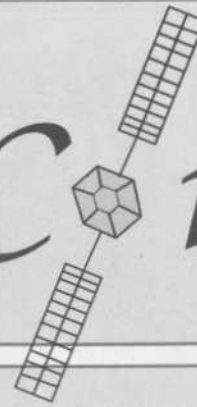


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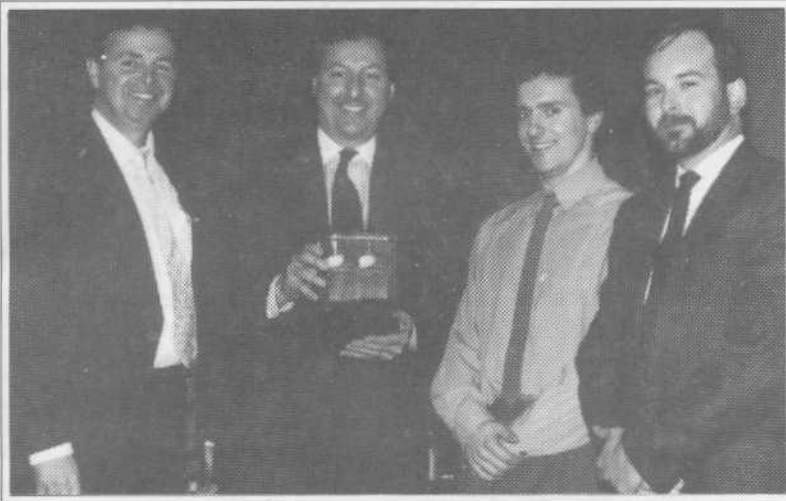
InterComm



Vol. 1

MARCH 1990

No. 1



COMMUNICATIONS
CANADA



1969 • 1989

20 years of
service, innovation
and creativity

20 ans
de service,
d'innovation et
de créativité

Left to right:
Martin MacLellan, Alain
Gourd, Michel LeBlanc
and René Guerette.

The Deputy Minister's Visit

The long awaited visit of Deputy Minister Alain Gourd took place on January 19. Mr. Gourd was welcomed by the regional staff at a noon luncheon in the boardroom and the unveiling of the 20th anniversary photo exhibit.

The exhibit included photographs of the regional staff and portraits of previous Directors General of the Atlantic Region over the past 20 years. Other mementos of the anniversary activities on display included a departmental photo album and a scroll containing the signatures of all personnel.

DGA Pierre Boudreau invited the Deputy Minister to make a presentation to this year's United Way Chairman, Dale Snowdon, to congratulate the regional office on having surpassed their goal. In all the regional office raised \$3,781 which represented 112% of their goal of \$3350.

Mr. Gourd noted that he himself was the chairman of the United Way Drive in the Ottawa office where they had also surpassed their goal. He congratulated all who had participated in the fundraising endeavour for

their fine effort.

"We who are on the leading edge of technology don't have much contact with soup kitchens or other social services. This is our way of giving back to the community some of what it has given us and is another aspect of our goal of nation building," Gourd said.

Employee Recognition Awards

Following lunch, the staff regrouped in the NFB amphitheatre for the presentation of the Employee Recognition Awards. Thanks to state of the art communications technology and the genius of Norm Boudreau, all the district offices and sub-offices as well as Angéla Bourgeois in Florida were linked in by telephone for the presentation.

In his speech, the D.M. spoke of the special nature of these awards as they recognize the unsung heroes of the Department who had been identified by their colleagues for their outstanding accomplishments.

The first award was presented to Angéla

Atlantic InterComm is the internal newsletter for Communications Canada, Atlantic Region. It is published on a quarterly basis and is produced thanks to the volunteer participation of our staff throughout the region. They are represented by the Atlantic Region Internal Communications Committee (ARICC). Its members for 1990 are: Eugène Aucoin and Paul Soucy, Atlantic Regional Office, Moncton; Annabelle Juneau, Government Telecommunications Agency, Moncton; Nicole Monette, Halifax District Office; Anita LeBlanc, Saint John District Office; Ghislaine Diddham, St. John's District Office; and Mary Clare Butler, Charlottetown District Office.

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Editorial: Paul Soucy
Guest writer: Veronica Leonard

20 years of service, innovation and creativity



Communications
Canada



Service Awards

Assistant Deputy Minister Rob Gordon gave a spirited message on the departmental mission at the 20 year Service awards ceremony held last August. Ten recognition pyramids now sparkle on employees' desks, and two wall plaques acknowledge the 25-year tenacity of two colleagues within the Public Service of Canada.

Recipients are portrayed in the above picture. Seated from left to right: Pierre Boudreau, DGA; Rob Gordon, Assistant Deputy Minister, Spectrum and Regions; and John Palmer. Top row: Edwin Power, Al Dionne, Alfred Grezel, Dale Snowdon, Malcolm Chafe, Keith Prescott, Victor Smith, Ron Wilcox. Missing from the photo are recipients Martin MacLellan and Roger Squires.

Award Winners

DOC 20-Year Service Award:

Pierre Boudreau, Director General Atlantic;
 Malcolm Chafe, Supervisor of Authorization in Newfoundland;
 Alfred Grezel, Acting Regional Manager for Spectrum Control;
 Martin MacLellan, Regional Manager, Technology and Telecommunications;
 John Palmer, retired, District Director for Nova Scotia;
 Edwin Power, Supervisor of Authorization in Halifax;
 Keith Prescott, Regional Broadcasting Systems Technologist;
 Victor Smith, Supervisor of Enforcement in New Brunswick;
 Roger Squires, District Director for Newfoundland;
 Ron Wilcox, District Director for Nova Scotia.

Public Service 25-Year Service Awards:

Al Dionne, Records Supervisor at the Regional Office in Moncton;
 Dale Snowdon, Regional Superintendent of Spectrum Engineering.

(AWARDS... from p.1)

Bourgeois for her contribution to the eventual establishment of an interpretation centre and workshop in a historic church property in Saint Andrew's, P.E.I.



«Hello? Angéla... Angéla... Angéla... Are you there?»

The second award was presented to the Interact Project Design Group for the conceptualization, design, construction,

COMMUNICATIONS
 RECOGNITION
 AWARDS



«I'd like to thank my mother, my father, my wife, my friends, my boss, my co-workers, ...»

and implementation of the Interact Project which allows personnel to remotely control and access radio gear in an area outside

of local radio coverage range. The award was jointly accepted by Martin MacLellan, Michel LeBlanc, and René Guerrette. The Deputy Minister also recognized Kevin Bennett of the St. John's, Nfld., district office for his part in another group award given to the Toronto office for their Communications Support Team for the 1988 Economic Summit in Toronto.

In closing, Alain Gourd encouraged employees to submit the names of suitable candidates for the next round of Employee Recognition Awards in 1990.

The Deputy Minister then answered a number of prepared questions from the staff.

His answers have been paraphrased on page 10. The complete text is available from the Regional Office.

Private Sector Lends a Hand

by Veronica Leonard

How did GTA get a data management package completed in three months instead of the expected two years? Ian Wilson gives the credit to Hartley Matthews and the Industrial and Scientific Assignment Program (ISAP).

Hartley was an Applications Analyst at the Saint John office of N.B. Tel when Ian approached him with the idea back in 1988. N.B. Tel had taken a lead role in the development of Consolidation Management Services, and GTA wanted to tap into his knowledge and experience of this and a number of other communications technologies. Under the ISAP, people from the private sector with needed expertise can be seconded to a government department for a set period of time. It was the first time either GTA and N.B.Tel had been involved in such a program, and Ian Wilson can't say enough about the amount of co-operation they received from N.B.Tel in getting it to work.

For both parties, it was a real marriage of convenience. GTA would get Hartley's expertise, and Hartley would get an inside look at one of N.B. Tel's largest customers. At the end of the first year of the two year trial marriage, the honeymoon may be over, but both sides are still smiling.

"I really enjoy the work. It's unstructured with a lot of uncharted waters. I enjoy working in that kind of environment. The stress level is certainly down from N.B.Tel where a lot of my job involved dealing directly with the public."

True, it took some adjustment, and there are days when the bureaucratic process has Hartley pining for the Saint John fog.

"Both DOC and N.B. Tel operate under certain financial restraints, but the process of deciding where the available funds



Ian Wilson and Hartley Matthews, proving that the Industrial and Scientific Assistance Program really works.

should be spent is quite different."

"There is a tremendous amount of paper process in the public service and far more levels of decision making. At N.B. Tel, we have streamlined this to a higher level of efficiency which has resulted in reduced costs and increased productivity." Despite the occasional frustrations with the system, Hartley feels the experience has been terrific and that the ISAP should be used more than it is.

"It's given me a better understanding of how government works, and the problems involved in getting things approved. You can't see these obstacles from the outside. You have to work here to really understand."

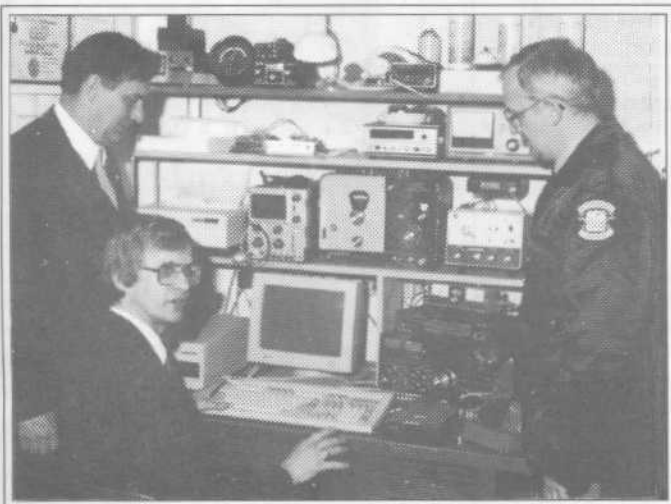
Ian Wilson is also very pleased with the success of the program and expects to see it used more often, not only with business but also between government departments.

Although he is not presently working for N.B.Tel, some of the work Hartley is currently

doing with GTA will benefit all the Atlantic telephone companies. The Integrated Systems Digital Network (ISDN) will employ the newest in telecommunications network technology with several federal government departments. This project will encourage Atlantic software developers to produce products for this technology which they can re-market in North America and around the world.

When he returns to N.B.Tel in January of 1991 Hartley expects that he will be a far more effective employee for his company.

"The government is the largest customer of N.B.Tel. Any thing that I've learned that will improve that relationship is beneficial, whether it be in providing services, knowing who to talk to, where to go to get information, or how to correct a problem."



Summerside Police Constable Dave Emery, Ray Hewatt from P.E.I. Telephone and Howard Blaxland from DOC look over the computer line monitoring setup.

Project Interact

The Interact remote monitoring system, developed by Marty MacLellan, Mike LeBlanc, and René Guerrette has moved far beyond the realm of spectrum management. When Charlottetown, P.E.I., was being terrorized by an arsonist recently, the police borrowed the system to help them try to track the fire bugs. A tip had led the police to believe that the arsonists were communicating by CB. The Interact system was used to monitor all 40 CB channels in that area over a period of ten days, providing the police a computerized print out and audio cassette recordings of all the transmissions. Although it was not instrumental in catching the two criminals, it did demonstrate to the police a very large potential for its use. The R-900 version of Interact is on the market as of the end of February from NCA Microelectronics and a lot of interest has already come in from police forces, border patrol, and drug enforcement agencies in Canada and the U.S.

EDITORIAL

Our intention to put out a newsletter with a light and humorous tone has been somewhat muted at the outset with the passing of our colleague and contributor, Bob McNeil. Can it already be said that **Atlantic InterComm** will be characterized by the four winds of change?

Ten years ago, Angéla Bourgeois produced a few editions of *Les Liens/The Links*, which was soon discontinued for lack of sufficient support. With a new structure representative of each of our offices, I am setting my sights on a long-running publication that will meet real needs: better communication between employees from one district to another as well as from the regional office to the districts of Atlantic Region and promotion of employee efforts as reflected in our mission statement.

Buoyed up by your participation (25% of employees in the title contest for **InterComm**), we want our newsletter to express our achievements and be fun to read. Its title gives a true indication of its purpose. Thereciprocal relationship between Atlantic Region employees and the **internal** nature of its communication objective are represented by the prefix "**Inter**".

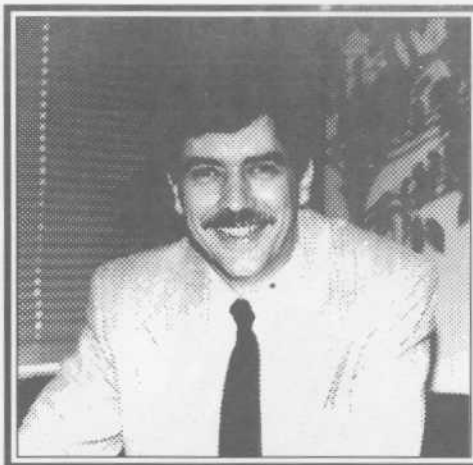
At the same time, we hope it will be **interesting!** Added to that is the ever present thread of **communication** in our lives, our **community** of interest, and a chance to announce, share, explain, and **comment** on new developments.

And, of course, in **InterComm**, we have a device for communicating from place to place. To be sure, our contest winners have given the matter much thought!

I discovered a month later that an international exhibition slated for October 1990 in Vancouver had been given the name **Inter Comm Canada**, but this is pure coincidence.

Atlantic InterComm is now up and running and will stay that way for as long as you continue to participate with your photos, comments, articles, bulletins, humour, and kindly contributions.

Paul Soucy



*Pierre Boudreau
Director General Atlantic(DGA)*

A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR

A number of 20th anniversary festivities and promotional activities have given us a chance to look back at the accomplishments of our personnel, the distance we have covered, and the changes the Department has undergone since its creation in 1969.

The merit awards, cooking contest, and public displays, along with the publication of a regionally designed bookmark and the sale of clothing with the anniversary logo, are all signs of the creativity, service, and innovation that we all show in our day-to-day tasks.

Also born on the occasion of our 20th Anniversary is another project which is destined to grow and extend into the future: this in-house newsletter **Atlantic InterComm**, which I hope will become a vehicle for expression suited to all our employees.

I am particularly pleased with this initiative since it complements the measures we advocate to ensure effective communication between employees and gives us a forum for proper recognition of employee achievements.

Besides, everyone likes to keep informed of who our colleagues are in all the districts of the region, what they are doing, and where their interests lie. The newsletter will also enable us to share specific information relating to our employees' areas of concern.

I congratulate the members of the Regional Internal Communications Committee on their excellent initiative, and I encourage contributions from all employees to keep **Atlantic InterComm** alive and well for many years to come.

WINNERS

ATLANTIC

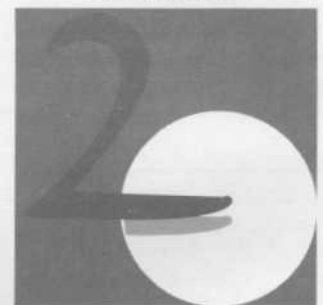
InterComm

Congratulations to the winners of our Name The Atlantic Bulletin Contest. Proving that great minds think alike in either language, both Léo Paul Drisdelle at the Regional Office and Deborah Lynn Mercer in the St John's District Office came up with variations on **Atlantic InterComm Atlantique**.

There were 30 submissions in all ranging from catchy: **Six Pack** (How's it going, eh?) to in-joke: **Atlantic This & That** (A.T.&T) to bafflegab: **The Spectecul Atlantic** (**Spectrum, Technology, Culture**). The winning selection **Atlantic InterComm Atlantique** was chosen because it had significance as basic communications technology in either language.

The winners will be receiving a subscription to a magazine of their choice.

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et de créativité

GRAPEVINES

SAINT JOHN

She's in Love! Congratulations to **Lise Sévigny** on her marriage to **Jeffrey Piekarski**, Dec 1, 1989. The wedding took place at her in-laws' residence in Saint John, and they honeymooned in P.E.I. Her husband is currently working in Summerside, but the separation is only temporary. On May 1, they will be heading to Kentucky where they will both be going back to school.

Another one bites the dust! Wedding Bells are going to ring for **Michele Belliveau**. Her honey, **Donald Savoie**, presented her with a «dérangement» ring for Christmas, and they've set the date of the wedding for July 21, in Saint John.

MONCTON

Rachel Léger, will be entering three of her drawings in the N.B. Provincial Art Show and Sale to be held at Keddy's Brunswick Hotel, April 20, 21, and 22.

Diane Strzechowski will be part of a jazz dance group performing at the Shediac Lobster Festival this year.

Serge Gaudet, **Bill LeBlanc**, **Numa Belisle** and **Anne Marie Arsenault**, all competed in the Public Service Curling Bonspiel held February 17 in Moncton for all federal government employees.

Maurice Thériault is moonlighting as the technical director of Club 6-12. This is an after school day care centre operated out of the Aberdeen Cultural Centre on Botsford St. under the direction of his wife, Linda. It offers a very innovative after-school program including creative cooking, science projects, arts and crafts, theatre, dance, etc. Club 6-12 opened on Jan. 8th, 1990. As of February 1, there were 13 students enrolled.

Veronica Leonard will have an article in the spring edition of Canadian Heritage on The Romance of Atlantic Canada.

Paul Soucy is buying a new home this Spring and recomposing a new family of six children with **Marthe Finn** - the new Brady Bunch.

The Operations Clerks from all District Offices were at the Regional Office Feb 5 - 9 for a refresher course. **Mary Clare Butler**, **Murdena Sampson**, **Loretta O'Neil** and **Anita LeBlanc** all took part. The girls all enjoyed the session, and resource people **Janet Deschamps** and **Judy Vilon** were found to be very helpful. A highlight of the week was a surprise birthday party for Anita at Kelsey's Restaurant complete with birthday cake and song. Anita sends her thanks to all involved.

On March 19, **Al Dionne** will be heading to the Legion for his seventy-fifth pint. No, Al is not heading to the bar, but to the Blood Donor Clinic. He will be receiving a commemorative lapel pin for his efforts and a cup of weak tea.

Terry Thompson has offered to run an Advice from Terry Landers in our next issue. Please send your letters to her at the Regional office.

Marty MacLellan would like to suggest some technology items for Christmas 1990, (instead of a pink coat hanger or similar crafty substitute) ...p.s. a \$5.00 reward is offered for the arrest and conviction of those responsible for the coat hanger caper.

-an automassager program to write, 5, 9, 12, and bi-monthly reports, fact sheets, news releases and

-a fax board

-a network that works, within and outside the office

Effective Feb 7, 1990, two employees in the regional office were reclassified. **Josanne Léger** moved up from CR-05 to AS-O2 and **Terry Thompson** moved up from a ST-SCY-03 to a ST-SCY-04. Congratulations!

Al Boucher is enjoying his stay with ACOA. In fact, Al was given a 6-pack of beer after his first week on the job. Not bad, we've heard of people being had for a song...but a six pack?

SYDNEY

Angelo Costantino has found a new place to dine on Thursdays... apparently, Lulu's, famous for liver and onions, is one of the few remaining Sydney landmarks that hasn't succumbed to quiche and perrier water (lucky on the perrier water. Sydney has enough pollution.)

ST JOHN'S

G'Day Mate. **Don Matthews** just returned from a four week vacation to Australia. "Just call me Bush Bunny"

OTTAWA

Alex Winsor retired from the DOS sector of Headquarters early in 1989. Originally from Newfoundland, he and his wife Hilda are now in the Caribbean on board his 38' foot sailboat, WINDSPLITTER, having sailed down the St. Lawrence and down the east coast of North America. He had an amateur rig installed in Florida and uses the call sign VE3MHW. Their future plans after a period in the Caribbean are open.

A former babysitter of **Philip Kinsman** was temporarily at the regional office on a term position. We have stories.

Cribbage Tournament

(Skunks Are Not An Endangered Species)

By Léo-Paul Drisdelle

Jan. 15, 1990, was a historic day at the Regional Office; the first game of the Atlantic Regional Office Cribbage Tournament was played between Serge Gaudet and Alain LeBlanc. Twenty-seven participants (58% of the staff) responded to the challenge and a single round robin schedule was established. The first four players will advance to the play-off round which will determine the 1990 Champion sometime mid-March.

The many humorous comments from both the participants and the onlookers, regarding their skills, lady luck, superstitions, and special techniques (including the notorious Drisdelle Double Flip Twist) has greatly contributed to the atmosphere in the office as a whole and helped to drive away the winter blahs.

The pressure of keeping track of the scheduling, up-to-date win/loss records, and accurate ranking proved so strenuous that tournament organizer, Jacques LeBlanc, fled to Antigua for two weeks, mid-tournament, preferring sun burn to burn-out.

The event has definitely made the office lunch room a cheery if somewhat overcrowded place to be during rest periods.

Many thanks go out for the support, enthusiasm, and good sportsmanship displayed by all.



«Finally! Now that Jacques' basking in the sun in Antigua, I can get down to some serious Pac-Man!»

RETIREMENTS

Anne-Marie

by Annabel Juneau

Anne Marie Arsenault reported for work as a receptionist with DOC in 1971. She retired last month, on Feb 27. It wasn't really deliberate, but Anne-Marie is quick to point out that she arrived just in time to enjoy the Christmas parties and left just after the most recent round had passed.

Born in Moncton, Anne-Marie was a graduate of the Academie Notre Dame du Sacré Coeur, the only high school at the time which graduated bilingual students. Her first job was with Assumption Mutual, and then she moved to Drake Merritt. A co-worker there fixed her up with his cousin from Port Elgin as a blind date. The cousin's name was Bob Arsenault, and it was a date to last a lifetime. Bob and Anne-Marie lived in Port Elgin for five years and had their first child, Michael, then returned to Moncton where their daughter, Janice, was born.

While the children were young, Anne-Marie worked part time at the Moncton Anesthetic Service before coming to DOC as a receptionist under the direction of Dave Hutchings. She moved into finance in 1974 and on to Records in 1975. In 1978, she was appointed to the position of Administrative Officer. Her responsibilities included reception, records, purchasing, and word processing. She was also a resource person to the eight District Offices which involved a lot of travelling, and Anne-Marie became well acquainted with all the staff in the region. She received a Suggestion Award for her organization of the word processing system in the office.



In 1986, under "Work Force Adjustment", her job was abolished, and Anne-Marie moved over to GTA. It was a pleasant change, and one Anne-Marie found less bureaucratic. Unfortunately, she met her nemesis in the newly installed Wang Office System. It became a continuous battle of WOMAN vs MACHINE with the machine frequently winning, much to the amusement of her co-workers. Ask Anne-Marie about the day she pulled the plug. She was determined to get the last laugh!

Anne-Marie's retirement plans include curling, golfing, and travelling, as well as enjoying quality time with her grand daughters, Megan and Meredith.

Edwin



by Nicole Monette

Edwin Power, Supervisor of Authorization in the Halifax District Office, retired on Feb 23.

A native of Jeddore, Nova Scotia, Ed Power had to leave the country to get his matriculation from Queen Elizabeth High in Halifax and then went on to Toronto to attend the Radio College of Canada.

He joined the Ministry of Transport in 1955 as a radio operator. Following basic and weather training in Winnipeg, he was assigned to the marine station at Churchill.

"A year later with little hope of returning south, I joined John Diefenbaker's army as a mercenary Northern Radio Operator and was assigned to the radio/weather station at Ennodai Lake, N.W.T."

He completed his contract in December of 1958 and returned to the Maritimes. He rejoined the Department of Transport in 1959 and was assigned to Corner Brook, Nfld., where he met his wife, Margaret. The couple moved to Halifax where he served at Halifax radio stations VBQ, CFH, and VCS.

He became a radio inspector in 1967 and was posted to St John's. That summer, he accepted a temporary assignment as an instructor at the M.O.T. Radio Operator Training Centre in Ottawa. Over the years, the couple increased their family by three daughters Suzanne, Janice, and Pauline.

He returned to St. John's in 1969 to join the Department of Communications and was transferred in 1970 back to Halifax as a radio inspector. Ed has stayed in Halifax ever since, being promoted to Supervisor in 1980. Ed's interests have included hunting and fishing at his family's camp at Lake Charlotte near Jeddore, and he also enjoys horse shoes and bowling. For years, his co-workers have teased him that he should stick to the bowling and horse shoes as he usually returns home empty handed from hunting trips. Ed plans to spend more time at these pursuits and do some travelling in his retirement.

The staff of the Halifax office join together to offer Ed best wishes and a lot of good times in his retirement years.

Don

by Veronica Leonard

Don Miller officially retired from the Halifax District Office of DOC on March 2, 1990, but health problems kept him out of the office for several months prior to his formal departure.

Born in New Glasgow and educated in Stellarton, N.S., Don Miller has spent almost all of his working life in the Maritimes except for the two years he spent at the Radio College of Canada in Toronto from 1955-57. His first job was with Decca Navigator which sent him back to the Maritimes to set up a chain of radio navigation services. For the next four years, he was on the road installing systems in Chester, Shelbourne, Alma, and Ecum Secum. During his stay in Chester, he met his wife Barbara. In 1961, the Ministry of Transport took over the Decca operation, and Don was stationed permanently in Chester where he and Barbara raised their family of three sons Robert, Barry, and David, and daughter, Deborah.

In 1980, Don was made Telecom Station Manager at Chester in the Coastguard Division of MOT, but, two years later, the station was closed down. Don jumped ship to DOC in the fall of 1982 and joined the Halifax Office as a Radio Inspector. Don commuted daily from his home in Chester and admits he will not miss the driving.

Don's plans for his retirement include wood-working, fishing, and being there to keep the pheasants out of his garden. An enthusiastic ham radio operator, he hopes to travel and meet some of the people with whom he has talked regularly over the years, in particular, those in Australia, New Zealand, and the islands of the South Pacific.

John

John L. Palmer (Bigfoot), District Director Halifax, N.S., retired July 1989. John is well known for both his exceptional height, five foot eighteen or so inches and his many contributions to the marine safety sector in Nova Scotia. It became public knowledge, at his retirement party, that John and Florence have a child to mark each of his many positions. It seems that, in John and Florence's case, a change is good for more than a rest. On September 21, 1989, John volunteered to represent the Department for the opening of the Sable Island Exhibition (CIP support) at the Nova Scotia Museum.



Women's Lib Forever!

On January 26, 1990, Treasury Board announced measures to redress pay inequities that had been detected in female dominated groups throughout the public service.

Employees of the Clerical and Regulatory (CR) and the Secretarial, Stenographic and Typing group (ST-COR, ST-OCE, ST-SCY, ST-STN, ST-TYP sub groups) will receive a pensionable lump sum payment for the period of April 1, 1985 - March 31 1990.

It was as if half the office had won the Atlantic Loto, and coffee breaks were abuzz with plans for all this retroactive pay.



"CR's & ST's, Come on Down!
Let me get some of that extra cash!"

The following is a sampling from across the region:

REGIONAL OFFICE

- Shelley Furze**, Star Reporter
- Bill LeBlanc**: Save it for when I get laid off.
- Lucille Léger**: Going towards the purchase of a new house.
- Léo-Paul Drisdelle**: It's like winning my long awaited snow blower.
- Germaine Bernard**: Buy a new bedroom suite.
- Al Dionne**: Not going to tell my wife.
- Paula McCuaig**: Put towards an RRSP.
- Diane Strzeczowski**: Some for my son's graduation, the rest for leisure spending.
- Eileen Rafuse**: Pay for a trip to the Dominican Republic.
- Josanne Léger and Irene Reid**: More work for Personnel!
- Rachel Léger**: It's about time! I'm happy to see this kind of progress, although its been a LONG time coming.
- Pauline Savoie**: Buy my boss a cup of coffee.

SAINT JOHN

- **Anita LeBlanc**, Roving Reporter.

Lise: It's going to pay off all the bills I ran up before the wedding, so that my marriage can be saved!

Bernice: I'm going to buy my husband a lawn tractor. That's how unselfish I am.

Anita: I have three options: put it towards a new car, buy some furniture or go on a greatly needed vacation. But first, now that my friends have found out, I have to buy all of them a beer.

CHARLOTTETOWN

Marie Claire Butler, The Voice of PEI

Marie Claire Butler: I'm not going to pay bills with it - perhaps a nice long trip....

HALIFAX-

-**Nicole Monnette**, Halifax Correspondent

Luvina Berry (bride to be): We're building a house; this will come in handy.

Nicole Monnette: Fur coat? Vacation? I'll spend it somehow.

SAINT JOHN'S

-**Ghislaine Didham**, Overseas Correspondent

Amanda Maynard: Fantastic! Is it taxable?

And Now, A Word From Our Sponsor



ATLANTIC

InterComm

Atlantic Region Internal Communications Committee

Back row, left to right: From Moncton Regional Office; Eugène Aucoin, Annabelle Juneau, and Paul Soucy, .

Front row, left to right: Anita LeBlanc, Saint John District Office and Mary Clare Butler, Charlottetown District Office.

Inserts: Ghislaine Didham, St. John's District Office and Nicole Monette, Halifax District Office .

Atlantic InterComm is brought to you by the **Atlantic Region Internal Communications Committee** which has representatives in all the District Offices. The Committee is chaired by **Paul Soucy**, Regional Manager of Public Affairs, who is also Editor-in-Chief. Assisting him in the preparation of this first edition, was **Veronica Leonard**, a freelance writer, who was drafted into DOC as an IS-3 for three months.

Other InterComm members in the Regional Office are **Eugène Aucoin**, Regional Manager, Personnel Services, and **Annabelle Juneau**, Regional Operations Officer at G.T.A. Operations Clerk, **Anita LeBlanc**, keeps an eye on events in the Saint John Office, and **Mary Clare Butler**, Administrative Assistant to the Charlottetown Office, is our Fixed Link to P.E.I. Both were at the Regional Office on training recently, and we managed to get a group picture of at least the majority of the Internal Communications Committee.

In Halifax, Administrative Assistant, **Nicole Monette** has had to fit her InterComm activities in a hectically busy schedule which includes training with G.T.A and university evening courses.

Ghislaine Didham, Administrative Assistant to the St. John's office, replaced the late Bob McNeil as the representative from Newfoundland. Although she joined late and under tragic circumstances, she has been an enthusiastic contributor.

All of the committee members emphasize that they see their role as liason for the paper not as reporters. For this magazine to thrive, it's necessary that all the employees of DOC in the Atlantic Region see themselves as potential reporters whenever an interesting event or story comes their way.

CULTURAL CALENDAR

The Communications and Cultural Sector would like to suggest these upcoming events for your enjoyment.

New Dance Festival, St. John's
May 1990

Scotia Festival of Music
May 27-June 10

Conference of Atlantic Film and Video Producers
June 22-25

1990 Moncton Jazz Festival
June 24-30

Sound Symposium St. John's
July 4-14

Stephenville Festival, Stephenville, Nfld
July 8-31

Summer Festival of the Performing Arts, Baddeck, N.S.
July 14-22

Festival International de Musique Baroque, Lameque
July 13 to August 17

St. Andrew's Performing Arts Festival, St Andrew
July 15-August 13

Semaine Culturelle Acadienne, Moncton
July 19-22

Journées Acadiennes 1990, Grand Pré
July 27-29

Musique Royale, N.S.
July 29-August 27

Festival Acadien de Caraquet, Caraquet
August 1-15

The Hector Festival 1990, Pictou
August 15-19

National Milton Acorn Festival, Charlottetown
August 18-25

Lunenburg Folk Harbour Festival, Lunenburg
Sept. 9-12



**JOHN ROBERT (BOB) MACNEIL
(1937-1990)**

The news of Bob MacNeil's death came as a shock to the entire region. Bob was part of the original team for this newsletter; we grieve the fact that the major story from Newfoundland in this issue is this eulogy prepared by Roger Squires, Lloyd Burton, and an old friend, Ron Wilcox.

Bob MacNeil was born in Curling, Nfld., and graduated from Holy Cross School. He got his first job at Landry's Electrical Repairs in Curling, and while there obtained his basics electronics training through correspondence from National Schools, Los Angeles, U.S.A. Like many a Newfoundlander, Bob had to try his hand at a number of jobs before he found his niche, although radios were always a major interest. In the sixties, he went down the road and worked in Toronto and Oshawa with White Engineering, de Havilland Aircraft, and General Motors. Then, he retur-

ned "back to the rock" and back to school to take a 2-year Electronics Technology course in St. John's. He was hired by DOT in 1969 as an Electronics Technician and moved to DOC in 1972 as a Radio Inspector. He opened up a new office for DOC in Cornerbrook where he became Inspector-in-Charge 8 years ago.

Although his work involved a lot of travelling, Bob was actively involved in his community. He served as a boy scout leader for 5 years, he was a fourth degree member of the Knights of Columbus, and a Radio Amateur VO1KC.

Ron Wilcox recalled meeting Bob in the 70's when he was transferred to Cornerbrook. At Ron's request, Bob took him on a road trip up the great northern peninsula to St. Anthony. The conditions were pretty primitive with dusty, unpaved roads and rooming houses with no running water, but the home cooked meals were great and the company inspiring.

"All along the road, we stopped at every community: an interference complaint here, an unlicensed radio station there, just saying hello and introducing the new guy to the boys on the wharf."

"Everywhere we went, one thing was the same: Bob knew and was known by everyone, and most greeted him with a smile."

"Bob always had the time to say hello, to listen to a problem, or, often as not, lend a helping hand. He had patience and a laid-back approach that defused many a situation and invited cooperation where it sometimes seemed impossible."

"Bob left us quickly, too quickly for many of his friends and admirers to say goodbye."

He will be missed.

Bob MacNeil is survived by his wife, Patricia, and his four children, Lisa, 26, Michael, 21, Regina, 15, and David, 13 and his mother Mary MacNeil (84).

Christmas Spirit

by Anita LeBlanc

It's been the tradition of the Saint John Office to assist a needy family. This past Christmas, Social Services gave us the name of a family living in the North End of Saint John. The family consisted of a grandmother and a ten year old boy named Sonny James. Through donations of food and money from office staff, we were able to make up a Christmas hamper for the family. Included were gifts for Sonny James: a hockey stick, hockey skates, and a Bed Bug game. The rest of the hamper included a turkey and all the trimmings for a Christmas dinner and additional groceries.



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20th Anniversary Round Up

Compiled by Paul Soucy
and Veronica Leonard

The 20th Anniversary is now over, but it's been a year of achievements of which we can all feel proud. Some of the events were initiated from the national office, but many were of our own making here in the region, not least of which was this bulletin.

One of our priorities was to give the Department a higher profile in the general public than before. To do this, we played a major role in three exhibitions within the region. At the Festival des Acadiens at Grand-Pré, N.S., the Cultural Sector of our Department displayed its talents. Spectrum Control got its chance at Marine '89 in St. John's, Nfld., explaining the Department's services to a high priority clientele: fishermen. At Lifestyles of the 1990's held in Saint John, N.B., a broader display of departmental services included research and development, spectrum management, and cultural programs. 20th Anniversary posters, balloons, and bookmarks added a festive touch to our display booths. Some 15,000 spectators attended these three events, so we feel the effort involved paid off in getting our message out.

The bookmarks given out at the exhibition were another one of our regional 20th Anniversary projects. In all, 30,000 were run off. We still have a number here at the regional office, if any one would like to offer them to their regional or school libraries as hand outs, we would be pleased to supply them.

One of the many enjoyable activities of the year was the Regional 20th Anniversary Bake-Off. More than half the employees took part. We had originally hoped to compile all the recipes together in a cook book, but lacked the human and financial resources to accomplish this. Instead, we are printing the grand prize winning recipe by Michele Belliveau of Saint John in this edition of InterComm and will run the other prize winning recipes in subsequent issues when space permits.

Anyone visiting the regional office will appreciate the redecorated entryway and boardroom which was undertaken as a 20th anniversary project. For those of us who work here, coming in to work in a bright cheery office every day has really helped get us off to a good start to the day. Of

course, Murphy's Law prevailed, and we are hoping that the wall paper company will finish the job by the 25th Anniversary.

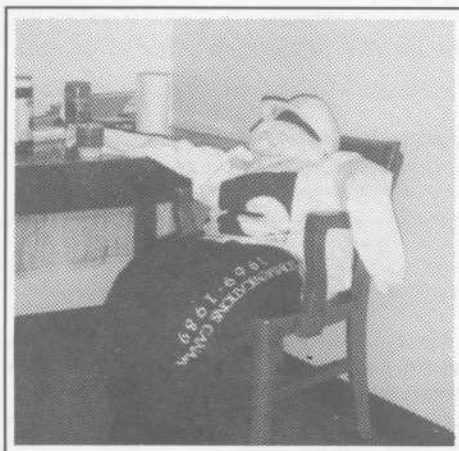
At the national level, the anniversary year started with the Minister's message being given by nation-wide teleconference to all the regional and district offices. His address was followed by coffee and cake to celebrate.

To make a permanent record of the staff employed during the anniversary year, photographs were taken of all the employees in each office, and their signatures were collected on a large scroll. The scroll and the photo albums were on display in the Atlantic Regional Office during the recent visit of Deputy Minister Alain Gourd. For many us, it was a great opportunity to put faces to the names of employees from other regions whom we had dealt with by mail or phone but never met.

Keeping in mind that DOC started in radio, Jim Wade held an open house at his home to demonstrate an amateur radio club station. He reached over 1,500 amateur radio contacts in 75 different countries, 48 states, and nine provinces.

Two special events were organized to recognize long term and outstanding service from employees in the Department. These are described in greater detail on page 1 and 2 of this bulletin.

20th Anniversary clothing was also in



Look who dropped into the Cornerbrook sub-office for coffee!

Mr. Communications himself!

demand with sweatshirts being the most popular item. In all, \$2,000 worth of T-shirts, sweatshirts, jogging pants, and caps were bought by regional employees.

Overall, the Anniversary was a great success and a terrific boost to employee morale. We are heading into our third decade with an extremely positive attitude about our work, our co-workers, and the Department as a whole. While trying to raise our profile to the general public, we also increased our own understanding of the many accomplishments and the overall mission of the Department.

Bake-Off

GRAND PRIZE WINNING RECIPE

RECIPE BY MICHELE BELLIVEAU

BANANA SPLIT CAKE

Bottom layer:

3 cups crushed graham crackers
1 cup melted butter
Press in 9" x 13" pan.
Bake 12 minutes at 350 F. Cool.

Next layer:

2 eggs
1 cup butter
2 cups icing sugar

Beat 10 minutes or until really creamy. Spread over bottom. Over these two layers, spread a drained 19 oz. can of crushed pineapple. Then spread 3 sliced bananas and drizzle with chocolate sauce. Next, spread 2 cups of whipped cream, and sprinkle with chopped nuts and coconut. Garnish with cherries. Refrigerate overnight before serving.

Q.How far do you see regionalization going in the next 5 year?

Primary objective is to improve services to our clients. Based on our progress so far I expect our Department will be able to go much further in the regionalization of cultural and research programs. The pace will depend on the regional staff and the degree to which you can adjust work priorities and assume the responsibilities. We need to be able to change our programs to improve their effectiveness and to use automation to improve our efficiency. We also need to be able to look at our priorities and be ready to do less in some areas.

Q. Demands are growing but there doesn't seem to be any relief for additional P/Y. Is this particular to the regions or is the whole Department taking on new responsibilities?

Both the communications and cultural sectors of our economy are growing faster than the economy as a whole and are a high priority on the agenda of the government. Most of our current legislation is currently under review. Despite increased demands P/Y have not been increased in fact there has been a reduction as part of the government's overall personnel reduction efforts. It is necessary at this point to keep balanced the work plan priorities on one hand and the resource allocation on the other. We have to be prepared to do less in some areas. One additional P/Y will come next year to the Atlantic Region with the responsibilities for the museums assistance program. Rob Gordon is actively seeking additional P/Y from Treasury Board for added Spectrum Control Resources. We will also try to get P/Y from treasury Board for the delivery of the Atlantic Cooperation Agreements.

Q.Will the 7% GST affect the Cable Industry ?

Yes, the Cable industry will come under the GST, but the good news is that it will replace the current 11% tax meaning a decrease in taxes to cable subscribers.

Q.Will the 7% GST apply to Radio Licence Fees?

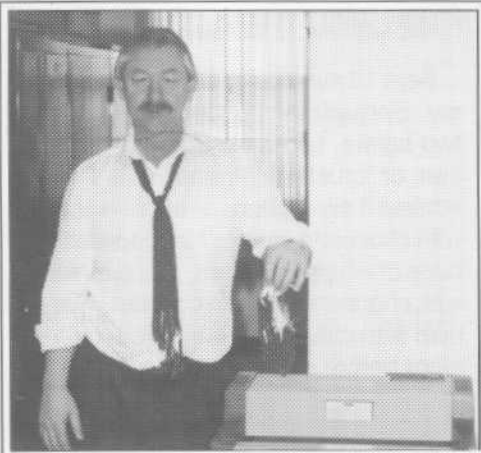
No, licence fees are regulatory fees and not included under the GST.

Q.It is perceived that the Minister is putting a greater emphasis on the side of culture. If this is so, what will be the medium and long term impact on the efficient management of spectrum control?

It is true that there is a lot of energy being devoted to the cultural side of the portfolio, and there are more cultural initiatives in the departmental work plan; however, the augmentation of this sector will not be done at the expense of the other.

Q.Is the Golden Handshake being considered for P/Y reductions prior to eligible retirement age?

A six month cash-out is being used in place of a Golden Handshake for P/Y reductions. This policy is expected to be in effect until March 31/1991, I don't envisage any more P/Y reductions after that time.



KEVIN VS SHREDDER GAME ENDS IN TIE!

Monday morning, February 5/90 appeared to be like any other Monday. All ST. JOHN'S DOC employees were already hard at work.

All of a sudden, a strange noise was heard! Someone thought it was the computer breaking down again. Another felt it was interference coming from the SOC Centre.

A weak cry for «HELP» was heard. Upon turning around we saw poor Kevin, face down in the shredder! In a split second, he was rescued from «JAWS». We cannot say the same for his good silk tie which has been displayed directly above the machine as a warning to all. «A picture is worth a thousand words».

Asked if he had any comments, all Kevin could say was Gladys is going to kill me!»