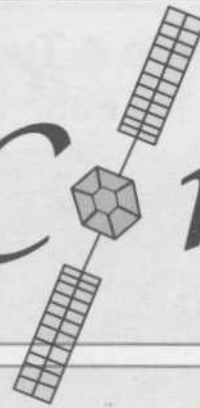


ATLANTIC

InterComm



Vol. 1

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No. 2

Spectrum Management on Display



A New Spectrum Exhibit has been produced by Judy Froome and Michael Holmes of DGIS. The exhibit which will be used at exhibitions across Canada features spectrum employees from our region on the job.

Familiar faces include: Bob O'Leary, Ghislaine Didham, Mike LeBlanc, Maurice Thériault, Gordon Garland and Jeff Butt.

First DG's Award Presented

Microwave technologist, Don Cormier, a twenty year veteran of the department was the first recipient of the new Director General's award in the Atlantic region. The award presentation took place in the board room of the regional office on May 29.

D.G.A. Pierre Boudreau said that Don Cormier had been selected as the first recipient of the award on the recommendation of his section head, Roland Richard. Cormier had discovered a flaw in the ALS computerized licensing and billing system that has been in use by the department for several years. This section of the program had not previously been used in our region but while processing a recent application for a high capacity microwave project in P.E.I., Cormier discovered these users being charged only 20-30% of the appropriate billing rate. His discovery should result in increased revenue for the department, valued at up to \$75.00. It is a new award that had been created so that DG's will be able to recognize employees within their regions for efforts made on behalf of the department that went above and beyond



D.G.A. Pierre Boudreau presented Don Cormier with the first D.G.'s award to be given in the Atlantic Region.

the normal expectations of their position. As his award Don Cormier was presented with a pair of binoculars. In thanking the DGA, Cormier joked that it was a dangerous gift to give a guy with a corner office.

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 ARO Moncton
Eugène Aucoin ARO Moncton
Annabelle Juneau GTA Moncton
Bob O'Leary Halifax
Anita LeBlanc Saint John
Ghislaine Didham St. John's
Mary Clare Butler Charlottetown

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September 10, 1990, for October edition.
December 10, 1990, for January edition.

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

20 years of service, innovation and creativity



Communications
Canada

The Walls Came A Tumblin' Down

by Jim Fournier



When Jim Fournier said the Bathurst Office was under a lot of stress this winter, he wasn't kidding. Dec 3 1989, the walls collapsed under the strain.

Friday, Dec 1 1989, dawned like any other day at the Bathurst Sub-Office. Who could have told it would be my last day there? The sun was shining and it was very cold - great skiing weather for the weekend. The weather forecaster kept insisting there would be high winds accompanied by several centimetres of snow. But we'd learned not to believe forecasters in the past, so why start now?

On Monday morning, I called Clint Landry to report a small problem at the office: the entire brick exterior wall had collapsed. For some reason, he didn't believe me. I don't know why, after all, I'm not a weather forecaster.

"Pictures!" he demanded, "Pictures!"

So yours truly came through with pictures. He still didn't believe me, but it was the topic of much conversation, confusion and general running around.

Finally, temporary accommodations were set up at the Federal Building next door for a one week period and eventually some office space was found there. The present space is being shared with Consumer and Corporate Affairs and Ship Safety - we are one big happy family! We have learned to share and so there is no shortage of office supplies, cars, computers, printers and coffee.

Hopefully, this is only temporary, which means I should be on the move again soon. In the meantime, don't call me; I'll call you.

There has been one positive aspect to all this, I have finally been able to prove beyond a shadow of a doubt to my boss that the Bathurst office is just bulging with work!

A Sigh of Relief

by Paul Soucy

Almost half of the regional staff now breathe easier with their better understanding of stress following one of two, two-day stress management courses in Moncton

Focusing on the actual sources of stress and their effect on the individual, the sessions provided solid grounds for self-analysis in a humorous and relaxed setting.

Rachel Leger from Engineering was surprised to find out just how stressed out she had become. "I took their stress test and scored so high, I figure I should have been dead two years ago!"

Colette LeBlanc from GTA expressed the view of everyone that attended that Sara Somers the course instructor had done an excellent job, "She was such an energetic speaker; she made the course. And the breathing exercises really do work." Colette's co-worker

Pauline Savoie has made a conscious effort to put these techniques to work. "I hadn't realized how important it was to eat properly, and that drinking lots of water was a healer."

"You learned to accept that there were

some situations that you could do nothing about and that it was better to just back away and try to focus on something else". commented Paula McCuaig from Operations.

GTA's Norm Boudreau joked: "This course may not have changed my breathing patterns, but the snooze exercises sure made the day go by quickly." A month after taking the course, Léo-Paul Drisdelle said frantically, "I've got to go back for a refresher course!"

At the conclusion of the two-day course, people realized that, as Personnel manager Eugène Aucoin put it: "You must develop your own stress management program-if change is to be implemented and stress reduced in your life. Also, it must be tackled with consistency to get the desired results of health, happiness and productive living."

The course will be repeated throughout the year so that up to 70 % of DOC staff in the Atlantic region may share the most up-to-date information on stress. Because follow-up is essential to really make a difference, InterComm will publish a series of short articles complementing



Project Interact continues to thrill Canadians interested in communications! The Canadian Security edition of March 1990 published the laudatory article written by Chief W.J.R. Macdonald of the Summerside, P.E.I. Police Department, entitled P.E.I. Police See Potential in Remote Interact Monitoring System. (Paul Soucy)

Canada's top TV series and miniseries in foreign markets is the one and only Anne of Green Gables, and Anne of Green Gables: The Sequel; 80 countries have purchased it at MIP-TV, the international TV community's largest annual market held in Cannes in early May. Next in demand was Night Heat - from 75 countries. What is the world coming to? Audio-visual tourism? (Paul Soucy)

Bell Canada is awaiting approval from the CRTC for its proposed Call Management Service. CMS includes four new options designed to give people more control over incoming telephone calls, the most controversial of which is Call Display also known as Caller Identification. Its other functions include the automatic redialing of the last incoming number, the redirection of up to 12 unwanted telephone numbers to a dead-end tape recording, and a tracer for obscene phone calls. Ottawa-Hull would be one of the first markets to use the new service. (Paul Soucy)

Municipal agencies and governments, led by the Canadian Federation of Municipalities (CFM) have reacted strongly to our removal of the preferential fee treatment for municipal radio stations. A letter writing campaign to the minister is still underway, but this was not unexpected. HQ staff are responding to these letters. To date, approximately 50% of the accounts, including 25% of the total fees for municipal stations, have been paid. Obviously the large accounts have not yet paid; however, they have been given until March 31, 1991 to pay this year's fees. (Al Daly)



Dreamers and Doers

by
Gordon Pole

I suspect that the problem with any review of history is to make the characters whom we have known only by date and name come alive, to know them as three dimensional persons - individuals whose ideas were plagiarised or stolen, whose successes were fewer than their failures and both of them less than their attempts.

In the next few issues of InterComm, I hope to introduce you to some of the unsung heroes who were pioneers in the field of communications in Atlantic Canada.

Prince Edward's Early Warning System

Innovative communication methods are not new to this region. Twenty-four year old Prince Edward, Duke of Kent, established one of the earliest known systems in Atlantic Canada back in 1799.

Edward, whose chief claim to fame was that he fathered Queen Victoria, was not all that likeable a chap. He was moody, opinionated, self-centred and had a reputation as a womanizer. He did have the smallest province named after him whatever that signifies. In any case, Edward was concerned about the rising threat of invasion by the French and saw the need for some sort of "timely" communication system to warn the Halifax garrison of any impending attack from the Fundy Shore. He implemented a system of signal flags, pennants and wooden balls covering the 130 miles between Annapolis and Halifax as the first "distant early warning system" in Canada. Of course, he had the line branch off into Bedford where he was more likely to be spending time in the arms of his mistress Madame Julie de Montgenet de Saint Laurent. What the young prince would have done with this information from the comfortable bosom of his lady love is another matter.

The system worked as well as could be expected from any line of sight system contending with the rain, snow and fog, and it ushered Nova Scotia into the latest in 18th century communications technology. Of course, it required the cooperation of the "enemy" to attack only during daylight hours and in fine weather to be a complete success.

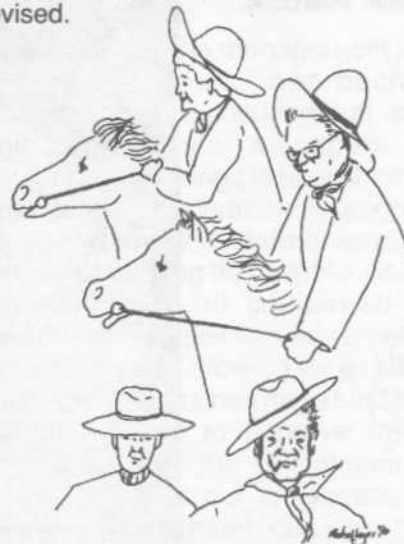
Prince Edward was later reassigned to Gibraltar and nothing much else was done to speed the news from a distant Europe to an equally remote Montreal or Toronto,... but then again... who cared?

To Maritimers, the "have not" population of Upper and Lower Canada were as distant and inaccessible as Britain and Europe which by sea were actually closer. Maritimers on the whole were more interested in what was going on in the "Boston States" to the south. After all, they were only two or three days distant by ship compared with the six weeks required to get news to Montreal.

The two Canadas did develop a communication systems of their own. There was the "fast coach" for mail. In one case, a mad dash trip between Toronto and Montreal was accomplished in 36 hours compared to the usual 4 days. It took a relay of horse changes every 15 miles, but they did it!

The News Flash and the Pony Express

Telegraph made its appearance in the "Canadas" in October of 1846, but that was in the "never never" land of Toronto, a booming metropolis of 20,000 inhabitants. It was not until 1849 that New Brunswick was blessed with the lightning wire, and then it connected to Calais, Maine and the blossoming network in the United States. This emerging system gave impetus to one press service to develop a method of using it, along with any other means possible, to find a way of getting the news from Europe to New York faster than the competition. Again the Atlantic region's "technological heritage" came into play. In the spirit of Prince Edward, a immensely complex labour intensive method was devised.



The Young Riders of the GTA Pony Express

On February 21, 1849, the Cunard Royal Mail steamer 'Europa' slipped into Halifax Harbour after leaving Liverpool 11 days earlier. A small boat rendezvoused with the 'Europa' and a sealed container filled with European news dispatches was tossed into the waiting hands of its crew. On shore, a young man waited impatiently for the craft to dock, then snatched the container and galloped off at breakneck speed. A change of horses every 12 miles and a stirrup cup of water (or whatever) and he was off to the next relay. At each stop, an anxious groom would be waiting expectantly with a fresh horse.. A trumpet call from a half mile distant warned of the approach of the pony express rider. In a matter of minutes, it would be all over as the rider bounded onto the next mount and was gone. Around Kentville, he would pass the container to another rider who would complete the journey to Annapolis. At Digby Neck, it would be passed to the crew of a small boat who would row it out to a waiting packet, and thence on to Saint John where it was carried by the lightning wire to New York.

The expense was considerable; but, during the nine months it existed, these legendary young men thundered across Well that was the start. We have since played a more significant part in the development of communications, but that is another story, for another time.



Our move to take municipal land use concerns into account in our radio station licensing process is progressing well. The Internal Procedures Circular (IPC) dealing with the issue is nearing completion and the Client Procedure Circular (CPC) is expected before the end of June. The Gazette notice has been prepared. In a nutshell, our procedure will be to have all applicants certify that they have attained the necessary approval from the appropriate land use authority for construction of the proposed antenna before we issue the licence. We will be contacting all those involved to explain our new policy and procedure. An article is being published in the next edition of the Canadian Federation of Municipalities' magazine, and a senior official of DOC will address the CFM national meeting in June. (Al Daly)

The Great Atlantic InterComm Launch

by Veronica Leonard

The first issue of Atlantic InterComm was officially launched at the regional and most of the district offices in the Atlantic Region. The original intention of the Atlantic Region Internal Communications Committee had been simply to pass it out to the staff, but, as the work progressed and the publication date approached, it became evident to all involved that this newsletter deserved a more formal introduction. Official invitations were sent out; several daring staff members responded to the suggestion to dress in "black tie" for this momentous occasion; Tim Horton's did a booming business in doughnuts and coffee; and congratulatory speeches were made by all the appropriate people.

Although intended just for the Atlantic region, a few copies did leak out to other regional offices as well as HQ. So far all the comments have been favourable and we are including a few of the congratulatory letters we received.

Comments

Pierre

Just saw the first issue of Atlantic InterComm. Congratulations to you and your team. It looks great!

Rob Gordon
ADMSR

Atlantic InterComm

Congratulations to the team. It's good to hear from you. Keep up the good work.

Carmen D'Aoust
ADMSR/EA

Atlantic InterComm

Thank you for your memo and the copy of Atlantic InterComm. You can be sure that the newsletter will be circulated among the staff in my branch.

S.M. Ahmed
DGE

Atlantic InterComm

I have received your first edition of the InterComm newsletter. I found it very pleasant to read --the format is fun and professional. Well done, team!

Micheline Gravel
Public Affairs
Central Region



Happy Launching, Atlantic InterComm



Paula and Don McCuaig earned a round of applause as they entered suitably attired for the formal launching of Atlantic InterComm at Regional Office.



There was a lot for the St. John's District Office Staff to digest at the InterComm Launch



Dave Taylor and Roger Squires review the first edition of InterComm.

EDITORIAL

It is surprising to realize that the names of over half the staff in the region appeared in our first issue of Atlantic InterComm. It's even more impressive to note that most of the articles in this second issue were volunteered by different employees than those who worked on the first one. This is indicative of the wealth of talent in our region.

We are indebted to the talented pen of our Information Officer, Veronica Leonard, for a number of the articles that appeared in our start-up issue. Since the best guarantee of our newsletter's survival is the support of all its readers, our internal communications committee is fortunate in getting major contributors such as Gordon Pole, Roland Richard, Carmen Comeau-Anderson, Aldorie Colette, Marty MacLellan, Debbie Duggan, Ron Wilcox, Nicole Monette, Al Daley, Keith Anderson, Eugene Aucoin, Anita LeBlanc Jim Fournier, Terry Thompson, Rachel Léger, Ignace Sumbu and Earl Hoeg on board. The committee members themselves did not hesitate to lend a hand, as shown by reports from Ghislaine Didham and Bob O'Leary.

Atlantic InterComm is beginning to reflect the interests of the committee members and the employees with whom they are in contact. All suggestions and comments will be used to develop new columns, such as "Tech Briefs", "Flashes", "Grapevines", employee profiles and historical notes. We will continue to publish reports of special events and the exceptional achievements of persons and groups who make our working life more interesting. Engineers are featured in this issue. Who will headline future newsletters? You tell us; you make the suggestions! Talk to us, and write.

I hope you come back all rested from your summer vacation with your imaginations fired up, ready to help us prepare a October 1990 issue as colourful as the fall landscape. Happy vacations to everyone from the **Atlantic InterComm** committee.

Paul Soucy

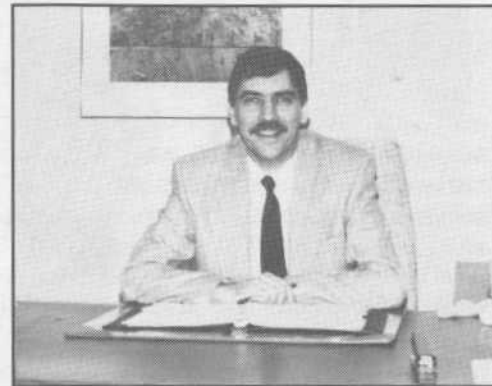
Notes from the DGA

Reading through the text of this Atlantic InterComm, I can see strong evidence of the PRIDE program at work in our region. Articles about office renovations, training programs, work exchanges, and employee achievements are all signs that the PRIDE program objectives are being carried out. Just as important, the many contributions from across the region in this second issue are signs of the pride and satisfaction that more and more employees are feeling about their role in the department.

Two years ago, morale in the department was at a low ebb. A survey revealed that there was a high degree of dissatisfaction among employees about their careers, training opportunities, supervisors at all levels and the work environment as a whole. In response to these findings, the Atlantic Region developed the PRIDE Program to improve our people management practices.

Taking our lead from the operating principles of the DOC Mission Statement 1988, we built the PRIDE Program around the principles of caring about individuals, good management, effective communications, recognition of achievement, teamwork and shared values. We targeted nine areas for employee action.

We started at the management level, building a team approach to management and ensuring that, within their departments, managers held regular staff meetings to keep their staff up to date on departmental programs. We reviewed our system of employee appraisals making this a more positive experience for all concerned with opportunities to discuss advancement and training and allowing for employee feedback. We obtained more funds from Treasury Board to improve training programs within the department and financially assist our employees with career advancement courses taken through external agencies.



We instituted an employee recognition program to reward excellence. We tried to make it easier for employees to transfer within the department or exchange for short terms with others to get a broader base of experience. We also made a conscious effort to improve the work environment with office renovations, flexible hours, and programs on employee relations such as the stress management courses.

At all levels, we worked on improving communications, so that all employees would feel they could voice their opinions and make a contribution to the team effort. Atlantic InterComm is one of the ways this is being done.

A lot has been accomplished in the year since this program was introduced and we can be proud of the contributions each of us has made to make it work. There is still more that can be done. In the near future we will undertake another employee survey to assess how we've done so far and what new initiatives should now be taken. I hope that we will all take full advantage of the opportunity to give our feedback, so we can further develop our employee action program.

Also during the next few weeks, I would encourage you to reflect on how the operation of the Public Service can be improved through the PS 2000 initiative. This government-wide project provides an unprecedented opportunity for change, and I would be pleased to present your suggestions to the chairman of P.S. 2000.

The Engineering Challenge by Roland Richard



The Engineering team at Regional Office (from left to right) Dale Snowdon, Don Cormier, Keith Prescott, Keith Anderson, Roland Richard and Mike LeBlanc (seated).

When you enter the southwest corner of the regional office, don't be surprised to find electronic circuits under construction or broadcast coverage contours being scrutinized or even people painstakingly examining microwave routes and frequency plans. These are indications that you are in the Engineering Section and just a few clues of the unique role the group plays in the region.

The group is small, seven in total, but the background that each individual brings makes it very versatile. Keith Prescott, Don Cormier and Rachel Léger have extensive district and regional office experience. Dale Snowdon came to the Department after several years in Transport Canada. Mike Leblanc was originally with Lumus Instrumentation in Toronto, Keith Anderson with Mitel and Northern Telecom and Roland Richard with CBC Engineering.

Roland Richard, director of the group, sees their mandate as touching three distinct areas: Spectrum Engineering, Broadcast Engineering and Special Projects.

"Each area has its own unique challenges" he explained. "We could be dealing with an interference problem to a five dollar radio one day and a multi million dollar microwave network the next."

Microwave Licensing

The Spectrum Engineering section is tasked with licensing all microwave radio stations and certain satellite earth stations

in the region. Dale Snowdon manages the section and, along with Mike Leblanc and Don Cormier, is responsible for ensuring that the over 4300 licensed microwave frequencies in the region are free of interference. The microwave networks are used principally by telephone companies and other large organizations such as provincial governments. They are capable of carrying thousands of telephone conversations simultaneously.

Dale explains. "Assessing a new station application is not always straightforward. The radios are not type-approved and sometimes use new technologies and modulation schemes which have not yet been tested for their interference potential. Given that these radio systems represent investments of hundreds of thousands of dollars, it's important that we work closely with the applicant and other licences to sort out these problems."

Complicating the microwave licensing process is the department's policy that seeks to ensure that these systems are used to their maximum potential. According to Dale, the policy was put in place to avoid duplicate networks which might slow the penetration of telecommunications facilities to all areas of the country. As a result, certain applications require a thorough evaluation of socio/economic benefits prior to approval. These evaluations are becoming more difficult because of issues like interconnection to the telephone network and telephone network bypass which must be considered and evaluated jointly with headquarters staff.

Broadcasting

Looking after almost 500 cable television systems, 100 AM, 125 FM and 235 TV stations in the region is the task that faces Keith Anderson and Keith Prescott. Keith Anderson, who heads the section, credits the support they get from the district offices as the key that makes the job manageable.

"Without a teamwork approach with headquarters and the district offices the task would be overwhelming", Keith claims.

According to Keith A., broadcast stations have the potential to cause all kinds of interference problems. This is principally due to the very high transmit powers they use. In this regard, the broadcast section's job is to coordinate the evaluation of each new broadcast application to ensure that the impact on existing spectrum users and the public is minimized. This often requires a great deal of negotiation and coordination with the broadcasters and at times Keith says he feels like a "Wheeler Dealer". Once a station has been authorized the section relies on the district offices to keep tabs on the broadcasters; but, in Keith's words, "We're here if they need our help".

Special Projects

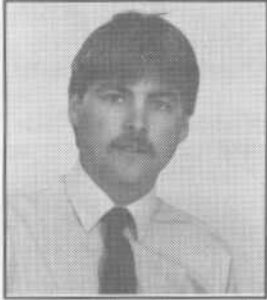
Special projects are perhaps the most personally rewarding work taken on by the Engineering group. Over the years, they have been involved in setting up ionosphere and Monitoring stations, designing and building mobile and remote monitoring facilities, writing software programs for equipment control and a host of other projects. More recently, the group has become more involved in assisting the Communications and Culture group in evaluating and managing various technical initiatives. Roland feels that it is in the projects area that the versatility of the staff is most evident.

"In this type of work, everybody in the group gets involved at one time or another and, with their varied backgrounds, they can bring different perspectives in resolving problems".

So, the next time you are in the regional office, drop by the Engineering group to see if they are working on something new for your part of the region.

New Faces at the Office by Nicole Monette

With all the chaos at the Halifax District Office during the renovations, it was easy to overlook the new kids on the block. Five new EL's joined our office last fall and this is their formal introduction to the other staff in the Atlantiac region.



Robert Simpson hails from Moncton and is a graduate of Dr. L.B. McNaughton High School. He took the Electronic Engineering Technology program at the Moncton campus of New Brunswick Community College and graduated in 1985. DND snapped him up and he worked at CFB Halifax for four years prior to jumping ship to DOC in October.

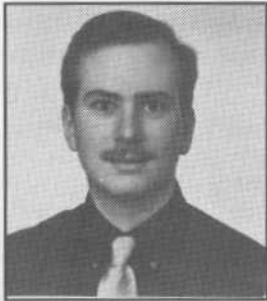
Robert is married (Sorry, girls!) enjoys hockey, baseball and collecting antiques. He also enjoys working for DOC and plans to be around for many years to come.



Earl Patrick Hoeg comes from Amherst, Nova Scotia. He attended the Nova Scotia Institute of Technology and earned his diploma in Electronics Engineering Technology. His first job was with Eyretechnics Ltd. an engineering consulting firm in Burnside, N.S. From there, he moved to Lytton Systems Canada where he stayed until joining DOC last November.

Earl teaches evening courses in Electronics at the Nova Scotia Institute and enjoys most sports, working with computers, travelling, cooking and camping.

Unlike Robert, Earl is an eligible bachelor and has said he welcomes inquiries. Please send photos and credentials to the Halifax office.



Wallie Burke also joined the department last October. He graduated from the University College of Cape Breton in June 89 with a course in Electrical/Electronics Engineering with a Communications option.

Wallie worked part-time for Radio Shack while in high school and college. He then worked for Astro Guard Security Systems after graduating until accepting the position of Inspector-In-Training with the Department of Communications.

Wallie is also single and his interests are electronics, music, radio, cycling and photography.



Lise Brisson is originally from Rimouski, Quebec. Having tried her hand at office work and education, and having fulfilled her desire for travel and adventure, Lise decided she needed a new challenge and chose electronics. She received her diploma in Communications Electronics with a specialty in Telecommunications from the CEGEPs in Rimouski and Hull. She had only a two week vacation after

graduation, before making her debut as an electronics technician at the Clyde Avenue Laboratory of DOC in Ottawa. In October of 1989, she was transferred to the Halifax District Office as a radio inspector.

In her leisure moments, Lise enjoys reading, music, photography, travel and occasionally helping her husband with the cooking.



One of the Iron Men from Wabush, Labrador, **Bob O'Leary** is a graduate of J. R. Smallwood Collegiate. He received his electrical technology diploma from the College of Trades and Technology, St. John's, Nfld and his Radio Communications diploma from the College of Fisheries, Navigation, Marine Engineering, and Electronics.

Following graduation, Bob spent six years with Carino Company Ltd of St. John's, Nfld, working three months on and three months off as a Radio Officer / Electrical and Electronics Technician on board the research vessel 'Polar Duke "VOGB"' in Antarctica. Robert was appointed Radio Inspector-In-Training to the Halifax District Office on Dec 18, 1989.

Bob is married; he and his wife, Patricia, have two children: a son, Joseph Robert, age 3 and a daughter, Laura Roberta age six months. When there is time, he likes reading, photography, hunting, fishing, and sports especially badminton and archery.

Editor's Note: Bob O'Leary has replaced Nicole Monette on the Atlantic Regional Internal Communications Committee and has enthusiastically been gathering stories and reports from all his co-workers for the **Atlantic InterComm**

Technology Briefs by Marty MacLellan

Technology briefs are somewhat different than the ones usually worn under outer garments. In fact one might say that they remain after one has been "de-briefed". At the risk of sexual innuendo, one could make a substantial argument for more "de-briefing" sessions...certainly would be good for employee morale. Enough of the small talk... now for some serious business!

- We have new "Technocats" in the region. Earl Hoeg, Dave Bouzane and Kevin Ball are participating in a technology orientation pilot to enable greater participation of field people in the delivery of the technology program. If I may use an expression from Susan Matasi, my colleague from the Pacific region, we are the TNT group, Technology & Telecommunications. If people have trouble knowing who we are just think of "dynamite". RADT by the way is short for radiant technology or some other suitable abberation.

- Several words that illustrate the scope and challenge that we as a region face in integrating technology into the life stream of Atlantic Canada are; Vision, SHARP, Olympus, MSAT, People, Initiative, Development, Opportunities, and Leadership.

I would like to share with the employees a slogan & a quote that have helped shape my attitude and to some extent, reflect on the work and direction of our efforts in technology development:

"Technology, Touching Tomorrow Today". The work that we are doing today in technology has an impact on our tomorrows. We touch tomorrow by the things we do today.

"If one advances confidently in the direction of his dreams, and endeavours to live the life which he has imagined, he will meet with a success unexpected in common hours." - Henry David Thoreau. *essayist, poet and naturalist.*

GRAPEVINE

Regional Office, Moncton - Veronica Leonard

Back in October of 89, **Aldorie Collette**, the finance officer at RAA, felt the urge to skate to work on the Rideau and walk the halls of Ottawa's ivory towers. There were two vacancies at ADMSM for a six month period, and Aldorie set out to prove that one Maritimer can do the work of two Upper Canadians any day.

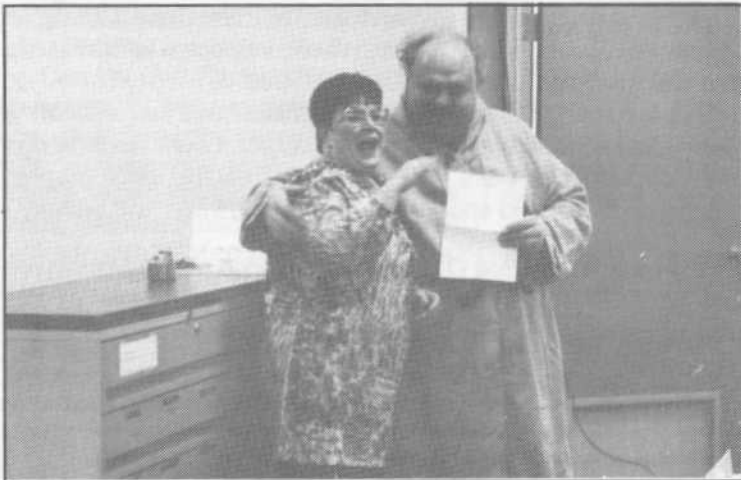
Aldorie's departure resulted in major changes at the regional office, **Germaine Bernard**, the financial services clerk, took his place, **Lucille Belliveau**, the Admin. Support Clerk, took Germaine's job, **Shelley Furze**, the Data Conversion Operator, took Lucille's job, and **Marie Mannelle** was brought in for a term position to do Shelley's job.

To add to the confusion, **Serge Gaudet** enlisted the help of **Léo-Paul Drisdelle**, the Material Management Clerk, for a special project, **Al Dionne**, Records Supervisor, took over Léo-Paul's responsibilities, Records Clerk, **Lucille Léger**, filled in for Al, and **Bill LeBlanc** was brought in on term to replace Lucille.

There was madness and mayhem on Friday March 30, as everyone prepared for Aldorie's return on Monday, dollies laden with files and boxes moved hither and yon, there was a mad scramble for vacated office space and Marie and Bill were formally wine and dined on their departure.

Aldorie was heard to mutter as he returned to his office on April 2, that nothing ever changes at Regional Office.

Claudette "Coy" Drisdelle is back at GTA in Moncton. after a two year stint in Halifax. Before leaving, her friends at G.T.A. thought Claudette might need some absolution for any sins committed in the great metropolis and enlisted the help of Friar Tuck. Judging from the photos, Claudette nearly charmed the friar into forgetting his vows, and a rather unusual parting gift from the staff, could make her next confession even more stimulating.



Camille LeBlanc retired from the regional office back in September of 1987. With a taste for classical music including playing violin and trombone and a full slate of volunteer activities, everyone one thought he would be too busy to stop by the office to see his old friends. They were wrong. Camille popped in May of 1988 to help out and stayed until October of 1989 on an extended term position. Then this winter when any self-respecting retiree should have been heading for Florida. Camille came back for a two month term. As his co-workers gathered for a friendly farewell at Judson's, Camille joked that he had now had five retirement dinners and was looking forward to the opportunity to have another one.

Paul LeBlanc, Inspector-in-charge of the Moncton sub-office and **Jim Wade** Standards Officer at the Regional Office have been acting as resource people for a course being offered through the Moncton Amateur Radio Club. The new psychedelic spectrum charts have been in great demand among the students.

Just as **Jacques LeBlanc's** Antigua tan was starting to fade, **Eileen Rafuse** disappeared for ten days over Easter and returned with resort clothes, a snappy new haircut, and a Jamaica tan. Eileen is happy to tell about her adventures parasailing and sea-dooing (as opposed to skidooning) to anyone who is not too green with envy to listen. No sooner had Eileen got back, when **Mike LeBlanc** roared off south to Florida in the Trans Am. He reappeared two weeks later sporting a fantastic tan and sunbleached hair. Rumour has it that when everyone is out for noon hour, Mike leaps up on the engineering drafting table shouting, "Surf's up!"

Congratulations to **Eugene Aucoin**, the Regional Personnel Manager, who received his Masters Degree in Adult Education from Saint Francis Xavier on May 5. Eugene also has a Bachelor of Psychology from U. de Moncton and an M.A. in Human Resources Management from University Associates of San Diego, California.

More than \$300 was raised at the Bowl For Millions Fundraiser by the regional office team of **George Richard, Pierre Boudreau, Ian Wilson, Roland Richard, Paul Soucy and Eugene Aucoin**. The event was a massive success raising over \$100,000 in Moncton alone for Big Brothers / Big Sisters. This is the 11th year that DOC has entered a team under George Richard.



After months of coffee break and lunchtime games **Alain LeBlanc** emerged as the winner of the Atlantic Regional Office Cribbage Tournament. Coming a close second was **Micheline St. Germain** with **Keith Prescott** and **Ian Wilson** tying for third.

Welcome back to **Al Boucher** after six months with ACOA.

Saint John, N. B. - Anita LeBlanc

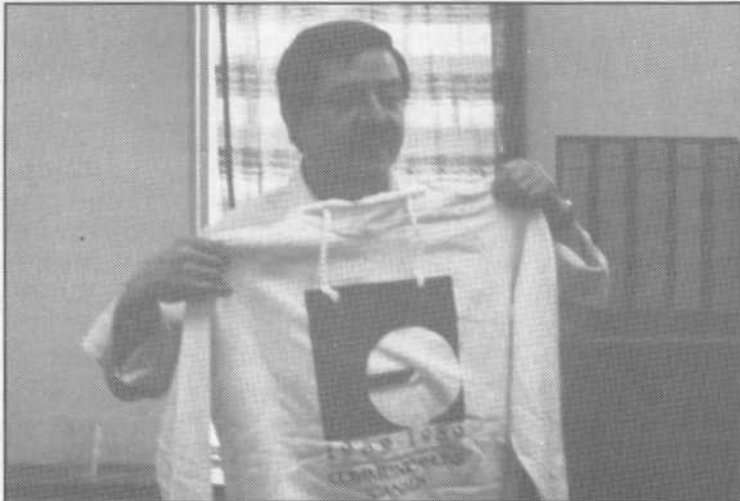
Kevin Ball had a week's vacation in Venezuela, South America. The weather was hot, breezy and enjoyable, but then he had to return to Saint John !!

Vic Smith just returned from three weeks "down South". We don't see a tan on his face, so we are all assuming he stayed inside trying to quench his thirst.

Bernice Sears had an early vacation, or late, which ever way you want to look at it, as she was in Florida in early March for one week. Weather couldn't have been better.

Best wishes go out to **Neil Parent** who is away from the office on extended sick leave.

Halifax, N.S. - Bob O'Leary



Halifax staff member **Terry Landry** proudly displays the 20th Anniversary sweatshirt he won at the Halifax International Boat Show.

Fish and crustaceans were on alert as **RI Wallie Burke** entered the Nova Scotia waters while attending a SCUBA diving course during the weekend of April 7th & 8th. Luckily the weekend was incident free.

Free Trade was tested by **RI Terry Landry** and an associate during a recent trip to North Carolina the 27th to 30th of April. The results of his Automobile buying trip will be available on a future date. Consumers stay tune.

Congratulations to **Nicole Monnette** the new Operations Officer at GTA. On May 11, (her birthday), Nicole donned black cap and gown to receive her Certificate in Business Administration from Mount Saint Vincent University. Nicole plans to go on for her B.B.A.



DOC radio inspectors became antenna riggers in Debert, N.S. **Gerry Curry, Robert Simpson, and Robert O'leary** spent 4 days in Debert installing 6 antennas in rain and near 0'

temperatures April 25-28th. The antenna installation was used for an emergency radio station during a 2 day EMO simulated emergency exercise titled REACT 90 that took place in Nova Scotia May 9th and 10th.

Upon arrival in Debert, Gerry introduced his team to the coordinator with "Hi, my name's Gerry, this is my brother, Bob, and my other brother, Bob., How can we help ya?"

St. John's - Ghislaine Didham

THE HALIFAX EXCHANGE - This is not a tale of espionage!
Amanda Maynard, GTA, St. John's and **Debbie Duggan** - all around expert at everything - of GTA, Halifax are exchanging work positions for approximately 3 months, commencing May 1st.

The transition is being made easier for Amanda with the help of Debbie and hubby, John, giving her the grand tour upon her arrival in Halifax. Then **Nancy Fraser** takes over by accompanying her to the office on her first day. Of course, Debbie does not need any introduction to the St. John's office. We're sure her stint here will be very enjoyable.

Before Amanda's send off, all the girls took her out to lunch. Then the entire staff dispensed all kinds of advice, on a wide range of topics. And last of all, Amanda was presented with a survival kit for her future adventures. But, alas! Her two suitcases were so heavily laden she was forced to leave her favourite coffee cup behind. We have placed it in high esteem, the top of the microwave until her return.

Best wishes go out to **Mac Chafe** who is out of the St. John's office on extended sick leave.

Friends will be pleased to hear that **Don Matthews** is recovering well from his recent heart attack. We're thinking of you, Don, best wishes.



Assistant Deputy Minister, **Rob Gordon**, was wined and dined in style at his last visit to the St. John's District Office. Rumour has it that he was so delighted with Newfoundland's haute cuisine that he persuaded the minister to start his Atlantic visit in St. John's to make sure he didn't miss out on a good thing.

Charlottetown - Mary Clare Butler

Best wishes to **Howard Blaxland** who has been out of the office on extended sick leave. **Paul LeBlanc** spent the past month in Charlottetown filling in for Howard and **Rene Guerrette**.

An Island welcome to **Paul Roch**, the new Cultural Development Officer, who joined our office here on June 4.

In Ottawa's Ivory Towers

by Aldorie Collette

Communigram

August 30, 1989. Ottawa, Ont.

To All Employees

Assignment - Financial Planning and Resource Utilization Division (DPF).

DPF has a temporary vacancy within its group of financial analysts and would like to invite applications from employees who would be interested in a six month special assignment as a financial analyst in the Division.

The above Communigram started it all, I sent in my application and was selected to work for DPF for a six month special assignment.

I found the experience challenging and worthwhile and I hope that the experience that I gained in resource planning and utilization will be useful to the management of the regional office in solving problems in these areas.

It goes without saying that the experience of working in the environment at headquarters was tremendous. There was an incredible amount of pressure to meet deadlines for important planning documents such as Part III of the estimates, the year end strategy on financial resources, briefing notes, Treasury Board submissions, expenditure reviews and sectoral resourcing problems. There were days when I arrived at 8:00 in the morning and didn't leave until after 8:00 at night and sometimes was called in to work on weekends to prepare the briefing notes for the Senior Management Committee Meetings. It was hectic, but it was great and, provided my family agree, I would do it again anytime.



Although being on special assignment meant a lot of hard work and some major adjustments for me and my family, there were many compensations. Among them was the opportunity to put faces to the names of many of the people at headquarters, I had dealt with at the regional level but never met. I have made some excellent contacts with people in SADM, ADMCM and ADMSR.

The notion that the employees in Ottawa "working in ivory towers and living on the banks of the Rideau" have it easy, is certainly not true. We have a lot of good, dedicated, and hardworking public servants up there who really care about the people in the regions. For the few that don't, I believe it is because of pure ignorance of the regional situation.

Ottawa is truly a beautiful city to work in. The downtown is as cosmopolitan as any capital city and yet you are always just five minutes drive from the countryside. Since there were no home cooked meals for me there, I discovered just about every restaurant in town. If anyone is up there for a meeting, I recommend Chez Jean Pierre for French cooking, The Granville for new American cuisine, The Light of India for Indian food, The Yangtze for Chinese and, for homesick Maritimers, there is always The Atlantic Pavillon for fish and seafood. If you want something very posh, try Hy's which is a very expensive steak house. With all these restaurant meals, I had to find some way to burn off the calories, so I joined the Skyline Squash Club and I'm now ready to take on anyone at regional office.

I also had an opportunity to experience Ottawa's winter carnival "Winterlude". I tried skating on the Rideau (it was very cold) and really enjoyed the ice sculptures erected outside the convention centre.

I would like to thank all the DPF staff for the wonderful experience, my sector ADMSR and the regional office who supported me in this endeavour and allowed me to experience this great opportunity. I strongly recommend that other employees take advantage of these special assignments when they come up. You won't regret it.

Communications Canada is a great department to work for!

The Halifax International Boat Show

by Debbie Duggan

The theme of the Halifax Boat Show was Marine Safety. Our booth had various video displays such as "It's Good for Life", the ROR computerized exam, and many DOC publications.

For this show, we also tried something a little different to attract visitors. We obtained five 20th Anniversary sweatshirts that we displayed for a daily draw. There were four daily draws for visitors and one draw among the staff who participated in the boat show. 621 people entered and Terry Landry was the lucky winner in the staff draw. Congratulations, Terry!

The need for Communications Canada to participate in these types of events became evident very early on. Our department may have been in existence for over twenty years, but one of the first questions asked (by another government department, in fact) was "Are you a new company, and what do you sell?". I guess we caused confusion with our Communication Canada banner.

Hopefully, by the next show, we will be able to put together some new ideas and displays that will attract even more people and staff.

Profile Deborah Lynn Mercer

by Ghislaine Didham



Lynn is proud to have been born in St. John's, Nfld, North America's oldest city. She was raised in Bay Roberts, an hour's drive away from the city, and attended Ascension Collegiate High School there. Lynn continued her education at the District Vocational School in Carbonear where she took Clerk-typist training.

At the tender age of 19, Lynn moved to St. John's to work. Up until the Fall of '88 when she joined DOC, she worked as an accounting clerk for a number of firms ranging from office supplies, engineering, newspaper publishing to carpet retail. Being a very friendly person, she still keeps in touch with past co-workers.

In October of '88, Lynn successfully competed for a clerical/receptionist position with our St. John's District Office. Lynn had been experiencing problems with her vision for several years and DOC was able to provide her with several visual aids including the Lyon Large Print System for her computer and a V-Tech Voyageur text enlarger for her desk work which have made it easier for Lynn to do her work efficiently.

"My co-workers also helped with many little considerations as I become adjusted to the new office routine." Lynn recalled gratefully.

After 15 years in the work force, Lynn says she still abuses her alarm clock every morning, but once awake, enjoys coming to work - even more so since joining the Department of Communications.

During Lynn's first few months of initiation into the Federal Government workforce, she was quite amazed at the seemingly endless paper work, the numerous forms and applications, and the rigid format and procedures followed. Getting used to the step-ladder office organizational chart of "who's who" is always a challenge, because just when she thought she had it all worked out, there would be another employee shuffle. Gradually, however, things began to fall in place. With the constant flow of customers and callers, Lynn meets all types of personalities and encounters varied situations. This, coupled with interaction with co-workers in G.T.A. and Communications make each day pass too quickly. When asked which duties she enjoyed best, Lynn says emphatically, "Opening Moncton's Priority Mail - when my long-awaited pay cheque is in it!"

Her interests and hobbies are varied: "Indy 500 and Grand Prix racing [as an enthusiastic spectator only], travelling [always looking for a buddy], reading large print books and being with people who can be spontaneous". Lynn enjoys most outdoor activities from snow-shoeing to rock hunts!

Lynn has been a volunteer with UNICEF since June '88 in one of their retail stores in a large local Mall. She has recently been asked to participate in special CNIB meetings for her input on matters which affect every-day services to visually-impaired persons. Lynn has been registered with CNIB for the past 7 years and enjoys "keeping them on their toes" with her suggestions and questions on services and information.

Everyone has a deep-rooted belief in life; Lynn's is, "Life is what you make it - with one exception, of course - Murphy's Law!"

The Trinidad Trip (or The 3 T's) by Ghislaine Didham

Carol Sparkes and Amanda Maynard from St. John's GTA office are sharing their holidays together this year. Amanda had planned to attend a convention in Trinidad, and discovered it was cheaper to visit for 2 weeks than for a weekend. Since Carol had planned to vacation somewhere south anyway, Amanda persuaded her to "buddy up, Man". It didn't take too much convincing as Carol doesn't like to travel alone.

During the past two months, these two dedicated vacationers endured booster shots, yellow fever shots, measles shots and lost cheques. A brigade of furiously determined people at the Moncton regional office spent three days tracking down Amanda's lost cheque, leaving no office unturned. Amanda is eternally grateful for the cheque, as they had spent a fortune on everything from bathing suits to bug spray.

For those of you who thrive on statistics: Trinidad & Tobago are approximately 11 degrees North of the equator. The average May temperature is 33 degrees Celsius.

May is also the month known for the turtles coming ashore to lay their eggs. Hunting season for turtle eggs is closed from May to September, as the turtles are an endangered species. However both the birds and the natives generally ignore the ban and steal the eggs anyway. Turtle eggs are considered an aphrodisiac and fetch a good price on the black market.

In the event, Carol and Amanda do not return on May 28th as planned, don't assume foul play. They'll probably be in a local jail charged for beating up the birds or the natives, all in the name of conservation!!



Notre décision de prendre en compte l'utilisation des terres municipales dans le processus de délivrance des licences des stations radio se matérialise bien. La Circulaire de procédures internes (CPI) traitant de cette question est pratiquement terminée et la circulaire de procédure concernant les clients (CPC) devrait l'être avant la fin de juin. L'avis destiné à la Gazette officielle est déjà rédigé. En bref, tous les requérants devraient nous donner l'assurance qu'ils ont obtenu des autorités compétentes l'autorisation d'ériger leur antenne avant de se voir accorder un permis. Nous informerons tous les intéressés de notre nouvelle directive. Un article paraîtra sous peu dans le prochain numéro du bulletin de la Fédération canadienne des municipalités, et un porte-parole du Ministère prendra la parole à la réunion nationale de la FCM en juin.

New Technology Seminar April 10-11, 1990

by Earl Hoeg

Dr Gerry Chan and Doug Sward from the Ottawa office of Long Range Planning of the Engineering Program of ADMSR were the keynote speakers at a special seminar on New Technology held on April 10th and 11th at the Colonial Inn in Moncton. Representatives from the Atlantic Regional Office and all four District Offices were in attendance.

The purpose of the seminar was to inform and update the district staff about new advances in the telecommunications industry. Both speakers also emphasized the necessity of keeping up to date on the changing global environment and the requirements for long range planning strategies. The following is a small sampling of the wide range of topics discussed.

New Technology For Spectrum Management

The discussion on spectrum management concentrated on new ways to manage the use of the spectrum in order to allow for the rapid evolution of new technologies. It dealt with geomatics and the computerization of various conditions affecting frequency analysis and allocation.

The factors governing utilization of the spectrum above 20GHz using SHF/EHF were examined along with various propagation characteristics and the advantages to using such systems. This topic was concluded with a discussion of new possibilities for the use of this spectrum.

Cellular Telephones

The seminar on cellular telephones included global statistics, present limits of cellular technology and possible solutions. A comparison of the various systems competing for the international standard of second generation cellular was given. The principles of second generation cellular were introduced, covering digital technologies, voice coders, modulation techniques and handoff strategies.

Personal Communications Systems

Discussion on personal communications centred around market requirements and international developments in this field. There was further discussion on cordless telephones, telepoints, personal communicator networks (PCN), microcellular, and on two major initiatives in personal communications in Europe. This seminar was concluded with an overview of integrated systems and the initiatives under way in Canada.

During the two days, a great deal of material was introduced. This information should prove useful in dealing with our clients who are concerned with these various new technologies. Both speakers were very willing to answer questions and they presented the material in an informative and interesting format. A complete copy of all the transparencies used during the seminars was given out. Therefore anyone requiring any addition information should contact the representative from their district office who attended.

The Internatinal Conference on Regional Development in The Information Age

by Carmen Comeau-Anderson

"Where did this take place?" you may ask - St. John's, Newfoundland, of course. Last May 7th and 8th, I had the rare occasion to attend this gathering of the knowledgeable technology freaks and aspirants (I was in the latter category). Around three hundred people gathered to discuss information technology needs and services of small business, whether located in urban areas or remote locations such as Paradise River, Labrador (pop. 50). Experts from Europe, Great Britain, and other parts of Canada complemented the many resource people from our region, especially Newfoundland. What I found most useful from listening to the panellists, was the practical advice that came out of successful and disastrous (mostly costly) attempts at computerization or other technology applications.

The key messages that came out of the conference were that technology can be implemented anywhere; that it is important to fit the technology to the user's needs (not vice versa) and that we are already in the Information Age and we will all benefit greatly by using technology to remain competitive. My biggest satisfaction was in recognizing the strong entrepreneurial spirit and technology uptake that is already taking place in various areas of Newfoundland, due in part to such initiatives as TETRA (Telemedicine and Educational Technologies Resources Agency and the new enterprise, Network.

People went away from this conference knowing that Newfoundland is second to none in this domain.

Renovations by Ron Wilcox

Renovations, a word that usually strikes fear into the hearts of men, but is somehow less threatening to our female counterparts. If one word can symbolize a phrase than the word renovations truly represents the expression "Short term pain for long term gain."

The staff at the Halifax District Office were mighty tired of burnt orange and muddy brown, so when the magical day came and the workers arrived, we were prepared. It didn't matter that a painter was working at your elbow or that dust was drifting down from a ceiling that was not and was yet to be. It didn't matter that somehow the desks had got reassigned we knew this was going to be good.

Blue on blue. How bright! How clean! New and refurbished desks! New telephones! It even seems like there is more room!

A big thanks to everyone involved in the rebirth of our office but especially to the staff who endured so long, wished so hard and contributed so much.

(Ron even has a bigger office than George !!!)