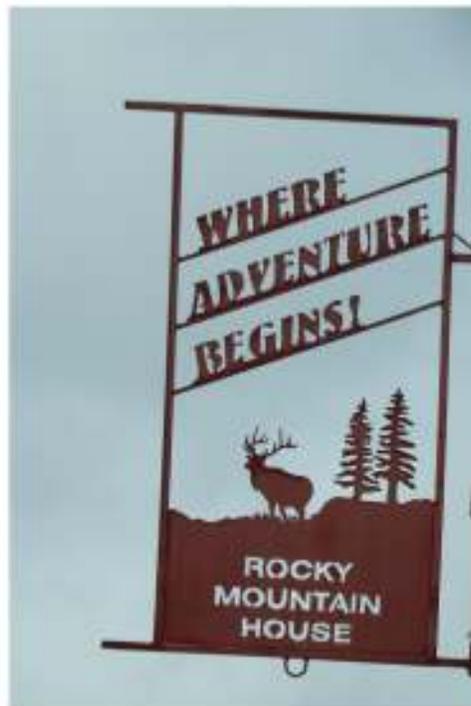


June 18

Onward to Rocky Mountain House



Today we pushed on toward our goal of Mile Post 0 to start the Alaska Highway. We saw a lot of farm land and circled around Calgary. Weather was threatening for a while, but we made it to the campground. We did have one small incident that side lined one of our rig's overnight.



Whitecourt here we come

We started the day with rain, and some snow mixed in. We were in and out of rain all day. In addition, at times the roads had some surprises for us.

Once we reached Eagle River, we found ourselves in a rainy, muddy mess.

For dinner most of us went to the restaurant in the casino. Afterwards some tried their hands at some of the games. A few were even lucky enough to come out with more than they entered possessing.



June 20

Logging and Newsprint Tours



June 21



From logs to pulp to newsprint, the Alberta Newsprint Company does it! Massive amounts of machinery and several control rooms, each overseeing a different process. The end results are huge rolls of paper, sized to customer's specification.





Some of our stops along the way. Crooked Creek Country Store was recommended to have the best donuts around. The Beaver Lodge boasted the largest beaver. Grand Prairie boasted the largest sundial.





On our first full day in Dawson Creek we all met at the big sign for our first official group shot.

Then everyone scattered for a day of exploring on their own.



June 23



The sculpture of a surveyor points the way!

The old elevator has been transformed into the Dawsom Creek Art Gallery



Gina and Tony Mason at the official Mile 0 Marker.

The Kiskatinaw Curved Bridge is one of the few bridges left from the original construction of the ALCAN Highway and is made almost entirely of wood.





A few of our members used the free day to drive to Chetwynd to see the carving championships from recent years.

Note: The Flintstone Cars were in someone's driveway, not on display in Chetwynd.





A few of our members used the free day to drive to Chetwynd to see the carving championships from recent years.

Note: The Flintstone Cars were in someone's driveway, not on display in Chetwynd.

Today was one of the longest drives we will have. It was not without events as several sighted bears and deer. Everyone had a good trip with only one group making a wrong turn and having to double back.



June25

From Fort Nelson to Toad River

Clockwise from top left: Jim Collier gets "serious" at a travel meeting. John Bradford gives a helping hand.. A bear sighted along the way. A beaver moving a log. The beaver's lodge. A stop along the way with Karen and Steve Norris, Rich Hitt, Theda and Jim Collier, Jeanne and John Bradford, Tim Pittman, Keith Hardman and Brenda Hitt.





Nancy Herndon, Janice Lishinski, Joe Hyg and Ed Herndon



Rich Hitt, Karen Norris and Jeanne Bradford walking their dogs.



Beaver "business" and swans at Toad River



The day started a little overcast, but by noon it was clear and beautiful. Some of us stopped at the Liard Hot Springs and spent some time soaking in the springs.

After soaking almost everyone had a chance to see Wood Bison, Elk, Rock Sheep and even a Porcupine.

We all safely arrived in Watson Lake, Yukon Territory for a 2 night stay.



June 27



Keith Hardman, Theda Collier, Janice Lishinski, Joe Hug, Debbie and Tim Pittman.



Jan Woods



Jeanne Bradford



Joyce Terry



Rich Hitt and Diane Lewis



Today's Parking
Crew:

Peggy Ledet
Nita Taylor
Gena Mason





The Signpost Forest is Watson Lake’s most famous attraction. Travelers from around the world have been bringing signs from their hometowns to the Sign Post Forest since 1942 and continue to do so today.

The tradition began during the Alaska Highway Project in 1942, when U.S. soldier Carl K. Lindley spent time in Watson Lake recovering from an injury. A commanding officer asked him to repair and erect the directional signposts, and while completing the job, he added a sign that indicated the direction and mileage to his hometown of Danville, Illinois. Others followed suit, and the trend caught on. In 1990, a couple from Ohio added the 10,000th sign in the Signpost Forest. Today, there are over 77,000 signs in the forest, and the number grows each year as visitors contribute signs and continue the tradition. The Town of Watson Lake maintains the site, adding more sign posts as they fill up.



Far Left: Monty & Peggy Ledet get ready to hang their own sign.



SMART signs from the past



Phil Taylor puts up this year's caravan sign



Who is hiding in the signs?

Rancheria Falls is located along the Alaska Highway. It is a series of falls.



Some of the roads can be very dusty.



Along the way many left messages in rock art

When the dust clears the views are fantastic



June 29

There is Deere In Canada

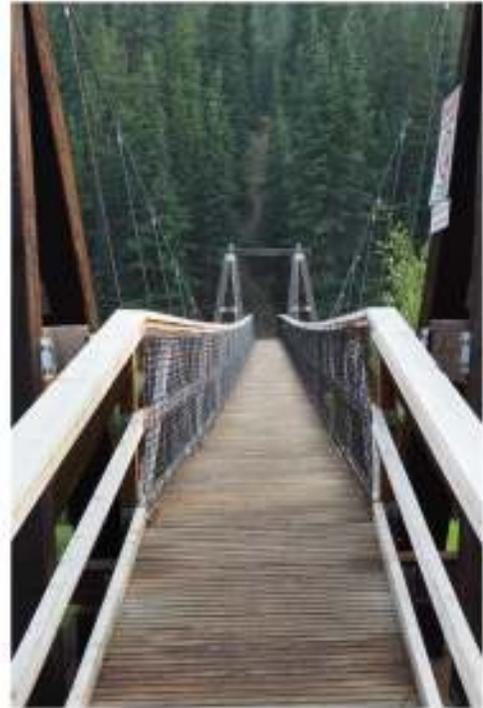
Among the too numerous to mention sights that have dazzled us was one of uniqueness that we must document. On a gloriously sunny June 29th of 2019, our caravan was motoring along in staggered groups (usually three) toward the city of Whitehorse in Canada's Yukon Territory. As we approached the city we noticed the way the wide grassy road sides had been very well trimmed. Now I'm sure that many of us know that local governments will actually hire / lease land to sheep / goat herders to keep boundary areas 'clipped down'. In this case we were surprised to see that this local government was handling this chore in a most unique fashion. They had obtained an amazingly well trained herd of deere to keep their roadsides under control. We passed a small herd of five deere diligently clipping away. These were particularly large specimens. I've attached a photo of one of these magnificent critters that was being paraded through Whitehorse on Canada Day, enjoy ;o)



It was a beautiful day today in Whitehorse except for the smoke haze. Smoke from several area forest fires has drifted over the area.

We started the day visiting an overlook for Miles Canyon. This was followed by a tour of the SS Klondike, a stern driven paddle boat that was used between Whitehorse and Dawson City. We then proceeded to the hydro-electric dam to see the longest wooden fish ladder.

A bus tour of downtown was followed by a visit to the Whitehorse Visitor Center. Some of us took the chance to eat at several downtown eateries.





Here are a couple of pictures from the visit to the hydro-electric dam in Whitehorse.



Most of Whitehorse's downtown buildings are covered with murals.



Our members took the time to visit many of the sites in downtown.





Old Log Church Museum in Whitehorse, Yukon Territory. The church was established in October 1900. The displays inside pay tribute to the early missionaries in the area and the work they did for the natives and the prospectors.

This piece of jade weighs about 3,000 pounds and was part of a 28 ton boulder that was found 75 miles east of Carcross, Yukon Territory. The Yukon is the home of the largest jade boulder discovered to date. That jade boulder weighed 270 tons.

Here Barry Craigen does his best to hold the jade up.





CANADA DAY - We were privileged to observe the Canada Day activities in Whitehorse. There was a parade followed by the formal ceremonies. Afterwards there was plenty of food and fun for all.



July 1





It was another travel day, except this was only 109 miles. A short ride with many stops. Forest Fires in Canada provided a haze of smoke that interfered with some views, but it was magnificent even with the smoke.



July 2



After arriving in Skagway, many of us took the 4:15 White Pass and Yukon train to the Summit. On the train we relaxed in vintage passenger coaches as we retraced the original route to the White Pass Summit, passing Bridal Veil Falls, Inspiration Point and Dead Horse Gulch. We enjoyed a breathtaking panorama of mountains, glaciers, gorges, waterfalls, tunnels, trestles and historic sites. We saw the original Klondike Trail of '98 worn into the rocks, a permanent tribute to the thousands of souls who passed this way in search of fortune.

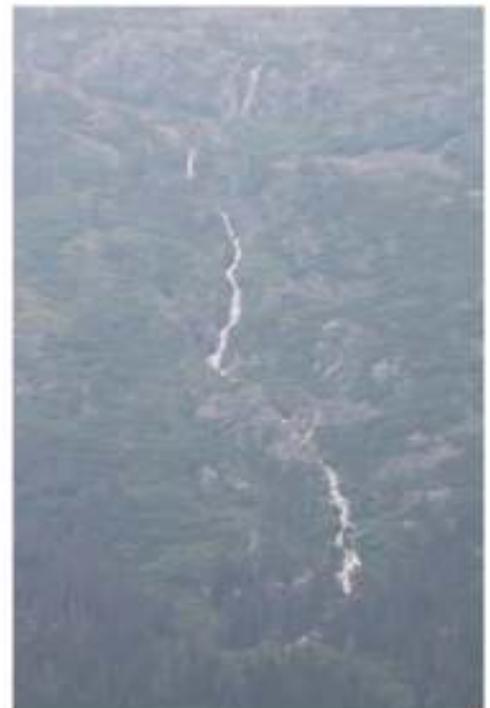




Here are additional pictures from the
Whitepass TrainRide



The
beautiful
waterfalls
in
the
area
are
fed
from
the
melting
glaciers.
We
saw
more
waterfalls
than
we
could
keep
track
of.





Today was a free day in Skagway. Those who did not take the train yesterday went today. Others went shopping or sightseeing. Skagway is definitely a cruise port town. Some days they have over 13000 tourists in town from the cruise ships.



4th of July in Skagway

It was a beautiful day for a parade in Skagway. We decorated the 3 trucks and Jerry's motorcycle and proceeded to depart for the starting point. We had candy, beads and rubber balls to pass out. The streets were lined with spectators as 3 cruise ships were in port. Everyone had a fabulous time.



Juneau



We took a fast boat to Juneau for the day. There was a lot of wildlife to see. We learned that a whale will lift his tail out of the water just prior to diving.



More wildlife from out boat ride. The ride was several hours long.



The Macaulay Salmon Hatchery that we visited was completed in 1990 at a capital cost of \$7.4 million. The facility can hold up to 300 million eggs, and is one of the five largest salmon hatcheries in the State of Alaska.



Debbie Pittman taking in the sights.

Monty and Peggy Ledet

Joe and Janice





Our trip from Skagway to Carmack took us by some great scenery. The road was winding and wooden bridges the norm.

The DC-3 below is perfectly balance and serves as the wind vane for the airport.

The elk on the sign was the only one we saw this day



July 6



Our trip to Dawson City was very eventful. First off the mosquitoes got quite large as you can see to the left. In addition to the large mosquitoes we went by many wildfires. These produced a strong smoke haze.

After arriving in Dawson City, we visited Diamond Tooth Gertie Show. Here we got to see Al Calise show off his dancing and Can-Can skills. Then John Hawkins tried his hand at seducing Diamond Tooth Gertie.

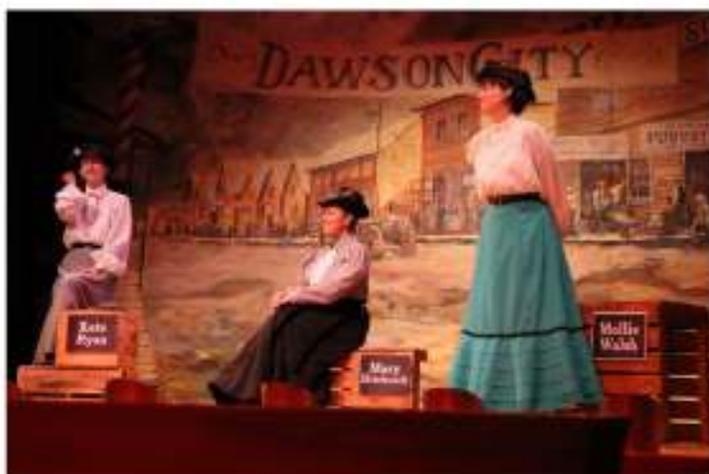


Our tour of Dawson City revealed some interesting sights. The local Post Office and pharmacy were very interesting.

Many of the buildings in the city lean one way or the other. This is due to being built on permafrost and then the heat of the building melting the permafrost. The building would then sink in the area of the stove heat.



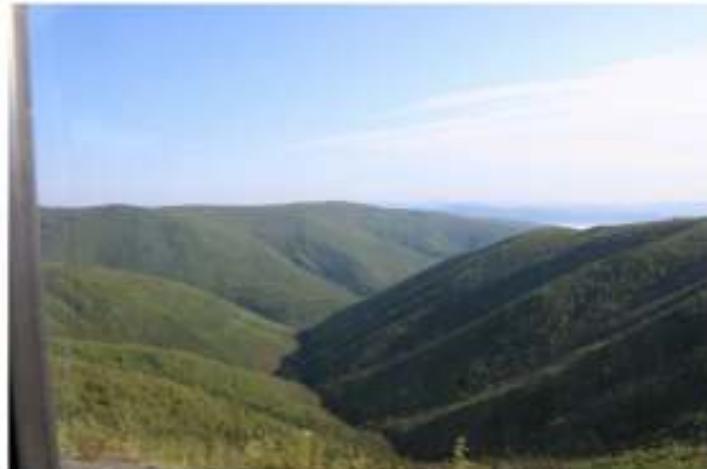
The evening after the walking tour of the city, we attended a historical presentation on the history of Dawson City and the contributions of 3 prominent women. Of course Phil Taylor and Theda Collier were tasked with helping prove which of the 3 were the most prominent. It was a great time and they each did well.

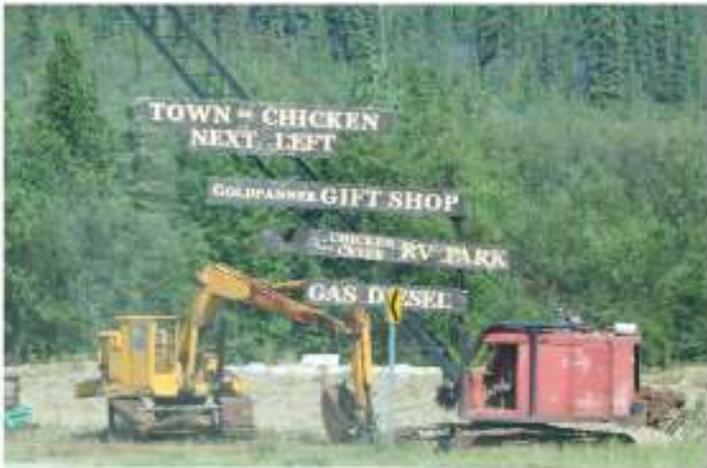


Today we took to the Top of the World Highway and what a ride it was. To start with we had to cross the Yukon river by ferry. One or two rigs at a time. Sometimes a bus or large truck would have priority. Try taking 21 motorhomes across the river this way.



We started out with pavement, but soon that gave way to dirt and gravel, dusty dirt and gravel. Also, it was not smooth riding, it was at times more like being on an old washboard. We bounced everywhere. Midway we stopped at Chicken, Alaska for lunch and then proceeded to Tok, Alaska. However the skies were clear and the views spectacular!





It was an interesting drive from Tok to North Pole, Alaska. We started in a light smoky area and it got thicker as we drove. When we finally reached the campground, visibility was about three quarters of a mile and we saw the sun occasionally. Fairbanks and North Pole were pretty much surrounded by fire when we were there

Except for the smoke it was a pleasant drive. The road was paved and, except for the occasional frost-heave, smooth.



We made a few stops along the way. One was to have our pictures made at the end of the ALCAN highway.



July 11



Along the way to Tok we stopped at the Knotty Shop. The work they do with Burl Logs is fantastic. The Alyesda Pipeline can be seen in the lower right photo.



The Midnight Sun Intertribal Powwow.



Dave and Jan Woods, Brenda and Rich Hitt, Gina and Tony Mason, Steve and Karen Norris, and Monty and Peggy Ledet were able to attend this Powwow. The gates opened at 5 and the Grand Entry was not until 6:00, so they had plenty of time to look around, eat Fry Bread or Indian Tacos and find chairs around the circle.

The Master of Ceremonies asked all Veterans to meet outside the Circle and participate in the Grand Entry. Dave, Tony and Rich took their place with all the other veterans. At each Grand Entry there was an Honor Song, a Flag Song and an Invocation. Palani Wakpa from Standing Rock, SD was the Guest Drum. There were 4 drum circles: Soaring Eagle from Fairbanks, Sleeping Lady from Anchorage and North wind Unity from Wasilla.

Dancers from all over the State of Alaska were invited to attend. Many of the dancers wore their Regalia creating a very colorful scene. After the Grand Entry had made a complete circuit of the circle, the Veterans were asked to turn to the outside and shake hands with the people in the audience. Many attendees came to the edge of the circle to shake the Veterans hands. Our SMART veterans were very honored to be included.

We were impressed with the respect and honor of the culture and traditions represented at all Powwows. These are cultural and sacred events. At these events, great respect is always shown for Veterans. The Mission Statement: The Midnight Sun Intertribal Powwow is organized exclusively to bring together Alaska Natives, American Indians and First Nations People of Canada in a powwow setting to share similarities and diversities; to honor the elders and children; and to educate the general public of the heritage of the indigenous people of North America.



It rained last night and helped to clear the air. With most of the smoke gone we could see the sun again. Of course, sunrise was around 3:30 AM.

Later that morning we boarded a bus for a ride to Dredge 8 in Fox Alaska. Here we saw the Alyeska Pipeline and heard a presentation on the construction and what it means to Alaska.

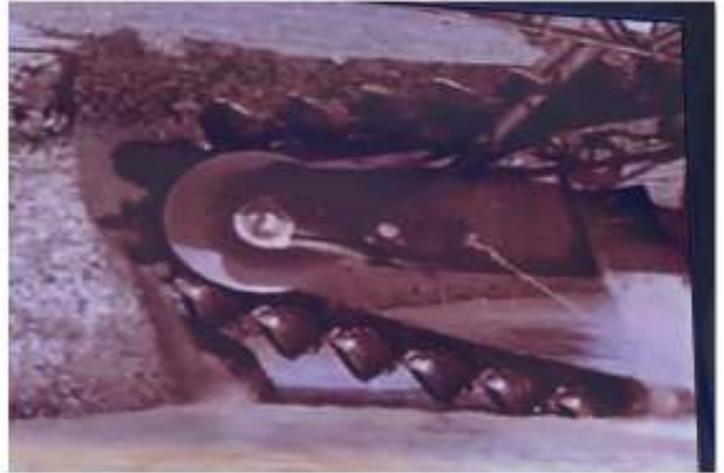


After the presentation, we boarded a train and headed to an old gold dredging operation.





As we traveled we discovered a large dredge that was used to dig gold from the area. Further on the ride we were able to leave the train to try our hand at panning for gold. Everyone found some gold. A lot of us put our found treasures into lockets for bracelets and necklaces.



After all our activities we had time to explore the Fairbanks area. Since we were staying at the North Pole (Alaska) we went searching for Santa Claus and found him hard at work in the North Pole.





Riverboat Discovery

Today's activity was a ride on the Stern Wheeler Riverboat Discovery. During the ride we observed the training of dogs for the Iditarod, visited a recreation of a native village and saw many sites on the river.

We got to see an Alaskan bush pilot takeoff and land right next to the boat! The pilot shared his stories of village life and explained the vital role planes play in remote Alaska.



We visit the home and kennels of the late four-time Iditarod champion Susan Butcher as we passed Trailbreaker Kennels along the Chena River. We learned firsthand about kennel life and the challenges that go into making a champion dogsled team. Dave Monson, Susan's husband shared stories of life on the trails.



July 14



During our tour of an Athabaskan Indian village we saw cabins made of spruce logs, a cache used for storing supplies, a primitive spruce bark hut and fur pelts. Our guides explained how the wolf, fox, martin and beaver were used to provide food and protection in the harsh Arctic climate. They also shared how the Athabascans skillfully survived for over 10,000 years and how they adapted to village life and Western culture in the past century.

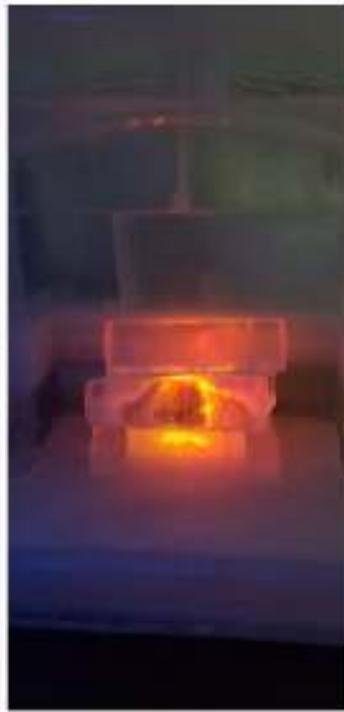




July 14

*A surprise visitor from the
North Pole
while at
North Pole, Alaska.*





Chena Hot Springs Resort is home to the world's largest year-round ice environment, the Aurora Ice Museum! It was created from over 1,000 tons of ice and snow, all harvested at the resort.



On the lighter side . . .



While camping in Fort Nelson, British Columbia we visited the Fort Nelson Heritage Museum. We viewed lots of beautiful antique vehicles, all still working and in mint condition. They were from the construction of the Alaska Hwy. We dressed in the period of the car we were viewing. June 27th.

We were given an allowance of \$40 for dinner. I ordered a pizza and ate a piece. The remaining pizza I was taking to the RV for later. Bill and I had walked to the restaurant. We sat beside Ed and Nancy Herndon. Ed offered to take my pizza home so Nancy, Bill and I walked back to the RV. When we arrived to collect my pizza Ed presented me with an empty box with a note of thanks. It was not the first time that I had to deal with "Ed the Rat".



Alaska Salmon Bake

Operating in historic Pioneer Park for over 40 years, the Alaska Salmon Bake offered an authentic Alaskan dining experience in a truly unique environment.

Dinner included Unlimited Grilled Salmon, Slow Roasted Beef, Beer-Battered Alaskan Cod, bottomless Salad & Side Bar, Coffee, Tea and a dedicated Dessert Cabin!



THE PALACE THEATRE

Recognized by the Alaska Visitor's Association, and thousands of satisfied patrons every summer, as "The Number One Show Throughout Alaska and Canada", the Palace Theatre's GOLDEN HEART REVIEW was a hilarious musical comedy that left us laughing, and a bit wiser about life in the last frontier.

Through songs and stories, the cast gave us the historical highlights of Fairbanks, also known as "The Golden Heart City", and answered a few commonly asked questions about Fairbanks...such as why would anyone want to live here?



It was a pleasant and easy drive to Denali. The scenery was beautiful with mountains to see and rivers to cross.



Husky Homestead

It all began with puppies! As soon as we got off the shuttle bus, we were handed a puppy for snuggle time, lots of photos and videos were taken.

These sled dogs are in training year-round, so we were able to witness a team exploding from the dog yard and running on Jeff's innovative 50-foot treadmill before they hit the trail for a training run. We learned about their care, feeding, and exercise schedule. We witnessed the dogs' enthusiasm and passion for what they do and saw the special relationship between musher and dog. We even met a couple of champion dogs.

Next, we took a seat inside the theater with a panoramic view of the Alaska Range. We learned about the Alaskan lifestyle and heard remarkable stories from the Iditarod Trail. We checked out actual mushing equipment, racing sleds, and arctic survival gear used during training and racing. Jeff and his team were great storytellers, we were entertained while being educated.



At the Alaska Cabin Nite Dinner Theater we saw heroine Fannie Quigley and an unforgettable cast of characters in a true-to-life Gold Rush tale of adventure in early 1900s Alaska. It was a great mix of colorful storytelling, spirited music and humor, brought to life by talented performers. Everyone loved the lighthearted entertainment and hearty cuisine.



Steve Norris becomes a member of the cast.



Richard Collins also becomes a member of the cast and later receives his reward.





Wildlife at Denali





*More
Denali
Wildlife*



The ATV Rough Riders.
Several took advantage of a free day for a closer look at the local area. The adventure took place at the land of an abandon coal mine.



Signs of Denali!





Today the well among us took a trolley ride around Anchorage. This gave us the opportunity to plan activities for next week when we return.

We also were fortunate to see a Moose and her two calves. They were taking a stroll down the street.



Here are some wildlife we saw during other times in Anchorage.



Homer and Homer Spit





Bill Fishing



Colleen and David Making Smores





Flo loves Fish

July 24



Around 70 names, along with their vessels and dates they died are engraved on plaques mounted on the inside of the pillars of the memorial. They date from 1934 and include several varieties of vessels, including the "Munson Mail Boat", kayaks, skiffs and canoes, commemorating losses of lives at sea that didn't involved commercial fishing. Several deaths from herring spotter aircraft crashes also have plaques on the inner sides of the pillars.



Dave and Jan Woods on a free day took a ferr to Seldovia.

Seldovia (Alutiiq: Angagkitaqnuuq) is a city in Kenai Peninsula Borough, Alaska, United States. Its population was 255 at the 2010 census, down from 286 in 2000. It is located along Kachemak Bay southwest of Homer. There is no road system connecting the town to other communities, so all travel to Seldovia is by airplane or boat.

The Alaska Native people of Seldovia make up approximately 1/4 of the population and have ancestors of Aleut and Alutiiq (Sugpiaq) descent, as well as some Dena'ina.







WHALE





BIRDS





Otters



Seals



Gina celebrates

Gina Mason
Colleen Hardman
Jan Woods



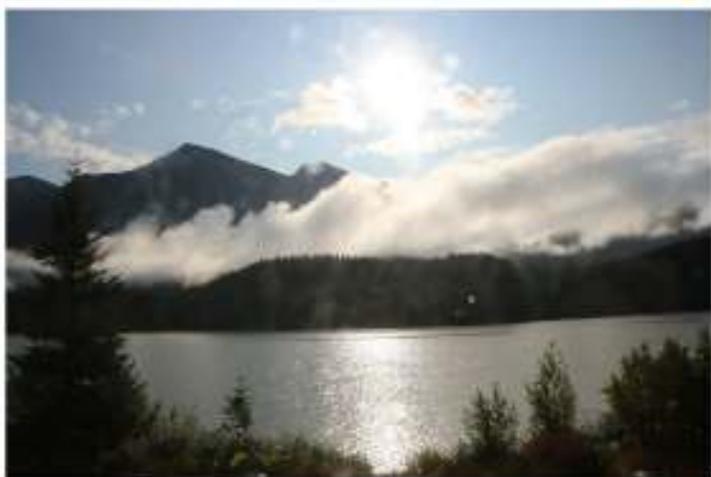
A visit to the

Exit Glacier



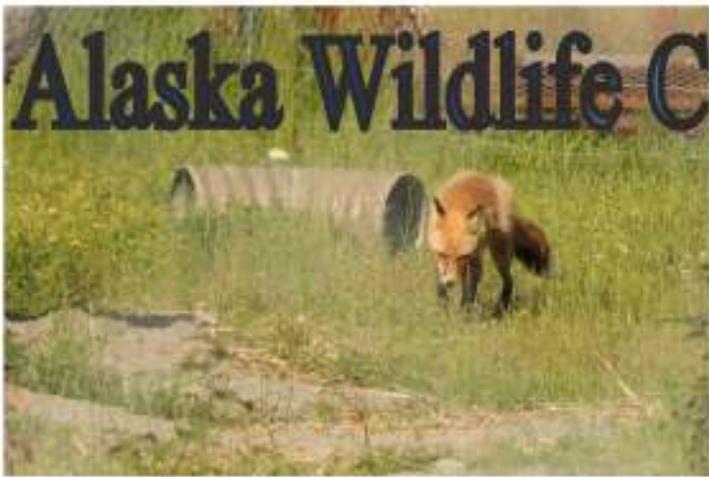
July 28

Travel Back To Anchorage





Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center







Alyeska Tram



Turnagain Gallery



The Alaska Railroad serves most of Alaska. The locomotive shown at the right was one of the first locomotive, but never pulled a car. It has a bumper on it to train wildlife to stay off the tracks. There was no information as to whether this worked or not.



We took the Glacier Discovery Train from Anchorage to visit the Spencer Glacier. Along the way the train travels through a mountain tunnel to the next stop at the Spencer Glacier Whistle Stop, a back country paradise developed in partnership with the Chugach National Forest Service.



Most of us departed the train at the Spencer Glacier Whistle Stop to hike a well-maintained, 1.3-mile gravel path from the tracks to the edge of Spencer Lake and a spectacular view of massive Spencer Glacier. A U.S. Forest Service Ranger was on site to provide narration along the way.

Staying on the train appealed to some of us as Bartlett Glacier and Trail Glacier will come into view. Many consider this the most scenic stretch of track, as the train winds along the Placer River Valley and amid the alpine meadows of Grandview.

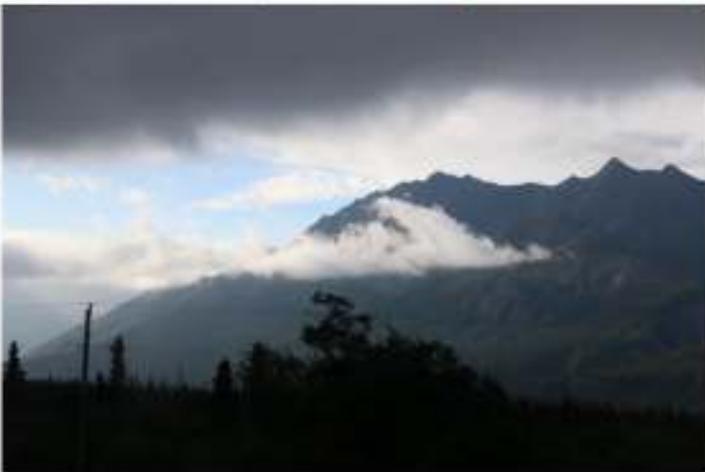
Along the bottom of the page you can see pictures of Mike Terry and David Woods.



Pizza Party and Dall Sheep in
Glacier View, Alaska



*Sights on
the way
to Valdez*



August 3

Columbia Glacier Cruise

While we were in Valdez we took a 6-hour journey on the Glacier Spirit, a 90 foot catamaran. Our trip took us through Prince William Sound and featured a visit to the Columbia Glacier area where we were able to view history in the making as the Columbia Glacier retreats back into the Chugach Mountains and calves icebergs in doing so. In addition to the amazing ice in Columbia Bay, we saw wildlife along the way that calls the Sound home and had the opportunity to learn about the mining, oil shipping, earthquake, and fishing history of the area.

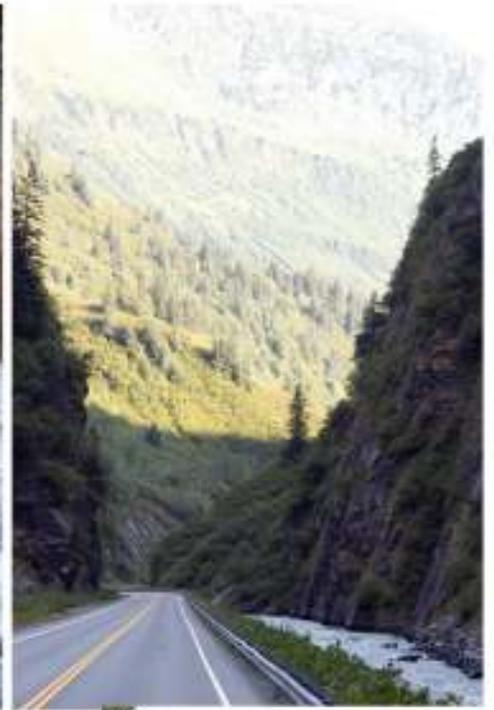












On the way Back to TOK



August 7



ON TO DESTRUCTION BAY



Travel to Destruction Bay, YT
Buffalo Burger dinner

August 8

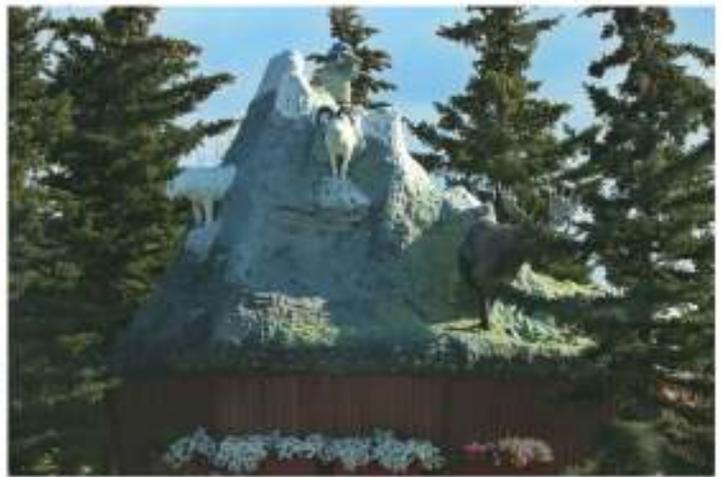


Destruction Bay Sunset





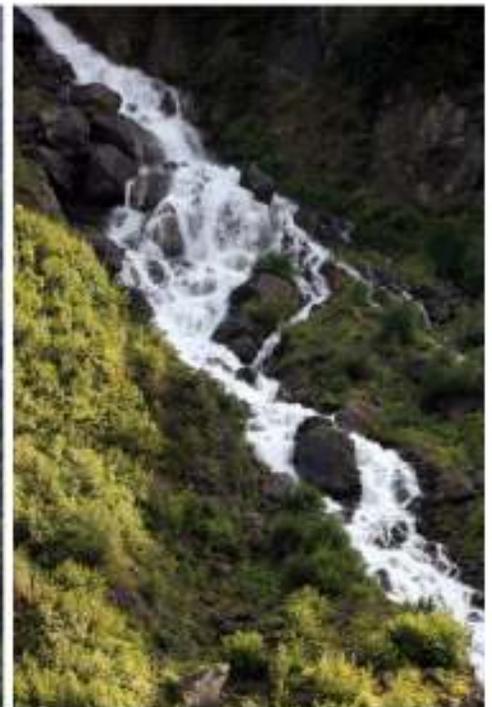
Travel to Whitehorse





Over these days we did a good bit of traveling on our journey home.
We did have time for fun and games.





It's August 16th and the end of our adventure is near. We are traveling to Stewart, British Columbia and Hyder, Alaska. Beautiful scenery and wildlife were everywhere. Jerry and Diane took a few minutes to view a glacier.



August 16



The salmon were spawning and we all made many trips to see the bears feeding on the salmon. The bears did not cooperate. Finally Barry and Denise decided to make one final trip to Hyder the night before we left. The bears had finally appeared. These are the pictures that they were able to take.



August 18



NORTHWEST MINER

IN THE EARLY 1800'S THE LURE OF GOLD AND SILVER BROUGHT THE FIRST PERMANENT POPULATION OF NON-INDIAN PEOPLE TO THE HAZELTONS AREA. DETERMINED PROSPECTORS COMBED EVERY INCH OF THE REGION TO STAKE CLAIMS WITH ROMANTIC NAMES AS HIGHLAND BOY, RED ROSE, AND GOLDEN WONDER. ALTHOUGH MOST OF THESE VENTURES FAILED TO HIT PAYDIRT, THE REMARKABLE SILVER STANDARD PROPERTY PRODUCED 520,248 POUNDS OF SILVER, AND 1020 POUNDS OF GOLD. THE GREATEST ENDURING BENEFIT OF EARLY MINING ACTIVITY WAS THE NUMBER OF PROSPECTORS AND SUPPORTING MERCHANTS WHO STAYED ON TO MAKE THE HAZELTONS A BUSY CENTRE OF PIONEER COMMENCE.

UPPER SKEENA LOGGER

SKEENA VALLEY FORESTS WERE FIRST USED BY NATIVE RESIDENTS WHO HARVESTED CEDAR FOR CANOES, LONGHOUSES AND CLOTHING. IN THE LATE 1800'S WATER AND STEAM POWERED SAWMILLS CUT LUMBER FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A SCORE OF PIONEER SETTLEMENTS. DURING BUILDING OF THE GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC RAILWAY FROM 1907 TO 1914, MILLIONS OF RAIL TIES WERE MANUFACTURED FROM AREA FORESTS. UP UNTIL THE END OF WORLD WAR II DOZENS OF FAMILY OPERATED LOGGING COMPANIES SELECTIVELY HARVESTED AND PROCESSED CEDAR POLES. AN ANNUAL LOG DRIVE OF THOUSANDS OF LOGS DOWN THE THE SKEENA RIVER WAS A MAJOR COMMUNITY EVENT. SINCE THE 1930'S LOGGING AND TIMBER MANUFACTURING HAVE GROWN TO BECOME THE LARGEST EMPLOYERS OF HAZELTONS AREA RESIDENTS.



JOHN JACQUES CAUX, BETTER KNOWN AS "CATALINE"

HIS BED WAS A PIECE OF CANVAS. HIS ROOF THE CLOUDS AND STARS. HIS COOKING UTENSIL, A FRYING PAN. HE WAS THE BEST PACKER IN BRITISH COLUMBIA AND QUITE POSSIBLY NORTH AMERICA. HE PLAYED A MAJOR ROLE IN THE OPENING OF THE INTERIOR. ONE REASON FOR CATALINE'S OUTSTANDING SUCCESS AS A PACKER WAS HIS FRIENDLINESS TO EVERYONE.

AS THE YEARS PASSED, IT BECAME ACCEPTED THAT "CATALINE" WOULD NEVER FAIL TO FULFILL A FREIGHT CONTRACT.

ON A HIGH BENCH OF LAND OVERLOOKING THE COMMUNITY OF HAZELTON AND THE SKEENA RIVER, IS A LITTLE-KNOWN GRAVE WHERE LIE THE REMAINS OF ONE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA'S GREATEST FRONTIERSMEN.





**"Fairbanks Morse & Co."
LIGHTPLANT MOTOR**

An excavation in 1982 at the present Wrinch Memorial Hospital site uncovered a motor used to drive a generator used for lighting the Hazelton Hospital (c.1920). It was discarded after an explosion shattered the engine block; the force was so strong, the connecting rod can be seen to be bent completely around the flywheel shaft.



**"Fairbanks Morse & Co."
Lightplant Motor**

An excavation in 1982 at the present Wrinch Memorial Hospital site uncovered a motor used to drive a generator used for lighting the Hazelton Hospital (c.1920). It was discarded after an explosion shattered the engine block. The force was so strong, the connecting rod can be seen to be bent completely around the flywheel shaft.



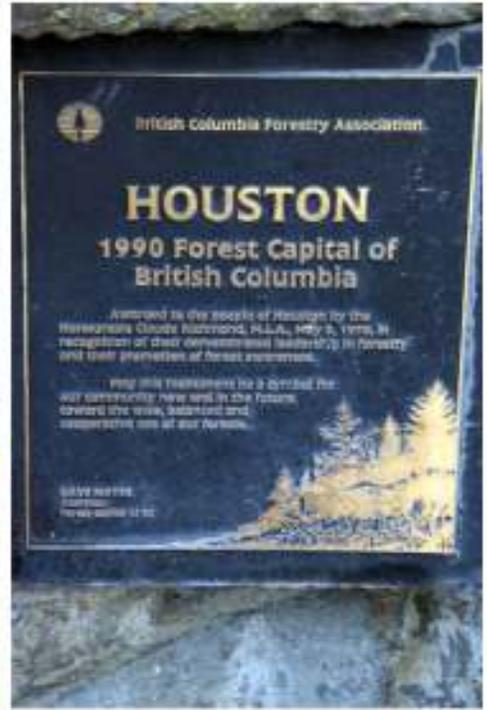
**"Humbol"
Steam Donkey**

Manufactured early 1900s in British Columbia, Canada, by the Vancouver Engineering Works Ltd.

These machines were used in the Northwest for logging in the forest during the early 20th century. The donkey was made available in the Village by the late Jimmy Deaconson (one of the best old time hard coppers and holder of District #88 on the Skeena River near Hazelton). The boiler and stack reaches upward over 20 feet (6 meters) and has a total approximate weight of 20 tons (18,000 kilograms).

The 1907 acquisition and the display of the donkey have due to the involvement of many northern residents and companies. The Village Council and Hazelton Area Historical Association have been instrumental in the acquisition. The steam donkey was placed on this site in 1988 with the help of a Federal Provincial grant.





200 lb Steelhead?

At six times the length of an average fly fishing rod, the World's Largest Fly Rod could theoretically catch a "chrome" that big.

It would require more than a dozen fishermen working in unison to maneuver the 800 lb rod, and a river 15 buscars wide to cast upon.

And, of course, you would need a 200 lb "rooly".

Though local ranches run in the 8 - 10 lb range, the occasional enthusiast has been overheard describing fish big enough to snap this rod's 300 lb test tip. But, for one reason or another, these monstefs are always "the ones that got away".

Over 270 tons of donated labor and 475 hours of donated equipment and shop services is in the construction of the World's Largest Fly Rod.

Originally the idea of local resident and avid fly fisherman, Warner Jarvis, the project eventually enlisted the help of dozens of Houston residents and 47 local companies.






Richard and Lisa Collins

As with al good thing, there is a time when it must end. After a great Alaska Caravan we ended the trip with a great dinner and fellowship.



Larry Blanchard



John and Jeanne Bradford



Bill and Flossie



Jim and Theda Collier



Al Calise and Nancy Kindness



Barry and Denise Craigen



Keith and Colleen Hardman



Ed and Nancy Herndon



Rich and Brenda Hitt



Joe Hug and Janice Leshinski



Connie Hunter



Peggy and Monty Ledet



Jerry and Diane Lewis



Tony and Gina Mason



Tim and Debbie Pittman



Phil and Nita Taylor



Mike and Joyce Terry



David and Jan Woods



Jim and Mary Hawkins



Steve and Karen Norris

Our Faithful Companions



The Four Dog Night before a Performance

Bentley Mason

Daisey Pittman

Rusty Pittman





Cindi Craigen



Timmy Hitt



Pipper Hitt

Lady Collier

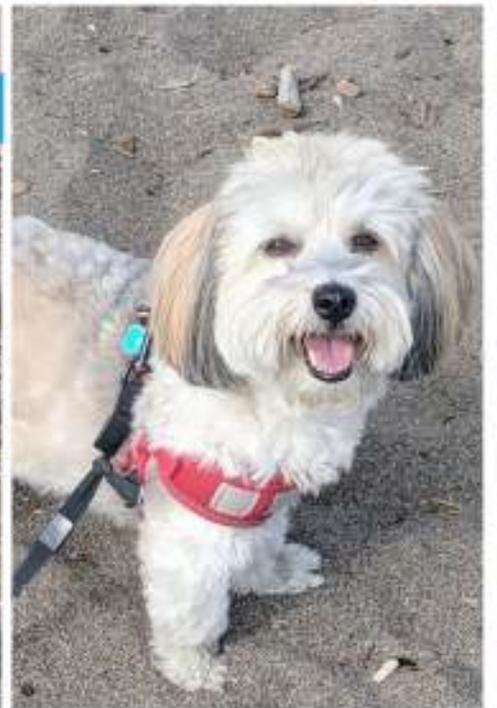


Abby Hardman

Poco Norris



Sadie Hardman





Emma Collins



Punkin Lewis



Woody Taylor



Schatzi Calise

Chewy Ledet

Beau Bear
Kindness



Nick Hawkins

