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VOICE OF THE

FRIENDS OF BARKERVILLE

Cariboo Goldfields Historical Society



volume 11, issue 2

October, 2007

THE PRESIDENT'S PERCH by Robin Grady

The president of FOB was not a job I really wanted, but since no one stepped forward I found out that everyone actually took one step back, so there I was. I prefer to be in the background and help where I can. There is no chance to do the job that Pat did, and we hope that she gets better and does her job of chair with the Heritage Trust and will then return to lead us again.

At this time I would like to give a big thank you to Jean Speare, Dorthy Knudson, and Bill Quackenbush for their time as directors. I know that although they leave their positions they will remain members and will assist us as needed. With their leaving three new directors were elected, Dave Jorgenson, Rick Galbraith and Doug Perdue. It is great to see new ideas and energy from our Directors.

As Barkerville season is coming to its annual slowdown it will be an opportunity to address the outstanding MOU and consider a possible change of venue.

Hopefully before or by the next meeting I will have sent a list of committees to all the directors to which I would like everyone to sign onto at least two. The committees may also include regular members but should be chaired by a Director. Each committee should come forward to a future meeting with their proposals.

We will also be looking at having our annual meeting to be tied to our year end, which will mean that there may be another annual meeting next spring.

Ed. Thank you, Mr. President. The new Board is looking forward to this year of reflection, learning, and change. Meanwhile, I am happy to report that Pat Pickering, previous author of this column, fares well in recovery at home after two months in hospital. Another front page change, we're missing Bill Quackenbush's Curator's Corner. We still hear from our retiring Vice-president, who ably filled in for Pat at the AGM, in the next column with the year in review.

VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT by W.B. Quackenbush

The Friends of Barkerville have had a fairly successful year featuring the assistance in the completion of the Waterwheel, an increase in the sales at the Barkerville Hotel, several volunteer events and assistance at special events at Barkerville, as well as the settling of Union contract with Barkerville Trust employees.

The Barkerville Heritage Trust continues to operate Barkerville and to work as closely with the Friends as is possible. Outgoing President of the Friends, Pat Pickering, has attended all meeting of the Trust and lead discussion and decision making for the Trust in her role as a member of the Board of Directors. She brought her considerable Union Management skills to the bargaining table during the formation of the Union shop for Trust employees which lead to the signing of an agreement between Trust Employees, the Barkerville Heritage Trust and the British Columbia Government Employees Union.

President Pickering's untiring work in support of the Friends and Barkerville has been the mainstay of the Friends and of great assistance to both Barkerville and the Barkerville Heritage Trust. We all wish her a speedy recovery in her present illness. She is slated to become the Director of the Barkerville Heritage Trust upon her return to health and will be leaving the President's position of the Friends for the duration of her tenure with the Trust.

Many volunteers were recruited for work both in the Barkerville and the Stanley cemeteries - lead mostly by Robin Grady. Progress is being made, with an outhouse, fence fixing, general clean-up and signage at Stanley. Funding from the Regional District assisted in the Stanley work. The Barkerville cemetery was cleaned up in the fall and in the spring, but needs more attention. The cemetery efforts are much appreciated and demonstrate the nature of volunteer work that can be accomplished. The Cemetery Committee notes that assets directed toward the care taking were increased to \$2,300 this year and will allow for some work to be done and to have an allowance for the permanent care fund. In the fall of 2006, the Friends had most of the beetle killed trees removed. It was noted (cont'd P.7)

Old Fashion Christmas in Barkerville

Friends of Barkerville, Barkerville Hotel will be open Dec. 15, 16, and 17th for your last minute shopping.

Lots of Books and stocking stuffers. Others will also be open.



EXECUTIVE

President:	Robin Grady	250-992-2008
Vice-president:	Tony Bensted	
Secretary:	Branwen Patenaude	250-747-2654
Treasurer:	Dianne Nysven	250-994-3452

OTHER DIRECTORS (and Committees)

Ray Peebles, Lana Fox, Loretta Grady, Andy Motherwell, Pat Pickering, Dave Jorgensen, Doug Perdue, Rick Galbraith (Newsletter Editor)

CONTACT INFORMATION

The Friends Of Barkerville-Cariboo Goldfields Historical Society (commonly abbreviated to FOB) has its registered mailing address as P.O. Box 4152, Quesnel, B.C. V2J 3J2. When Barkerville Historic Town is open (mid-May to end-September), FOB staff are at the Barkerville Hotel on Main Street, phone 250-994-3360. In the off season, contact any executive director. E-mail address for all directors year round is friendsofbarkerville@barkerville.ca. Our web site is linked to www.barkerville.ca, - click on our logo (shown above) in the bottom left corner of the Barkerville home page.

MEMBERSHIP

A FOB membership application is invited from anyone wishing to share our enthusiasm for preserving, presenting and promoting knowledge, events and memorabilia of the original Cariboo Gold Rush and it's hub city, Barkerville. Membership gives the member (a) a voice and a vote at the Annual General Meeting, (b) opportunities to attend executive meetings and (c) run for office, (d) discounts at associated historical attractions and businesses.

MEETINGS

The AGM is normally held on the first Thursday in September. Executive meetings are normally held in Quesnel on the first Thursday of each month except September. Presently scheduled meetings follow; additions and changes will be published in this newsletter.

Directors' Meetings

November 1, 2007, 5:30 PM: Tower Inn, Quesnel, BC

MERCHANDISE

The Friends Of Barkerville offer souvenirs, crafts, notions and such, books and other entertainment for sale from the Barkerville Hotel during the Town's open season and Christmas weekend. Mail order sales are presently being considered.

NEWSLETTER

THE NEWSLETTER is FOB's medium for presenting the society's mandatory publications and general news to members. It is published three times a year, exclusively to FOB members and free of charge. It is internet published on the FOB webpage, or is mailed to members without computers. The Editor is Rick Galbraith. Inquiries, letters and contributions can be sent directly to him at hikerdude48@gmail.com, phone 250-994-3445, or can be submitted to The Editor, c/o FOB. (See Contact Information)

CREDITS

All material in THE NEWSLETTER is copyrighted by FOB and the contributor in common, unless otherwise noted. The contributor is the editor, unless otherwise noted. The front cover illustration is by Diana Gauthier (see P.6, bottom right). The inside front cover logo is by Ron Candy and perhaps others who, if authenticated, will be named in future issues.

PLEAS(E)

The Friends Of Barkerville, and the THE NEWSLETTER editor especially, are always looking for help, and it is used well. The organization is involved with marketing, restoration and maintenance of artefacts and cemeteries, attending shows, supporting town activities, fostering growth. The newsletter needs society news and wishes to give readers interesting stories along with it. Contact any director to offer your help. Thank you.

SUCCESSFUL SUMMER IN BARKERVILLE

**by Judy Campbell, Chief Executive Officer
Barkerville Historic Town**

Barkerville visitation numbers bounced back significantly with a 15% increase as of September 9th. 67,099 had visited the site up until that date, so we are already considerably ahead of the total visitation last year of 61,709. We will also be ahead of both 2004 and 2005. However, if we cast our eyes back a few years, to 2000 and 2001, we see that we have the opportunity to have many more people on site. In 2000, at the end of the same week in September we had 85,008 people and in 2001 we had 86,103. My personal target is to get Barkerville's attendance up to 90,000 by 2011. This would be about 7% growth a year. I believe with the quality of product that we have and our increased marketing power this is entirely doable.

Of course, the year has also seen other achievements such as the new Cornish Water Wheel, thanks to the contributions of the Friends of Barkerville, the new Mud Wagon and the new Shop and Service Yard.

Its going to be hard to top that in 2008, but believe me we are working on it. 2008 is Barkerville's 50th anniversary and the Provinces' 150th so we are working hard to secure funding for some special capital funding and some additional events.

(Ed. Stay tuned for news about those additional events - the Barkerville Historic Town 2008 Schedule will be published in the next NEWSLETTER.)

**(Minutes Of The) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING,
SEPTEMBER 6, 2007, TOWER INN, QUESNEL, B.C.**
by Branwen Patenaude

The meeting commenced at 6:00 P.M. with Bill Quackenbush as Interim Chair.

Directors Present: Bill Quackenbush, Lana Fox, Robin Grady, Loretta Grady, Dorothy Knudson, Andy Motherwell, Branwen Patenaude, Ray Peebles, Jean Speare. **Directors Absent:** Pat Pickering, Dianne Nysven, Tony Bensted. **Members Present:** Dave Jorgenson, Doug Perdue, Rick Galbraith.

Director Quackenbush thanked Director Jean Speare for making up an agenda.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 2006 were passed as distributed, in a motion made by Rick Galbraith, 2nd, by Andy Motherwell. Motion passed. Loretta Grady brought up the fact that this meeting should have been held in Barkerville and that she would like to see the date of the Annual Meeting changed. Bill Quackenbush asked Loretta to wait until later in the meeting to bring this up.

Committee Reports

Trails:

In a report made by Chair Robin Grady, he mentioned "We are not just tied to Barkerville, but also include a vast network of trails in the area. During the past several years we have searched, found, cleaned out and signed in the neighbourhood of 70 kilo metres of historic gold rush trails. The only work done this year was the cutting out of blow down on the lower trail across to Mt. Agnes, and Jack of Clubs Creek, and a quick cleanup of the Barkerville View Trail from Chinatown to the entrance of Barkerville Town."

Newsletter:

Given by retiring Editor Jean Speare, the report mentioned the turning over of the newsletter to Director Rick Galbraith, and that the expenses of the newsletter amount to \$641.00 per year.

Membership

Given by Chair Loretta Grady, the report mentions that there are at present 1306 members of the Friends of Barkerville. It was also mentioned that Lana Fox has done most of the work of tallying up this count.

Hotel Committee:

The Barkerville Hotel has been the home of the Friends of Barkerville for the past year. The purchasing and selling of many books, paintings and other items has increased substantially. An administrative office was created in the back of the building, which has allowed Manager Cathy Eisma a place to keep the books. Bill Quackenbush would like to see the site moved to another location, but the idea was not too popular with the members.

Barkerville Cemetery Committee

Many of the rotten fences have been replaced, the work of volunteers. One solution to help hold the wall from falling on to Reduction Rd., would be to place rip rap against the wall.

Funding for the cemetery is badly needed.

Barkerville Heritage Trust

In a report submitted by Judy Campbell, CEO of Barkerville, Permit Evaluation forms were submitted, and mention was made that the Friends of Barkerville have no Annual Operating Plan on file, and no MOD has been signed.

Vice President's Report

Bill Quackenbush mentioned in his written report that "the Friends of Barkerville have had a fairly successful year featuring assistance in the completion of the Water Wheel, an increase of sales at the Barkerville Hotel, several volunteer events, and assistance at special events at Barkerville.

Election of Officers

The election was conducted by Director Andy Motherwell. The constitution of the Friends of Barkerville reads that there should be 12 Directors. The Nominating Committee Report, conducted by Jean Speare for 2007 reports that **9 (nine) of the present directors wish to remain**, they being: Ray Peebles, Lana Fox, Robin Grady, Loretta Grady, Branwen Patenaude, Andy Motherwell, Tony Bensted, Dianne Nysven, Pat Pickering. **Three Directors are retiring**, they being: Bill Quackenbush, Dorothy Knudson, Jean Speare. **Three members have let their names stand to become directors**, they being: Rick Galbraith, Doug Perdue, Dave Jorgenson. In calling for the election of President, Robin Grady was elected President, Tony Bensted as Vice President, Branwen Patenaude will remain as Secretary, Dianne Nysven as Treasurer

The proposals for the Year End date will be addressed at the next meeting on October 4th

Andy Motherwell adjourned the meeting at 8:05 P.M

(Ed.:The format of the minutes has been modified to fit your screen. Text has not been changed.)

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

by Andy Motherwell

The nom. com. under Jean Speare, was able to fill all the director ships (we needed 12) and from that the executive table. The meeting minutes give the details but it is important to say that Robin Grady and Tony Bendsted will hold the reins (thats a four-up isn't it?) with Robin as chair.

Its a critical time for the FOB as the role, the running and the future of our group is in some flux(thats a welding term meaning to join together?). Its also important to note that our past chair, who has really given her heart to the FOB, is chair of the Heritage Trust and could be in conflict as a result of that and the fact that she is very ill in hospital she asked to be relieved. We wish her well in every sense.

The Trust and the Friends will have to stive to find eaches niche and the chosen few (exec) are well suited to achieve that, it wont be easy. We hope to engage volunteers more fully, as we continue the successes of the past.



BIKE RACE SUPPORTS FRIENDS by Dave Jorgensen

The first annual **7 Summits Bike and Hike Challenge** couldn't have been more challenging, with the weather contributing the greatest obstacle to completion. Because of the race another 5 km of heritage trail was maintained and remarked. In addition we created a trail guide to help people to understand the historical significance of the route that they were travelling on. It included photographs and information about locations along the route and the historical eras in which they were significant. As well, the guide addressed the issues of trail mis-use and erosion due to wheeled vehicles. If you'd like to view the guide visit <http://www.whitegold.ca/biking.html>

We raised \$300 for the Friends, after expenses. It was a modest monetary sum, but I'd like to point out the additional personal and monetary donations by all of the volunteers who made this race possible. First to Robin Grady, and Lana Fox, who inspired people to volunteer, Paul Guiguet of Wells who provided transportation during the race, Lance Ritter, and FOB Tony Bensted who donated their day, their quads, and their skills to the event. Pete Wright, of Wright Contracting in Wells donated radios, vehicles, time, and fuel to making this event happen, as did the Wells General Store, and Greg Traynor of the Wells RCMP. Cheryl Macarthy and Ekai Jorgenson acted as food and race co-ordinators

If you see these people tell 'em thanks for their support.

Annual Meeting, September 6, 2007

TRAILS COMMITTEE REPORT by Robin Grady

As our name implies we are not just tied to Barkerville, but also include the vast network of trails in the area. During the past years we have searched, found, cleaned out and signed in the neighbourhood of 70 kilometres of existing historic goldrush trails.

1861 Gold Rush Pack Trail
Grouse Creek Trail
VanWinkle Trail (Lightning Creek Trail)
Powderhouse Trail
Williams Creek Trail

These trails (except for the last) are included in our hiking map that we had printed several years ago and is still available.

This year as last year we did not have any organized hikes as we felt that the trails were clear enough that hikers could travel without being guided and could travel when they wanted and at their speed.

As some of us are fair weather hikers, the weather this

year has dampened the urge to set off into the bush for a day or two.

The only work done on the trails this year was the cutting out of blow down on the lower trail (VanWinkle) across Mt. Agnes to Jack of Clubs Creek and a quick cleanup of the Barkerville View Trail from Chinatown to the town entrance

The Stanley Cemetery which has been inherited by the Trails Committee is still a work in progress. This year we received some funding from the Cariboo Regional District to assist us with the work. Treated post and lumber were purchased, and ten grave enclosures were constructed. All the old pickets were saved and will be recycled once they are cleaned up and painted. The new enclosures still require priming and painting. These two painting jobs are waiting for several warm dry days before being done. Once done they will be required to be installed. When all is done two new signs will be placed near the entrances at the highway.

We did get our toilet, inconvenient located and placed, and are still waiting for the bear proof garbage containers.

OUTSIDE IN by You.

Ed. OUTSIDE IN is YOUR room. Readers are invited to submit articles or just comments. I'll be asking my fellow directors for a budget to award prizes for most interesting submissions each issue. Stay tuned. Meanwhile, send me something you'd like to share with members. Our first feature letter follows ☺



Pacific Way Elementary
2330 Pacific Way
Kamloops, B.C. V1S 1Z3
Phone # 851-0632 Fax # 851-0732

June 30th, 2007

Dear Friends of Barkerville,

I have now made 6 class trips to Barkerville and the Wells area with my classes (roughly 230 students). Each trip has been more and more enjoyable mostly due to the improvement in signage, information, cemetery improvements We realize that a good part of this is due to the efforts of the Friends of Barkerville. My grade 4-5 class of 2007 voted to spend the remainder of our fundraising money by making a donation to your society. We want to let you know that we recognize and appreciate your efforts and that this has added greatly to the educational value of our trip!

Again thank you for your participation in maintaining the Cariboo Goldfields of the 1860's!

Sincerely,

Stephan A. Bloom
Gr. 4/5 Teacher
Pacific Way Elementary

On behalf of the Friends of Barkerville,
I would like to send a big thank you out to
Rose & Caleb Higgins,
who operate Barkerville Campgrounds, for their
generous donation of \$325., which was raised
from the "Corn Roast" they held Sept 1st
at the Forest Rose camp site. Lana Fox

Late or not, Happy Hallowe'en all. Do you have a supernatural tale of the original Cariboo gold fields to tell? Are you a believer? While it's on your mind, write it down and send it in. How diffoccult can that be?

THE GHOSTS OF PINE CREEK

by Branwen C. Patenaude.

It was the fall of 1978, at the end of October, when my husband agreed to do some exploration work on Nigger, or Pine Creek, as it is now called, for a couple from Washington State. I went along too, to get a feel for this most historic area of the Cariboo.

Apparently, during the 1860s, an American negro miner had a shack there, where he kept overnight stoppers.

On assembling the necessary equipment for the job aboard a lowboy, we left home on a truck, headed for Likely, south-east of Quesnel. On reaching Likely we took the road up behind the town that goes to Cariboo Lake. From here a dirt road that parallels the lake, led to Pine Creek.

There were seven of us at the site, the owners of the claim, another couple, the truck driver, and ourselves.

The work went well, yielding a show of small nuggety gold, and even one nugget the size of a peanut. We remained for nearly a week, cooking meals and sleeping in an abandoned bunkhouse just up the hill from the workings.

It was on the third night of our stay when some very weird things happened.

That evening after dark, we had eaten supper, and while the men went back down the hill to drain the pumps, we women washed the dishes, and went about preparing for bed. We were tired, and it wasn't long before we were all in bed, fast asleep.

Suddenly, just after midnight, we were awakened by what sounded like an army of people in heavy boots, trudging slowly and deliberately back and forth along the old gold trail that ran in front of the bunkhouse. Although the night was not pitch black, the light from a waning moon passing in and out of swift moving clouds, allowed us to identify certain objects out of a single window. As a drizzly rain began to fall, a gusty wind played an eerie tune around the metal stovepipe and whistled around the corners of the building.

The sound of trudging feet got closer and closer, and louder and louder, and as it passed the bunkhouse, we were terrified that a ghost would stop and visit us, but the sound kept on going, back and forth in front of the bunkhouse. We all got up out of our beds and crowded up against the window, trying to see something- but there was no sign of anyone, or anything.

Just then my husband felt the need to answer the call of nature, and made for the door, but everyone yelled at him not to go. "Don't go out" we all cried, "There's something strange out there, and if you go out, we may never see you again. There's a tobacco can in the corner by the stove, use that."

But that was not the end of the story. Following the sound of boots trudging up and down the trail, we noticed a light, similar to the light from a barn lantern, shining in a clearing about a hundred yards away. The light swung back

and forth, as if someone was holding a lantern for someone else. Then we could hear the sound of an axe chopping wood out in the clearing, someone digging a hole for a mining post, probably. Then came the sound of someone pounding a post into the ground. We saw the light and heard the pounding for at least fifteen minutes.

By this time our imaginations were running rampant. Was the sound of trudging feet just a scare tactic? Were there people out there in the dark jumping the claim, putting up claim tags and scaring us to death? After all it was quite a valuable claim! As we watched the light it suddenly went out, and all sounds ceased.

It took us quite a while to settle down after this, but on making coffee and discussing the matter to some length, we all went back to bed.

Of course we were up at first light looking for some evidence of what had gone on in the night, but search as we did, we could find nothing. There were no boot tracks in the soft mud of the old trail, and no post out in the clearing, or even any wood chips.

One wonders about the possibility of slipping into a different time warp. In this case had the ghost of ancient miners returned to re-enact the staking of a claim from 150 years ago? Seven adult, sane people were witness to these strange goings on, and we had not been partying that night, either. We have tried many times to come up with a plausible answer, but the event remains a mystery to this day.

BARKERVILLE HOTEL REPORT

by Cathy Eisma



It has been another great summer at the Barkerville Hotel. As numbers of visitors were up, so were our sales. We are already almost \$4,000.00 up in sales from last year at this time. It has been a season of constant re-ordering and trying to get in more stock, as things just kept selling out. It seems we had greatly underestimated what and how much of certain products would sell.

We have had a wide variety of visitors again this past season. In our guest book there were people from every province and territory in Canada, including Nunavut. Visitors from nearly twenty different states signed in and there were also many people from Europe this year. I counted over thirty countries.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank several people who made the season go so well. Andi Groulx, Ray Peebles, Monty, Stan Hack, Tina Crantz and Lana Fox.

We brought in a few new products this year. Among these were Dragon Fly Soap, Hog Wash soap, fleece blankets, amulet bags and the new Barkerville Paydirt Game. We also had Bill Hong's book – newly reprinted – which sold quite well.

Ed. As a special note, the Barkerville Hotel drawing that now sits in THE NEWSLETTER masthead was donated to FOB by the artist, Diana Gauthier. 100% from sales of prints of this most delightful sketch will be retained by FOB for future endeavours. Thank you Diana!

BOOK REPORT by Andy Motherwell**CARIBOO GOLD STRIKE**

by Ken MacGowan. Self published 2000.

This book is a real asset to anyone interested in finding and viewing many of the old workings from the earliest period to the present.

KEN macGowan, has gold in his blood as he is from a third generation mining family in the Cariboo. His hand drawn maps, mine layouts, road locations and written text make locating the old sites very easy.

Ken gives good descriptions of the geology, and the various methods used in each of the locations he writes about. Of further interest he lists who the people were, when they were in the area and how much gold was recovered. Each map has a great deal of information as page 13 illustrates, giving mining names such as W.Patenaude(1994); L.Hess; T.Corless; and L.Frank in Quesnel canyon in 1970--99; Hoy Bar, south of the plywood plant run by D.Sargent 1990; the Tertiary mine run by Len Knudson in 1950--1980; and the British Bar south of Richbar, mined in 1860.

The book is divided into sections for each creek, river and area. We have re-discovered many of the old sites with the help of this work and Bill Hong's.

Bill Hong's book has been re-published and is at several stores. (*Ed. such as Barkerville Hotel, I believe.*)

Ken MacGowan hand printed each page, copied them, and then stapled them together and added duct tape on the spine. Copies are hard to find but the Quesnel Library has one. Ken is working on a later edition but the publication date is unknown according to Maureen at Caryall.

A unique Cariboo effort.

ANNUAL SPRING CLEAN-UP IN THE BARKERVILLE CEMETERY - JUNE 17TH by Lana Fox

Our annual spring clean-up work bee for the Barkerville cemetery was a huge success. What a great turn out we had! The weather was good bringing us warm sunshine. Thank goodness, as in the late afternoon, a terrific thunder and lightening storm arrived with a blast of hail and rain.

There were a total of 16 people that came out to help which is greatly appreciated by the Friends. Thank you to Robin Grady, Tony and Liz Bensted, Andy and Carol Motherwell, Keith Watson, Maureen Kemp, Linda Martin, Pat Davidson and myself, Lana Fox from Quesnel, Bill Quackenbush and

Jody Hunter from Wells, Gary Werk from Williams Lake, Monty Scott from Kamloops, and Rick and Liz Jones from 108 Mile Ranch. We also had Jean Speare who stopped by to check out things and Betty Bensted, visiting from the coast came with her son Tony to observe from the park bench.

During the winter, another big spruce tree fall over causing minor damage to the fence and one of the white grave markers. Robin Grady stopped by earlier to buck it up. All that was needed to do now was clean up the branch limbs and remove the chunks of wood to be trucked away. People were on their hands and knees pulling weeds and general cleaning in and around the graves and walk ways and working with rakes. Robin and Tony shovelled fine gravel into the wheel barrow and proceeded to fill in the steps where needed. Jody used a brush saw to clean some of the alder brush away from the back fence. Maureen brought some appropriate flowers to plant. The fence is in dire need of repair. It was fixed in the places where it was falling down but something still needs to be done in the near future.

The retaining wall which is holding the cemetery back, due to slippage, is not working. A better solution is now needed to repair this once and for all. The Cemetery Committee is looking into possible sources of help.

The cemetery is an ongoing project needing regular general maintenance and repair, weeding etc., and relies on volunteer help. If you are interested in helping with any of these things, it would be much appreciated. Remember to visit the Friends at the Barkerville Hotel so that you can write your name and hours in the volunteer book for the time you spend volunteering there.

STANLEY CEMETERY MAINTENANCE by R. Grady

Approximately 80 man hours of work was done at the Stanley Cemetery on July 15, 2007. Dismantled all the old grave enclosures due to dry rot in most corner posts. Any pickets that look re-usable were sorted out and need a quick stripping of old paint and given a splash of new before reinstalling. New enclosures of pressure treated material was assembled and will need a coat of paint if weather allows for some drying time. Attending were Robin Grady, Loretta Grady, Jean Speare, Jeff Dinsdale, Marg Dinsdale, Doug Predue, Ernie Lanes, Bill Eisma, Stan Hack and Lana Fox.



Photos this page: Lana Fox



HATS OFF! by Rick Galbraith

As Director Andy Motherwell so aptly put it at the AGM, this is a time of change, and it is exciting for me to be along for the ride.

As a new director and the new editor of this newsletter, I'm finding out quickly enough that there's a lot of change in store for us.

THE NEWSLETTER's mandate is to bring you the news. Secondly, I promise to tout the achievements of those who enhance our image as the Friends Of Barkerville, and I plan to tell of the territory and time we've embraced as our own as The Cariboo Goldfields Historical Society:

Finally, I plan to provoke. I have much more to learn, and will do so before spouting off too much. Meanwhile, can anybody explain why the businesses in Barkerville are now called concessionaires? Perhaps I need to refresh my memory, but I thought that Victorian businesses were traditionally called merchants and their concessions were called shops. I just don't understand why that can't work any more. Well, more on this and other trivialities later, I'm sure.

For the next 12 months or so I'll be focusing on Barkerville Historic Town as it goes into and through its 50th year of revival. After that, another change needs to be made: I'll get back to showing how we are a watch dog and marketing agent for ALL the Cariboo territory's gold fields.

I'm inviting anyone, who cares about these things, to write and I promise that your concerns will reach the directors I keep company with. Your articles about the history of our gold fields or your visits to them, or tales of your ancestors' heroics, will be reviewed for inclusion in this newsletter.

Before leaving you, there's a possible change you need to know about.- BHT has asked FOB to complete an MOU for the BH, or GO. If you understand that, you already know how critically important this issue is. Essentially, the Friends' (FOB) operations while in the Barkerville Hotel (BH) tend to make it appear more like a souvenir shop than a hotel entrance and bar We need to show on paper (MOU) the historical value and other merits that come by us staying there, relative to both Barkerville Historic Town's (BHT) concerns and our own. In short, we need to change some things. Your directors will be reviewing the MOU and our reason for being in the BH over the next few months. You will be told the news, but why not become part of the process by sending us your thoughts?

NEXT PAGE. The Friends Of Barkerville have friends, too. Hat's Off to our friends IN Barkerville. These actors and interpreters are largely unsung during the season. We herewith preserve for memory the faces and characters of a portion of the people who make your visits memorable. This, the twilight of our 49th year as Barkerville Historic Town, deserves their legacy. Watch for many feature articles during the 50th year, including introductions to the all the people of Barkerville Historic town. It's worth becoming a member just to get the newsletter!

In the editorial, my thoughts are not necessarily those of my peers in FOB. Everywhere else, they are. See you next issue.

MORE BITS ABOUT FRASER (Ed.)

Some questionable revelations about Simon Fraser were thrown out in the last issue.

My research of Fraser was brief, but gave some seemingly clear genealogy. In particular, "Harkness: Stormont, Glengarry & Dundas - A History 1784-1945" states "Simon Fraser ... was born in the State of Vermont in 1776. His father, Simon Fraser, had been taken prisoner in the Revolutionary War and died in confinement. The family came to Canada with the other Loyalists, settled at St. Andrew's and Simon entered the service of the North West Company in 1792. He became a partner in 1802 and three years afterwards, with about twenty men, led an expedition across the Rocky Mountains..." etc., etc.

Harkness adds that Fraser's marriage to Catherine Macdonnell brought seven children, not three. He cited official records that accounted for two males and one female, not the other way around. Also, it is popularly accepted that John Alexander Fraser, who is buried at Barkerville, was Simon's son. Since I suspect J.A. was not ever Military Secretary to the Duke Of Manchester, that confirms two sons at least. Other than making an explicit connection to the Guisachan House, the continuity of Simon's Scottish roots, his North American birth as a British subject, his wanderlustful life, his retirement and his offspring all seem clearly recorded. I'm not understanding why the contributor thought some puzzle pieces still need to be found.

VP REPORT (cont'd from P.1)

that two spruce were infected and died over the summer and need removal to avoid insect spread. The cemetery wall remains a problem, as it will most likely collapse in the next year. Funding for this repair is needed.

Attendance at the Quesnel and Prince George Trade shows were much appreciated and brought in several new members. The Sale of Friends memberships at the gate at Barkerville are slightly down this year, but attendance is up 15% to date.

Jean Speare has handed the Friends Newsletter to Rick Galbraith - which has proved a challenge to both produce and to distribute, with one of the greatest challenges being obtaining articles from members. It has been mounted on the Web site for much of this summer, which allows the Friends to cut costs for distribution.

Signage for Wingdam was sought and encouragement of the development of the Driving Tour brochure in assistance in promotion of the other aspects of the Cariboo that we like to share with our visitors.

The sale of goods in the Barkerville Hotel shows a steady increase, as does the amount of stock. Thanks to Cathy Eisma and all her efforts, as well as to the several steady volunteers.

Volunteers were also found to assist in the special events days by the phoning committee. This was much appreciated by Barkerville staff, as one day in particular had larger numbers of visitors than seen since 1991. Cutting cake and assisting with information was of great help.

Thanks to all of the Directors for attendance at meetings, providing candid thoughts and good decision in supporting the Friends throughout the year.



Billy Houser (1)

Mary Dwyer (2)

Mrs. John Bowen (3)

George Church (4)

Mrs. John Bowen (5)

George Church (6)

The Friends of Bankerville Newsletter
is Here!!!

The Street Play at Bankerville, 2007
The legend (below left) reads, for example
'Number' Name, Year at Bankerville.
Present here: Birth place, Winter occupation.

Dan Grimby (1)

George Meyer (2)

- (3) Dave Brown (3) Caterer (Winnipeg), Caterer to 2 synagogues, feeds 2 cows.
- (4) Mark Dawson (3) Sam Cawood (4) Jacqueline Russell (4) Alberta (Yellowknife), Carlson's theatre company. (5) Donn McKeown (4) Vancouver (Magorville AFB ON), Designer of period costumes, accessories and interiors.
- Dancer (6) Jen Ray (2) Wells (Canada), Deynids, SNA (7) Lynette Sandy, Vancouver (Based in Wells), Actor and Stage Manager (8) Ted Church (3) Wells (Dryden Valley AB), Taxis actor. (9) Carlo Cooley (10) Hans Brauer (2) California (Vancouver), Actor, Soubrette at Delaine Physical Theatre (11) Julia Wainley (2) Wells (Dorset), Whatever she can to make money. (12) Frances (1) (13) Hanne Marie, Swedish Queenism, Sleeps (14) Dave Radford (4) Vancouver (Vancouver Island), Pace actor (14) Carolema Patterson (3) Vancouver (Victoria), Make ends meet with acting.
- (15) Dick van Smeden (3) British Columbia (British Columbia), Caricatures, Actor (16) Tim Sutherland (3) Victoria (Edmonton AB), Spends his time performing, directing and teaching theatre.
- Musician, Mrs. T. Farris Kirby (Ladies), played by Faith Mensing (8). Vancouver (Dahman), Art (inventor photography), Dr. Hugh Ward, played by Tyler Giesl (4) California (Monterey), Theatre in California.

Mr. Cobbin Hill (7)

Mr. Peter O'Malley (8)

Chief Justice Matthew Daulton Doggie (9)

Mr. Tim Queen (10)

Mrs. Elizabeth (11)