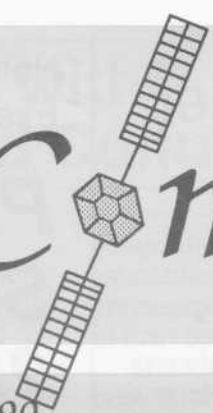


ATLANTIC

# InterComm



Vol. 1

NOVEMBER 1990

No. 3

## Our Employees In Action

Starting with its third issue, *Atlantic InterComm* plans to regularly publish various photographs of our colleagues in action throughout the Atlantic Region. These pictures are the result of several photo sessions in Moncton, Halifax and St. John's on the occasion of our Department's 20th anniversary. One of the purposes of this photo-taking was to create an image bank for the Public Affairs section. The original negatives are stored at the Communications Research Centre in Ottawa. We have in the region a selection of the best photographs available on slides.



*Malcolm Chafe, supervisor for Spectrum Control in Newfoundland, checks antennas aboard a vessel during the radio installation inspection.*

*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. The production is coordinated by the Atlantic Region Internal Communications Committee (ARICC) under Public Affairs.

ARICC members for 1990:

Paul Soucy	Moncton
Eugène Aucoin	Moncton
Annabelle Juneau	Moncton
Bob O'Leary	Halifax
Anita Le Blanc	Saint John
Ghislaine Didham	St. John's
Mary Clare Butler	Charlottetown

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January 10, 1991, for February  
edition.  
March 10, 1991, for April  
edition.

The views expressed in this newsletter are those of individual employees and do not represent the official views of the Department of Communications.

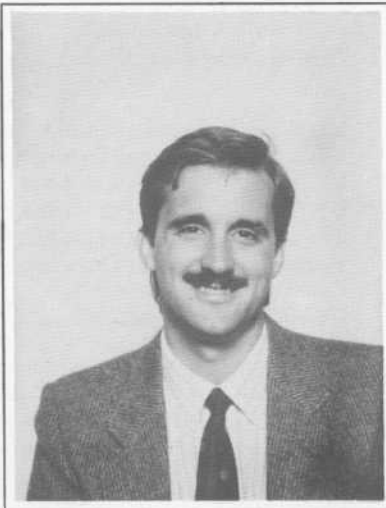
20 years of service, innovation and creativity



Communications  
Canada

## New Comer to Halifax

PETER HILL comes all the way from Toronto, Ontario. He is a graduate of Ryerson Polytechnical Institute from the Electrical Engineering Technology program, with a major in Electronics and Communications.

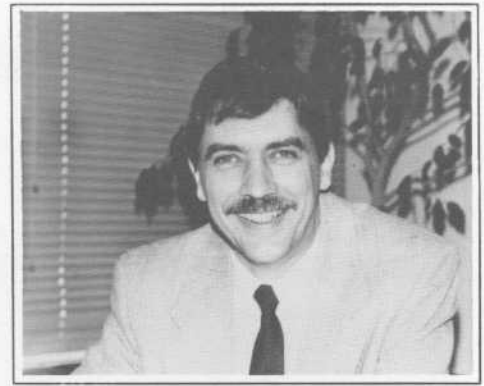


Peter started work in the Toronto District Office of DOC in May 1983 as a Radio Inspector in Training. He was promoted to Radio Inspector-Specialist in September 1988. Peter was appointed Authorization Supervisor to the Halifax District Office in September, 1990.

He and his wife Marilyn have two children: Emma, a daughter aged three and a half, and Adrian, a one year old son. Peter enjoys music, computers, and camping. He is happy to be here and looks forward to challenges in the Atlantic region.

Notes from the  
Executive Director

## Public Service 2000



The Canadian Public Service, although imperfect, is among the best in the world. I like to think that, on the whole, we are proud of it and that if we chose to work in the Public Service, it was with the intention of serving our clients as well as possible. However, to maintain this level of excellence, we must necessarily adapt our methods of offering these services to the realities of a world that is changing very rapidly.

This is what Public Service 2000 proposes, by recommending the adoption of more modern, innovative and efficient management methods and administrative practices.

Employees in the Atlantic Region are taking an active part in this process. When Mr. Michel Séguin, Director General of Human Resource Management for the Department of Communications, met with us in Moncton on October 2, he underlined the work done by members of our staff who studied the recommendations of the various Public Service 2000 task forces.

Personally, I believe that to date we have taken good advantage of this opportunity to assert our point of view. Both at the Regional Office and in the districts, employees have set up discussion groups on the recommendations concerning **staff training and development, service to the public and common services agencies**. They presented the results of their work at the October 2 meeting.

I would like to thank all these employees, as well as all those who, on an individual basis, took the time to review the recommendations of Public Service 2000 and express their reactions.

The next step is to analyze the information received and to assess the repercussions that the proposed changes could have on the Department. A document is being prepared and will be distributed to employees shortly.

Since the coming changes will probably have an impact on the daily execution of our respective tasks, I encourage everyone to continue to keep informed and to forward their comments.

Don't forget that in the end, we are the Public Service, and it will be what we want it to be. Changing attitudes and systems as complex as those rooted in the federal Public Service will take a number of years. The challenge is a major one. But judging from the optimism and interest we have shown to date in the Atlantic Region, I am confident we will be able to meet it.

*Pierre Boudreau*

# Region Building with Communications and Culture

by Veronica Leonard

The Atlantic Region's Communications and Culture (C & C) team has undergone a major transformation over the past year. Its staff of five, a year ago, now represents ten full time positions and four affiliated staff throughout the region.

According to **Carmen Comeau Anderson**, Regional Director of C & C, the change is due to the decentralization of two of the department's major cultural funding programs, the negotiation of two federal-provincial Co-operation agreements, and to the realization in both government and the private sector that communications and culture are growth industries.

## Communications

"On the technology side, our job has involved transferring government research to the private sector or conversely challenging the private sector to develop the technology for our future needs", Carmen explained.

"To help stimulate growth in specialized areas of technology, we have created technology application centres like the Canadian Centre for Marine Communications (CCMC) and the Telemedicine and Education Technologies Resource Agency (TETRA) in Newfoundland. A third such centre is currently being planned with the Université de Moncton to create a research and development centre in computer assisted translation. In all three of these cases, there was already an established level of local expertise to draw upon both in the private sector and in the educational institutions", she

continued.

**Marty MacLellan**, the former regional manager of Spectrum Control heads up the Technology and Telecommunications team; "T'n'T", we're a pretty dynamite bunch." He is aided by **Al Boucher**, Technology Development Officer, who has spent the first six months of this year on the front lines of technology development working on secondment with ACOA. In addition, Marty has recruited a team of "technocats" including **Kevin Ball** from Saint John, **Earl Hoeg** from Halifax and

companies but an increasing number of established businesses in other fields are incorporating high tech applications in their operations", Al said.

Although close to 10% of Canada's population lives in the Atlantic Region, less than 1% of the research and development of communications and information technology is undertaken here. Marty, Al and the Technocats are out to redress the balance.

## Culture

There have been exciting changes on the cultural side as well with the decentralization of some aspects of the Cultural Initiatives Program (CIP) and the partial regionalization of the Museum Assistance Program (MAP).

"It's meant a lot more responsibility for our staff, but the work is far more interesting and satisfying. Our people really like their jobs and that's important to our success as they have to be flexible and often work long hours",

Carmen explains.

In addition to the CIP and MAP, the sector has been heavily involved in negotiations for two COOPERATION Agreements with P.E.I. and New Brunswick. Both Agreements are geared to assisting the cultural sector enterprises and organizations to become more business oriented and to develop new products and services. The COOPERATION Agreements have meant the infusion of \$8.5 million over the next five years from ACOA and the provinces into the cultural sector.



*The Communications and Culture team for the Atlantic Region: seated: Marty McLellan, Carmen Comeau-Anderson, Anna Rail; standing: Paul Roch, Micheline St-Germain, Alonzo Boucher, Ginette Chiasson-Baldwin, Ignace Sumbu, France Jean, Paul Thériault.*

**Dave Bouzane** from St. John's to liaise with the new technological companies in their provinces.

"We tend to think of ourselves as Technology Brokers working with our research facilities, private industry and other government departments to help new communications technology firms get off on a sound footing", Marty explained.

For Al Boucher who has been with this sector since its formation in 1980, the last three years have seen real growth in the area of technology transfers.

"Not only is there the emergence and expansion of more technology related

(more on page 4)

## Region Building with Communications and Culture *(continued)*

"This has been a significant accomplishment for our region so far", Carmen adds proudly.

"Finally, people are accepting that there is an economic dimension to culture. Its not just ballet dancing. When we approach a project, we have to look at its cultural and economic importance. Why is it relevant? What does it contribute?"

Anna Rail heads up the regional Cultural Affairs and Broadcast Policy team. She has a strong background in the administration of regional programs. She formerly held the position of Acting Regional Director for P.E.I. and New Brunswick for the Secretary of State and was a Senior Officer with the Official Languages Branch of the Treasury Board Secretariat in Ottawa. Anna is glad to see that the cultural dossier is finally being given the emphasis it deserves. She points out that Atlantic Canada is behind many other regions in this area of development.

"We are in the process of planning for cultural initiatives in the region. We

have to know where we are going and create partnerships with other government agencies and private enterprises. The timing is perfect now to really make an impact."

Anna is very proud of the team she is working with. The members all have their own areas of expertise and responsibility, but, when the five of them get together around the table, things begin to happen.

Ginette Chiasson-Baldwin came to DOC three years ago from Secretary of State, and has worked on all of the major cultural projects including the Cultural Initiatives Program. This has given her a firm understanding of the cultural situation in the region and has made her a valued player in the negotiations for the two COOPERATION Agreements. She became the new Cultural Development Officer for the New Brunswick COOPERATION Agreement signed on October 11 in St. Andrews-By-The-Sea.

"I really enjoy working in this sector. There are always a lot of projects under

way with a fascinating variety of challenges. The job calls for a great deal of versatility", says Ginette.

Paul Roch is the Cultural Development Officer with the P.E.I. COOPERATION Agreement. With a background from CUSO, CIDA and World Youth in organizational development both in Canada and abroad, Paul is ideally suited to delivering the programs of the Agreement to the Island cultural community.

"There has been a very positive response from the cultural community so far to the Agreement. There will always be a few artists who feel that creativity and business don't mix, but a large percentage feel that this type of support is long overdue." According to Paul, a major conference was held this fall with a cross section of arts organizations intending to develop future cultural strategies, at which Pierre Boudreau made a presentation on the department's programs.

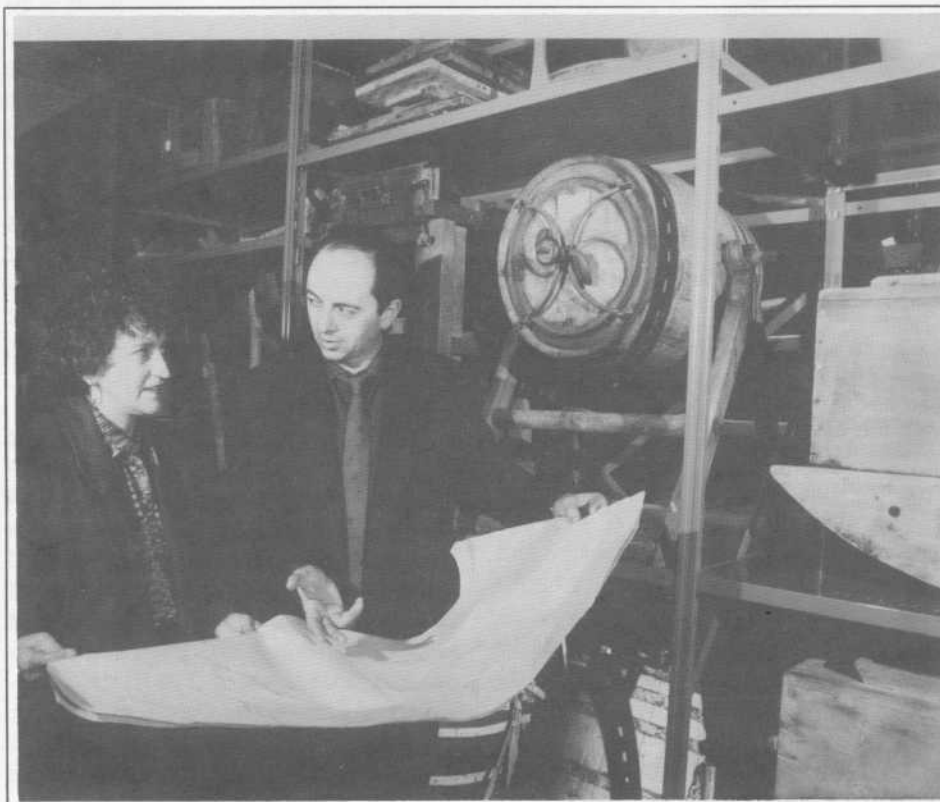
Ignace Sumbu has taken over the responsibility for the Cultural Initiatives Program. An expert in the field of public administration, Ignace teaches evening courses at Université de Moncton in public administration, public policy and international politics. Ignace finds his background in administration invaluable in his position with DOC as the job often goes far beyond administering grant applications.

"Many of the projects need more than money. They need to know how to proceed, how to cope with problems and where to go for answers. I have to help new projects make realistic plans and encourage established projects to be more innovative."

Paul Theriault is Ignace's counterpart for the Museum Assistance Program. He came to DOC after years as the museums advisor to the N.B. Dept. of Tourism, Recreation and Heritage. There are over forty well established museums in the Atlantic region with year round programs and professional staff. These will be his primary focus although all heritage projects will cross his desk first.

Paul states that "our major thrust at

(more on page 5)



Anna Rail of DOC and Bernard LeBlanc of the Musée acadien de l'Université de Moncton study plans for managing museum collection.









# Dreamers and Doers

by Gordon Pole

## The Marconi Saga

Whenever I hear about the power of the press, I think about Alec Johnston and Guglielmo Marconi.

Many advances in communications had been made in the centuries between Prince Edward's Distant Early Warning System and the arrival in Sydney, Cape Breton of Guglielmo Marconi, a dapper young pioneering scientist, on Christmas Day, 1901.

Marconi was unlike the starving inventors of his time who dressed in rags and lived hand to mouth. His daughter, Dena, candidly described him as the type of man that would be wearing a Panama hat, topcoat and spats in a row boat. She also admitted that he strayed as well, "but never for more than five hours at a time". His father was Italian, his mother Irish, and he also married an Irish lass, Beatrice O'Brien, whom he met in England. Beatrice was never able to get her tongue around her husband's

first name 'Guglielmo' (gug-lee-elmo) so she always called him "Marky".

### Triumph and Disappointment

In keeping with a "prophet not being accepted in his own country", Marconi had gone to England because he could not get funding in Italy for his scientific experiments in radio communication. He had found support for his work in England. His research led him to the British colony of Newfoundland where he met both triumph and disappointment. It was there on December 11th that Marconi established that "wireless" signals did not disappear off in a straight line out to the "ether" but followed the curvature of the earth. Of course, he did not really understand exactly "how" it worked, but the "experts" were wrong and he was right and perhaps there is no greater satisfaction than this.

That was the triumph; disappointment

came with the notice from the Anglo-American Cable company which claimed to have exclusive rights to "telegraphy" in the colony. They threatened to get an injunction to stop his work if Marconi persisted on their territory. I suspect the fact that they were worried gave Marconi the encouragement that he was indeed on the right track even though he would have to change stations.

He had determined that Cape Cod would be an ideal place to set up the first permanent Radio station in North America and began negotiations to acquire a site there. The 27 year old pioneer stepped down from the Steamer "Bruce" at North Sydney with the full intention of continuing his trip to New York City via rail road. That would have been the end of it, had it not been for Alec Johnston, publisher of the "Record" newspaper and, coincidentally, Member of Parliament.

### Winning Argument

Johnston believed that the experiments Marconi had begun in Newfoundland could be continued in Cape Breton as the difference in distance to England was negligible. He left the comfort of a family Christmas, to spend the cold blustery December day pacing the docks in anticipation of Marconi's arrival. After a brief introduction, he explained that he was there for more than an interview for his newspaper and urged Marconi to consider Cape Breton as a project site.

Marconi questioned whether the Anglo-American Cable Company would raise the same objections as they had in Newfoundland, but Mr. Johnston had

(more on page 9)



Marconi National Historic Site stands as a tribute to those who are willing to accept challenges.



# VIDEO HITS

by Veronica Leonard

With budget and P/Y restraints, computers are popping up in more and more management offices to ease the burden on the support staff. If you can use a typewriter (hunt and peck is acceptable) and know a few basics about computers from your old Commodore 64, then you too can enter the computer age. The regional office and many of the district offices have a library of Soft Teach programs to help you. These are training programs on video tape, which coupled with a teaching manual and practice diskettes, provide a great introduction to the computer program that suits your needs.

The programs work best if you have a home computer to practice on or can borrow the office laptop, but just watching the video one

evening and going over the training manual with your office computer the next day can be almost as good.

A word of caution: a two hour video does not equal a 40 hour course; however, it will provide you with an insight into what the program can do and how you go about doing it. For the novice, this is a valuable introduction; for the computer literate, it gives a good program overview.

The following is a list of video training programs available at the regional office. They can be loaned out around the region; however, copies of many of these are also available at the district offices. Check first.

For more information contact **Shelley Furze**, Administrative Clerk at the regional office (506) 851-6538.

## Programs with Video and Diskettes

d Base III	-video and diskette, Introduction -video and diskette, Introduction and Programming
PC/MS DOS	-video and diskette, introduction -video and diskette, advanced commands
Lotus 1-2-3	-video and diskette, introduction -video and diskette, advanced
P.C. Primer	-video and diskette, introduction to personal computers
Word Perfect 5.0	-video and diskette, introduction -video and diskette, advanced

## The Marconi Saga (continued)

done his homework. He assured the scientist that there would not be the same problems in Nova Scotia.

Johnston secured the use of a train from Dominion Coal Company (a company not noted for its philanthropy) so that Marconi could view the coastal area for a suitable site.

As Marconi sat in the rail car with the general manager of the coal company surrounded with maps and charts, he saw a flat headland between Glace Bay and Bridgeport: "This looks like a fine location," Marconi exclaimed. The general manager pulled the brake signal and the train screeched to a halt. "Its yours!" he said.

Although Canada in 1901 was a small country in terms of population and conservative in its approach to industry, there was still a spirit of adventure that seemed to overcome any reservations

when it came to Marconi's experiment. Johnston stated confidently "financing can be arranged with the Federal Government, but, if they are unwilling, then we will find the money here in Nova Scotia". True to his promise, Ottawa provided funding of \$75,000.00 (1902 dollars) to finance not only the Glace Bay site but also to complete the work begun at Cape Cod (our first aid to developing nations).

Since the days of Marconi, wireless has escaped the Earth to communicate with space probes millions of miles away. At Table Head, Cape Breton, where Marconi set up this first station, a newly constructed historic site bears his name. The Marconi National Historic Site stands as a tribute to those who have vision, who are not afraid to take a chance, who accept only challenges and not defeat.



A bust of Marconi is displayed at the Marconi National Historic Site at Table Head, Cape Breton.

## Should we rename Vision 2000?

It is an excellent R&D initiative in personal communications and productivity networking. However, there must be at least a dozen genetic mutations of its name including one by a truck cab manufacturer using the identical symbology. The same analogy applies to the acronym SHARP. Most people think SHARP is a Japanese manufacturer of televisions and other consumer products... perhaps that explains the Japanese interest in our Stationary High Altitude Relay Platform. Did you know that it is not stationary nor is it a platform?

**Got a question** on communications technology? I would be happy to find an answer. We have lots of bright and/or intelligent people in DOC who I am certain would be happy to respond. Send your question in order of speed, by the grapevine, fax, phone, envoy, GEMDES, LAN, WAN, phone mailbox, in person and finally Atlantic InterComm.

**Wanted:** a home and users for a 3 meter Ku band (12-14 Ghz) satellite uplink. Value: \$200k. A strategic location in NS, NB or PEI is preferred.

**Wanted:** serious users for a couple of 1 meter, data capability, VSAT terminals. Links to industrial development or to lever our support in technology initiatives are desirable. Reward: acknowledgement in a subsequent issue of InterComm.

**Al Boucher** is our departmental lead on the «Traductique project». He is working with Jean Guy Haché of the Université de Moncton to move this initiative to the project definition stage. «Traductique» is a research & development initiative in computer

assisted translation. The Canadian government market alone for translation services is estimated at \$250 million. Canada is considered on equal footing with Europe and the United Nations in the need for translation products and services. These could range from computer assisted translation packages being available at your work station to professional value added services being provided on-line through networks.

**A DOC/ACOA sponsored,** telecommunications/computer workshop is scheduled for December 4 in Charlottetown. DOC, ACOA, Island Tel, and E3 Inc. amongst others will be making presentations. A full

agenda and other details are available through Al Boucher.

**Vision 2000 Atlantic Region** Advisory Committee has been formed and a regional strategy paper prepared. This will be distributed to districts upon completion.

**The SMART SHIP** is proceeding well. An interim «steering» committee consisting of DOC, CCMC, Champlain Institute, and ISTC Halifax has been formed. A work plan is under development and will be issued in the near future.



## Looking at the Fingers technology

*Marty MacLellan (Communications & Culture—Moncton) and Yves Daigle of the National Research Council discussing the digital processor circuit used in the fingers technology. This technology was developed by CADMI and is a device which electro-mechanically traces the lenses or eye glass frame for replacement purposes. A great number of these have been sold to eye specialists across Canada. (DOC—Atlantic's image bank)*

# Stress Advice

Certain adrenaline rushes provide good feelings while an overdose of stress could kill a person.

Stress causes a vast biochemical, neuromuscular and cardiorespiratory transformation. The body pumps massive amounts of blood to the large muscle groups, flooding them with oxygen and nutrients so that they can perform feats of power.

Chemicals and oxygen pour into the brain so that it can process data and make critical decisions with great speed. Some nerves fire messages faster so the body can protect itself from its attacker. Others, such as those that signal pain, shut down completely. It's a miraculous

life-insurance policy, but it's not foolproof. Stress may corrode the body physically and mentally when it continues unabated and not vented over time.

**Seek immediate relief:** recognize that you're in a state of distress, decide what's causing it or making it worse and take immediate steps to defuse the situation.

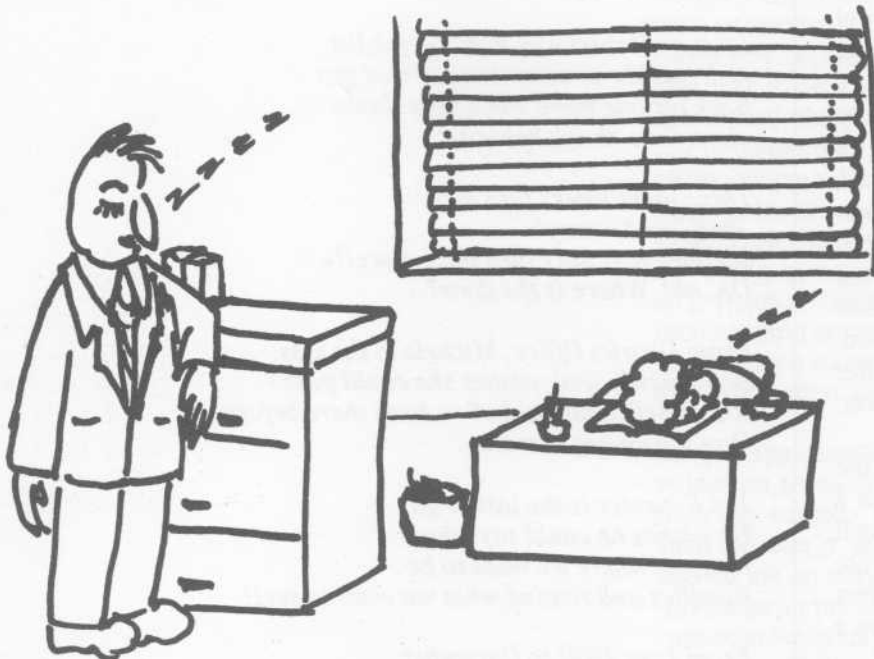
**Exercise:** regular physical activities that you enjoy, raising your heart beat to 120 per minute for a continuous 20 minutes will keep the doctor away.

**Manage your time:** affection makes people feel good; for immediate relief, hug your family more, pat a friend on the back.

**Reach out to other people:** affection makes people feel good; for immediate relief, hug your family more, pat a friend on the back.

**Be thankful for what you've got:** literally count your blessings -list the things you appreciate, consider the details of your health, wrap yourself in thoughts about those you love and those who love you.

Based on the recommendations of stress experts, the five suggestions that follow will help you survive and recover from an overdose of tension.



Rachel '90

*The Minister's visit to the region can be a moving experience but it's hard to get anyone moving for a while after that...*



## First Weather Lab Launched Into Space: *April 2, 1960*

The first artificial satellite capable of taking pictures of the earth's weather systems has been sent into orbit by the United States. Its first pictures, distributed by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, showed the cloud cover over the Northeast United States and Canada. The earth's curvature was clearly visible in the pictures, which were taken from an altitude of 450 miles. The 270-pound Satellite, TIROS I, gives meteorologists their first chance to see global weather patterns on a large scale. It is the prototype of Satellites expected to provide 24-hour weather coverage of the entire globe in a few years.

Abstracted from *Chronicles of the 20th Century*, published by Chronicle Publications, Mount Kisco, N.Y. 1989.

# My Vacation Adventure

by Anita Le Blanc

In June, 1990, I went to Montreal to visit my best friend from my high school days. We had a nice time shopping, eating and enjoying the Montreal «flavour». Claudette suggested we go on the Lachine Rapids.

Hey, I said to myself, this will be different, somewhat adventurous and it's an experience that doesn't happen everyday. «Sure» was my reply. Boy, if I had only known what was in store for me then!

We booked the six o'clock tour. The organizers provided us with boots a size or two too big, small size pants that were huge as well as the coat topped with the lifejacket. Picture us walking like penguins in fishermen's yellow rubber clothing!

As we are the last ones to get on the boat, we had the last two seats available - right on the front end! It took us about twenty minutes to get to the rapids so I enjoyed calm water, sunny skies and soft wind blowing on my face - just gorgeous. Then I saw the rapids - running fast and deep! Well, we started... the tour boat made those rapids even BIGGER by maneuvering into the rapids, making waves of about eight feet high, coming right at me! Claudette, my girlfriend, was laughing frantically at me. I was holding onto the safety bar very tight and I looked scared. The other people on this tour were enjoying this very much as they were standing up with their hands raised asking for more. MORE!! «My God, here I am drowning and they want more!» After several sweeping soakings, the adventure was over. My prayers were answered!

Upon our return to land, I should have kissed the ground, just like the Pope does when He visits a new country, but obviously my reason for doing it wouldn't have the same connotation! We all were soaked to the skin. Water in our boots, sweaters wet, our teeth chattering and everyone was «on a high» except for me.

After changing into dry clothes and starting out for supper, Claudette again started laughing at the situation and the expression on my face at the Falls. Of course I was laughing by now but when asked if I'd do it again, I said NO WAY!

Any brave soul out there who may be interested in this adventure—it's called SAUTEMOUTONS at Victoria Pier on de la Commune Ouest in Montréal (514) 284-9607.

# A Merry Tune to Work

The New Brunswick District Office currently maintains the spectrum management operations on Prince Edward Island. Since René Guerrette took a new position with GTA in Moncton, coupled with Howard Blaxland being on extended sick leave, New Brunswick employees have filled the void. Marie Clare Butler was the only remaining pillar, joined by Paul Roch on the cultural side of things.

In order to continue to provide quality service to Spectrum clientele, a schedule was designed to distribute the workload evenly amongst New Brunswick inspectors. The following will add a bit of colour to the schedule.

by Anita Le Blanc

*Three weeks in a row  
Gary Dupuis was first to go -  
Kevin Ball was next to leave  
He wasn't happy to get the heave.*

*Jacques Hebert was third on the list  
«Oh, heck!» or something of that gist -  
Back for one more week goes Kevin  
«Last time, thank heaven»!!*

*Three more weeks for Gary  
«Boy, am I weary!» -  
Jacques says «My turn once more!!»  
Oh, oh! Where is the door?*

*From District Office, Michele is the lass  
Being newly wed, wishes she could pass -  
Numa Bellefleur said «I've been there before  
Don't want any more!»*

*Jim Fournier is the last to go  
He wishes he could say whoa! -  
Home is where we want to be  
Families and routine what we want to see!!*

*From June 1990 to December  
Our EL's will long remember -  
Hope it doesn't happen too often  
Or we will end up in a coffin!!*

*Now back to our normal jobs  
Where you can hear some sobs -  
Our work is piled sky high  
«When can we relax,» we sigh!!*