ATLANTIC

InterComm

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Personnel Office Employees: Vital to Our Organization

by Josanne Léger

For 20 years now, Irene Reid has played and continues to play an important role in the Communications Canada regional organization. As the Pay and Benefits Clerk at the

Moncton Regional Office, she is among those that all employees get to meet first either, in person or by phone, upon

(continued on page 3 - Irene...)

Atlantic InterComm is the internal newsletter for Communications Canada, Atlantic Region.

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

A Word from the St. John's District Director

Ordinary People, Outstanding Job



Roger Squires, St. John's District Director, in Newfoundland.

Given the opportunity to start this first edition of the year with a bang, cheer and pomp in this column, I wondered what angle would not be repetitious of previous commentators while remaining significant.

Let's see. Pierre Boudreau wrote about the "20th Anniversary Projects", the "PRIDE Program" and "PS2000". George Richard was "looking forward to 1991-92". The Saint John District Director was looking backward and described how he was "doing a lot with less".

I think the most significant job-related remarks I could make in such a column would be to state my appreciation for people with whom I work and have worked in the past. This rich element in one's work, I believe, is what makes the big difference. In the last edition of *Communications Express*, an article about the Newfoundland District illustrates staff involvement, and I am glad that it was shared with DOC staff across the nation.

I am also tempted to mention a few names that have made my own experience at DOC one I cherish without any reservation. Let's reflect a bit. There was Jack Wyatt in charge of the Clyde Avenue Lab; and Bob Stevens at CRC, responsible for the Ionospheric Sounding Program. There were Bruce Spanton and Roy Gooding, Inspectors-in-charge at Ottawa and Sault Ste. Marie District Offices, respectively. There was Jean Tessier who taught me the ropes as a junior Radio Inspector. Jim Gilmour was more knowledgeable about the Monitoring Service than anyone I ever met. I remember Jacques Fraser and Art Stark at Headquarters. Frank Grant was responsible for Radio Inspector training at Air Services Training School and later at DOC Headquarters. I remember George Beveridge, Pat Fitzpatrick, Ted Ginn, Real Valiquette, Joe Johnson, Bob Fergerson, Andy Matys, John Palmer, Phil Ritcey, Elmer West, Bob McNeil...

But what is so special about these people? Well, they were all dedicated to DOC and its forerunner, the Radio Regulations Branch of the Department of Transport. They all made significant contributions to DOC and helped shape the Department into what it has become today, particularly on the Spectrum Management side. And many of them made a positive, long-lasting impact on my own working life.

But what is so outstanding about that? They are just people. Yes, just people, but ordinary people doing an outstanding job!

People - DOC's greatest asset - then and now.

Roger Squires

National Award for Two Regional Office Employees



Jacques LeBlanc (left), Regional Informatics Manager, and Léo-Paul Drisdelle (centre), Administrative Services Officer, were presented Employee Recognition Awards on March 20 last by the Regional Executive Director, Pierre Boudreau, on behalf of the Deputy Minister, during an employee meeting.

Our two colleagues earned this honour by setting up a computerized stationery storage and distribution system at the regional office. The system enables them to efficiently control the entire inventory of office consumable products required in the daily operations of the regional and district offices. This software also facilitates the purchase documents' preparation and merges procurement data with inventory data, automatically.

In other applications, the system dBase III Plus program has been adapted to meet the needs of the Public Affairs section, which manages an inventory of Departmental publications in the region. A copy of the program has also been given to Corrections Canada Atlantic regional operations for their use.

The names of Mr. LeBlanc and Mr. Drisdelle had been forwarded to the Selection Committee by their colleague, Alfred Dionne. Congratulations to the happy recipients.

Irene... (continued from first page)

arriving at Communications Canada, Atlantic Region. She's also the last one to see or hear from when you leave. As everyone will agree, Irene Reid plays a very important role in our organization.

She was born in Collette, N.B. (next to Rogersville). She's a graduate from New Brunswick Community College in Moncton. She came to us from the Université de Moncton in 1972. She had worked in various sections in the Regional Office before coming to Per-

sonnel in 1978. Until 1987, Irene took advantage of the opportunity to work part-time over an eight year period while her two daughters Tanya and Sabrina were in elementary school.

The year 1991 will be remembered by Irene and her husband John for many reasons, but one is that everything in her household let go: stove oven, water bed, hot water tank, television. A very expensive recycling process. Hope 1992 brings her better luck.

In Memory of Paula McCuaig

by Claudette Drisdelle

Paula (Doucett) McCuaig's untimely death occurred April 25, 1992. She had been hospitalized in the summer of 91 and surgery later revealed the gravity of her illness.

She joined DOC Regional Office in Moncton on September 15, 1975, after having spent seven years with national Defence and three months with Canada Post. Paula worked with Operations for most of her 17 years with us but she also shared her hard work and expertise with Finance and GTA sections. She not



only enjoyed working with GTA but even married GTA's Business Development Manager, Don McCuaig, in May of 1988.

Paula's illness and subsequent death were a shock to everyone. We extend our deepest sympathies to her husband, parents, step-children, co-workers and friends. To "know" Paula was to have a dear friend. She will be missed by us all.

GTA ATLANTIC REGION A New Face, New Challenges

by Cheryl Lowe

Changes and new experiences have become a way of life these days in the Government Telecommunications Agency. The changeover to a Special Operating Agency (SOA) has brought new challenges and opportunities. One stems from a management philosophy at DOC giving individuals an opportunity, when possible, to acquire careerrelated experience by acting appointments.

The acting position of regional director, GTA Atlantic Region, has been filled during the past 15 months by Norman Boudreau, who has been with GTA in Moncton for 14 years. Boudreau was previously district manager, client services for NB/PEI. "For individuals to have rotation through an acting position such as this is good for their development, and good in the long-term for the organization," says Boudreau. "There may be a short-term instability factor from a department perspective, but the benefits outweigh the drawbacks."

On January 13, 1992, René Guerrette replaced Boudreau as acting regional director, GTA Atlantic Region. Guerrette started with the DOC as a Radio Inspector in Saint John in 1981. He has

been with GTA in Moncton since June 1990, where he was involved with data support and project management during the time of GTA's transition to an SOA.

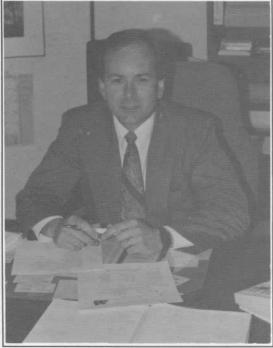
"Our challenge now means we need to be visionaries," says Guerrette. "We have to be able to see the big picture and stay a step ahead of the competition." There is heavy emphasis on the marketing function, reflected in such changes as business plans replacing operating plans. "Our emphasis now is to ensure that GTA is competitive with private industry," he says. "As an SOA, we must market our offerings more vigorously and provide services with even more cost savings," says Guerrette.

"It will be a continual challenge for GTA to retain and ex- René Guerrette, acting regional director, GTA pand its client base," says Atlantic Region. Boudreau. "We're competing not only with the big players and resellers, but with smaller organizations trying to fill niche markets."

Guerrette says GTA is looking at restructuring the client services end to

> focus on marketing. "By providing one-stop-shopping while keeping overheaddown, we will be aiming to keep our most valuable asset - the returning customer. Although we have the majority of the market in voice, there's a growing market on the data side that we have vet capture," Guerrette. "We have a totally digital network, and we're prime for the data side.'

> "GTA will have to provide a 'value-added



mixed bag' of products and services, and take a proactive approach for the future," says Boudreau.

Guerrette sees the restructuring as a slow process. "The wheels in management may turn quickly, but as you go downward, things begin to move more slowly," he says. "It will take time." Internally, there has been constant revamping. "The transition and learning curves for the region are pretty steep," says Guerrette. "We also face an everchanging external environment. We all need to learn to be more adaptable."



Norman Boudreau, GTA's district manager, client services for New Brunswick/Prince Edward Island.

Personnel Report (from October 16 to May 15. 1992)

by Josanne Léger

Executive Director's Office

Marthe Saulnier, who was on Maternity Leave, is back in her duties as Administrative Assistant to the Executive Director, since May 18.

Communications & Culture

France Jean is acting as Cultural Development Officer.
Rachel Léger is acting as Administrative Assistant.
Raymond Provencher, Liaison Officer for ADMQ in Ottawa, is on secondment to the Communications & Culture, section as the Regional Administrative Officer.

Personnel

Eugène Aucoin has been reclassified to PE 4.



Engineering Section

Denise Mazerolle joined the Engineering
Section on November 12, 1991 as General
Office Clerk.

Operations Section

Jean Smith-Metivier joined the Operations
Section on November 4, 1991 as Operations
Clerk.



Finance and Administration

Leo-Paul Drisdelle has been promoted to Administrative Officer.

Lucille Belliveau's position has been reclassified to CR -04 level, Fiancial Clerk.

Shelly Furze's position has been reclassified to CR-04 level, Administrative Support Clerk.

Paulette Richard was employed in the Records Section since November 12, 1991. Her term ended March 31, 1992.

Aldorie Collette, Finance Officer, has been transfered to Transport Canada, in Ottawa. Lucille Léger is back in her position in Records

since May 18, 1992.



GTA - Moncton, N.B.

Rene Guerrette is acting as Regional Director - GTA. Eileen Rafuse is temporarily filling the District Office clerk position until May 29, 1992.

Lee O. Pedersen has joined the Department on April 1, 1992, as Junior Telecommunications Officer.

GTA - St. John's, Nfld

Cynthia Pottle has transfered to GTA effective January 6, 1992.

District Office - ST. John's, Nfld Sheila Strickland came back with the St. John's District Office on May 25, 1992, following a previous term which ended March 31, 1992. Robert O'Leary has been promoted to EL-03, Radio Inspector-in-Training.

District Office - Halifax, N.S.

Peter Hill left the Halifax District Office on May 19, 1992. Peter has accepted a promotion in Ottawa as Chief of National Systems, EL 08.

Philip Amirault has joined the Department on January 6, 1992 as a Radio Inspector-in-Training.

Robert Simpson has been promoted to EL 04, Radio Inspector.

Earl Hoeg has been promoted to EL 03, Radio Inspector-in-Training.

District Office - Saint John, N.B.

Jennifer Connolly joined Saint John District Office on October 28, 1991. Her term ended March 31, 1992.

Wally Burke has been promoted to EL 03, Radio Inspector-in-Training.



lan Wilson's retirement

by Norman Boudreau

Employees of DOC and GTA's Regional Office held a retirement party in honour of Ian Wilson, former Atlantic Regional Director of the Government Telecommunications Agency. Approximately 55 co-workers attended this festive and informal gathering to wish Ian and his wife Liz a long and happy retirement. The party was held at the Department of Defence Sergeants Mess in Moncton on November 7, 1991.

Ian joined GTA in 1976 as a Telecommunication Analyst after 25 years with Canadian Pacific in Montreal. In 1977, Ian assumed the position as Regional Manager/Director for the Atlantic, a position he held until prior to his retirement when he was the Director of Operations at GTA's headquarters.



Norman Boudreau, past acting Regional Director for GTA (left), presents to Ian Wilson, a gift from the DOC/GTA staff in Moncton and friends outside the office.

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NEWFOUNDLAND

Great catches!

D.O.C.'s best-known fisherman displays his latest catch of a half-dozen rainbow trout, weighing approximately one to one & a half pounds each. The District Director of St. John's

is looking forward to his next fishing trip. The largest trout "lost" last year was in the 10-14 pound category. Roger Squires refuses to disclose where this fishing paradise is located!



Bob O'Leary was transferred from the Halifax D.O. to St. John's in September 91. With his previous

experience as an Atlantic InterComm contributor, the St. John's office is sure to be doubly well represented in upcoming issues

Debbie Duggan has left DOC/GTA for a position with Customs & Excise - GST section. Her friends and co-workers at DOC wish her all the best in her future endeavours.

NOVA SCOTIA

New face in Halifax District Office

by Cheryl Lowe

Preparing for a career change can be a lot of work, but it can also be rewarding. Philip Amirault joined the Halifax district office in January as an EL 01, following three years of study at the Nova Scotia Institute of Technology in



electronics engineering and computer technology. Prior to this, he was a dental crown and bridge technician for four years.

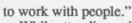
Going back to school was not as difficult as he thought it might be. "Although I had been out of school for seven years, I was committed to my studies and willing to do the work," says Amirault. "My dad was involved in research, design and testing of electronic equipment, so I've always had an interest in it."

Amirault and his wife Cecile are both from Halifax. His outside interests include playing guitar and piano with a foursome called 'Triple Image.' The group plays at charitable functions, hospitals, seniors residences, and at events sponsored by Summer Festival Showcase.

A Non-Typical Student at Communications Canada

The public relation coop student who worked in

the Halifax District Office last Spring probably doesn't fit the typical picture. Although Cheryl Lowe is a third year student in Public Relations at Mount Saint Vincent University, she left the workforce to return to school following 19 years in the health-care profession as a Medical Cyto-technologist. "It's one of the best decisions I've ever made," she says. "It was time for a change, so I left my microscope behind and decided



While attending university in Halifax (she and her husband Brian usually live in Moncton), Brian was on a one-year job exchange in Australia. "It's been very different for us," said Lowe, "We've gone from working for several years in the same laboratory...to living in separate provinces and commuting on alternate weekends...to living half a world apart this year."

At the end of April, she joined her husband in Melbourne for four months. "I'm trying to arrange a co-op workterm for the first three months," she said before her departure, "then we will do some travelling and come back together in time for my last year of university."

They have one daughter, a French teacher in Ontario. "Susan thought she had two normal parents while she was growing up," says Lowe, "but now she tells her students she's never sure what we're going to do next!"



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NEW BRUNSWICK



Who's "Bust"? by Anita LeBlanc

What do we have here? An artist in our midst!! This employee has sculpted a bust of himself which is quite close to his likeness. Do you know who it is? Don't want to give you his name just now, but one hint, he works in the Saint John District Office. This sculpture is not yet finished but the likeness is there. Has the look and "flair" of a movie star, don't you think?

Oops! In the last issue of Atlantic *InterComm*, an error slipped in the United Way campaign article on page 7. It should have read that the Charlottetown coordinator was Mary Clare Butler. We apologize.

Germaine Bernard, Financial Services Clerk, at the Moncton Regional Office, was the lucky winner of a round trip to New York, by simply filling a ballot which appears regularly in *In Touch* magazine, sponsored by Downtown Moncton Inc. She went on her trip during the long week-end of May.

Our Deepest Thoughts

We wish to extend our most sincere condolances to the following fellow employees in New Brunswick who suffered through the recent loss of parents or relatives: Lucille Belliveau, Léo-Paul Drisdelle, Marthe Saulnier, Numa Bellefleur and Jean Smith-Metivier.

Aldorie Collette, on the left, and his family have moved to the National Capital Region, where he will continue to work as a Financial Officer with Transport Canada. On his last day at DOC, May 1st, employees presented him with a farewell gift during a get-together in his honour. It was presented to him by Serge Gaudet, Director of Finances, his supervisor.





Dionne is New Crib Champion

Participants in the Moncton Regional Office's annual cribbage tournament crowned their new champion on May 1st last. Alfred Dionne, Purchasing Clerk, is shown here receiving his plaque from Jacques LeBlanc, tournament organizer. The tenacious champion wrestled the title, which had belonged to James Wade in 1991, from the mettlesome Norman Boudreau, GTA - Moncton.

Thanks go out to the Pizza
Delight restaurants for their
donation of gift certificates for
the two finalists and other participants: Serge Martin and Keith
Prescott, quarter finalists, and
Germaine Bernard and Jacques
LeBlanc, semi-finalists. Congratulations to the champion and
finalists and three cheers for all
participants.

Career **Planning** is Important

by France Jean

I would like to congratulate the members of the Regional Office Women's Committee for their initiative in organizing a presentation on career planning last March.

The guest speaker, Gisèle Léger, gave a very informative talk, complete with pertinent suggestions on how to prepare a plan of action. She handed out a list of books on professional development and pointed out several other possible sources of information.



Ms. Gisèle Léger

The message I personally found most important is that everyone, man or woman, must take responsibility for his or her own career, establish his or her own priorities, and act on them.

So all you men out there, the next time the Women's Committee organizes a dinner meeting, don't be "shy" about joining us; I'm convinced you'll find it very interesting! Only two brave souls attended this one.

Reminiscences of a Radio Inspector

by Don Matthews

After graduation from high school in 1953, I went to Memorial University, intending to become a teacher. However, one month as a student teacher at the old "model school" at the bottom of Long's Hill in St. John's discouraged me from pursuing that career!

I was interested in wireless, and attended the vocational institute the next year. It was located in an old Navy building, but there were benefits ... all you could drink for one buck!

On the way to my first job on Sable Island, I was up in the radio shack talking to Archie Roberts, the ship's operator. It was the memorable night the Andrea Doria and the Stockholm collided.

Also on Sable Island were Gerry Smith, who later became an inspector in Ottawa, retiring after 47 years; and John Palmer, who retired last year. We had little free time because with only three operators we never got a day off.

Next I went to work at Cabot Tower on Signal Hill for a year. During this time, I married Lorraine. We were married three months when I was transferred to Cape Race, where the Department of Transportation (DOT) supplied only the bare essentials. The roads were blocked from December to April, so our bulk supplies had to last five months. We had no freezer to store meat, so I had to learn to hunt my own, snaring rabbits and a few birds, supplemented by local lamb. To this day, neither Lorraine nor I can eat lamb or rabbit.

While Lorraine was staying with her mother awaiting the birth of our first son, I decided to surprise her by painting the place. There was only white paint available, so I added some red lighthouse paint at the lightkeeper's suggestion. Lorraine almost fainted when she saw the deep red walls...

After Cape Race I was transferred to Gander for four years. Lorraine was in seventh heaven. The first thing she did



Don Matthews

was to get her driver's licence. Gander was busy - eight hours straight with earphones on. For a change of pace, I went on the northern supply route on the John A. MacDonald. The operators and helicopter pilots worked closely together for communications and weather reports. I visited Inuit villages and saw polar bears and musk oxen. To reach Alert, we had to sail through a narrow strait called Hell's Gates. I still have my certificate to prove I crossed the Arctic circle.

After Gander I moved to Sydney, where I completed a course from the Radio College of Canada, and passed the exams for the Radio Inspection Branch at the DOT. In 1968, I was transferred back to St. John's to the Coast Guard station. By this time, my family of four children wanted to settle down. I got the message when my oldest son tore up a letter offering me another

Their travelling days were over, but not mine. As an inspector I travelled around Newfoundland and Labrador, and later joined the John Cabot, visiting several cities in the US and the Bahamas. After a year, I returned home to DOC, where I remained until retirement on September 6, 1991.

The Wonders of Hiking

by Jim Wade

My hiking adventures started in October 1990 when my wife Melanie asked me to help the Air Cadets from Petitcodiac, N.B. hike the trails of the 58 km Dobson Trail in Albert County, N.B. Wolfie, our yellow Labrador, lead the pack of eight humans on Thanksgiving weekend. What an experience!

Plans were then made to start the hikers ultimate goal, the Appalachian Trail which runs 2147 miles from Mount Katahdin, Maine to Springer

Mountain, Georgia.

On the July 1st weekend, Mel and I, Wolfie was not allowed in Baxter State Park, climbed Mount Katahdin (5267 ft) and walked the first 15 miles south. Ahead lay the 100 miles of wilderness to Monson, Maine. Then on August 15th, each with 45 pounds. of equipment and food for 12 days and Wolfie with 15 pounds of food in his saddle-bags, we set out on the well marked trail, over hills and mountains, by beautiful clear lakes and streams, and through swamps and thick forest. The weather for the first four days was too nice, sunny, calm and 95°F, then Hurricane Bob arrived.

A very wild afternoon and night was spent in a trail lean-to shelter at Cooper Brook. Winds of 60 to 70 miles per hour and five to six inches of rain raised Cooper Brook by five feet overnight. We shared the lean-to with three Appalachian thru-trekers (someone who completes the trail within one year), a



Melanie, Jim and Wolfie ready to hike.

retired school teacher native Cherokee Indian from Oklahoma, a 23 year old from Wisconsin who was taking time out to find himself and a retired man from Hawaii. Six thousand miles of hiking made for many interesting stories that evening. Wolfie spent the night under the lean-to, sleeping on a bed of dry leaves.

On the seventh day, 70 miles down the trail, facing a 3600 feet mountain, wet weather, streams too high to cross and Mel's back giving out under the strain (she had back surgery five years before) we headed out a logging road to civilization. We had both lost weight. And even though well fed on the hike, we ate like pigs for a couple of days afterwards. Wolfie slept for a week.

The benefits of the hike included better physical condition, the peace and tranquillity of the woods, the scenery and natural beauty, and the friendships we made on the trail.

If you are thinking of hiking: first read all the information you can find about hiking and the trail you want to hike, obtain good hiking boots and a

comfortable back pack.

Our plans are in progress for 1992 to tackle another 120 to 150 miles southward on the Appalachian Trail in four to five day trips of 30 to 50 miles each with better (and less) equipment weighing a maximum of 35 pounds. By the year 2000 we may be climbing Springer Mountain!

Positive Trends by Paul Soucy

The results of the 1992 DOC All-Employee Survey are out, and the survey says that we generally feel much better about our work in the Atlantic Region than we did in 1988.

According to Francine Chabot-Plante, Director of Program Evaluation at headquarters, the Atlantic region fared very well in most areas being studied. These include the overall job satisfaction of staff (76.5%), the actual climate in work units with a 63.2% satisfaction rate, a significant betterment in the handling of the operating principles at the department, better management practices, more communications...

Most of all, we are proud to work for the Department. In fact, we are the proudest bunch with the department's highest percentage of 69%. However, figures show that those who reported to be proud to tell people they worked for the Department tended to decrease moving down the or-

Most of us have had the opportunity to hear Francine's presentation of the facts,

together with Brian Evans, and share concerns and opinions with them. More questions may arise and key issues could be analysed more in depth such as the discrepancy of figures between region and districts. Should anyone have other questions, please convey them to your supervisor or to the Regional Manager of Personnel, Eugène Aucoin.

All staff deserve a good pat on the back for participating in the survey and for helping to make our workplace a better and more meaningful place to spend

the day.

Our Canada, What a Country

by Richard Arnold

It was a warm fall day and there was a gentle breeze blowing across the open fields of Prince Edward Island for as far as the eye could see. The area was quiet. peaceful and a setting of tranquillity. What Beauty! What great insight our Fathers of Confederation had to select this peaceful and friendly Island as the Cradle of Confederation.

As I stood there looking out, my mind went back in time, when in high school I read a novel about the life of a young girl in Quebec well before Confederation. As was with her, I also became lost in the thought that "Life is so uncomplicated here". At that moment it was difficult to believe all the problems going on in Canada.



It was not important that my thoughts be in English or in French because the results were the same. During those few seconds, I had a flashback to when Henderson scored the goal for Canada against the mighty USSR. What pride to be a Canadian! More recently, I spent two weeks with 25 other Canadians from across this land, only to be more convinced of how lucky we are to be Canadians.

As a department taking the leading

role in nation building, we have a golden opportunity to create a national feeling of respect and understanding. To accomplish this, all provinces must be treated as equals. Prince Edward Island may be Canada's smallest province with the smallest population; but it is without a doubt at the forefront of initiatives in nation building. It's not the volume but the quality of influence along with the true caring of individuals that is going to create the mutual feeling of cooperation, respect and understanding. Prince Edward Island is a leading force within this region in generating such an atmosphere. Let us not loose but build on what we now have as one of the greatest countries in the world, "Our Canada".

25 Years of Service



Martin MacLellan, Technology and Telecommunications Manager, was presented a plaque by Pierre Boudreau, Atlantic Executive Director, during a meeting of employees on October 24 last, to mark his 25 years with the federal public service. He is shown here surrounded by long-time work colleagues. From left to right, sitting: George Richard, Deputy Executive Director, Martin MacLellan, Pierre Boudreau; standing: Ronald Wilcox, Halifax District Director, Alfred Daly, Regional Manager, Authorization, Roland Richard, Regional Director, Engineering,

Staff Benefit Fund Committee Revived

The Moncton Regional Office Staff Benefit Fund Committee (SBFC) was revived in late October after the election of a new Executive Committee. Elected members are: Rachel Léger, President, Jim Wade, Vice-President, Germaine Bernard, Secretary/Treasurer, Eileen Rafuse, Social Director, and Marthe Saulnier. Alternate Social Director. Roland Richard is also actively involved as a management representative. Serge Martin, who replaced Marthe Saulnier while on a maternity leave, is helping with secretarial duties.

The SBFC has organized numerous activities including an unforgettable Christmas dinner party, a Christmas office party, a Christmas children's party, a sleigh ride and a golf tournament. Members of the Executive Committee have also revamped the SBFC constitution and members approved it at a general meeting in February.

Members of the Executive Committee wish to extend a warm thank you to the following persons who did maintain activities over the past few years: Don Cormier, Mike LeBlanc, Jacques LeBlanc, Paul LeBlanc, Eileen Rafuse and all helpers from the past who generously gave their time to make sure that events were successful.

Seminar on Interpersonal Communications

by Eileen Rafuse

Auditioning for the new "Carol Burnette Show"? No, casting has been completed for this season!

Seen here are the participants of one of DOC's human resources seminars namely: "Interpersonal Communications". Held last November, this seminar was the result of the employees poll conducted last year in which we were asked to rank seminars or courses available to us, according to their importance. This particular seminar was rated a very big success with the employees of the Region. Everyone came away with a feeling of high self-worth.

Top photo: from left to right, front row Rachel Léger, Luvina Thomas, Brenda Cormier, Claudine Hetherington; back row: Eileen Rafuse, Lynn Mercer, Mary Clare Butler, Bernice Sears, course instructor Reg Craig, Lucille Belliveau, Murdina Sampson, Micheline St-Germain and Loretta O'Neil.

Bottom photo: from left to right, front row: Irene Reid, Lucille Leger, course instructor Reg Craig, Leslee Patriquin, Linda Harrigan; back row: Janice Wombolt, Anita Le Blanc, Germaine Bernard, France Jean, Léo-Paul Drisdelle, Ghislaine Didham, Al Dionne, and Nancy Fraser.







Baby Saulnier

Marthe Saulnier, Administrative Assistant in Moncton, is very proud of her new little bundle of joy. Luc was born on November 6, 1991, weighing eight pounds and four ounces. Mother is seen here with three months old son during a short visit at the Regional Office. Congratulations to both, Marthe and Rick Saulnier.

GORDON POLE A Passionate Character

by Cheryl Lowe

What do a passion for historical research, a fascination with inventors, and an aquarium with no fish have in common? They belong to Gordon Pole, Manager of GTA for Nova Scotia. Pole has been with GTA for 16 years, following a career in data communications with the New Brunswick Telephone Company. For he and his family, Halifax was the 33rd move! Bom in Toronto, Pole delivered telegrams as a boy, and later studied industrial engineering at Ryerson. He has always had an intense interest in communications technology.

Atlantic Region staff will recognize Pole as the author of "Dreamers and Doers" - a series of feature articles he writes for their newsletter, Atlantic InterComm. Pole has a knack for presenting characters from history in an anecdotal way. They become much more than just names and facts from the past. Menlike Marconi, Gisborne, Fessenden, Bell and Henry have taken on three-dimensional personalities through his writing, and we are exposed to their lives and times as if peering through a keyhole into the past.

"The inventors had a common thread

that tied them together," says Pole, "We only observe phenomena and take it for granted...these people asked why!" His



eyes light up when he talks about a definitive book on communications, dated 1885, which has discussions between such men as Alexander Graham Bell and Joseph Henry. "Do you know what Edison said when he was asked why he never got tired of trying things over and over?" asks Pole. "Because now I know 10,000 things that don't work!" he quotes.

Pole has a special project for the future - a book for which he has already written the outline. He began the historical research in 1974. The main character, Obediah, has worked for each of the inventors in his book. "Obe's adventures take him to Williams machine shop in Boston where the early inventors worked," says Pole. "You know, they were all kind of strange...Edison's sleeplessness is famous, and Bell didn't like moonlight..." He talks about these men as if they were personal acquaintances.

"If I had to do it again, I might not have moved around so much," says Pole, "but otherwise I wouldn't change a lot. There has to be something more though," he says. "I want to give something back, to leave my mark." Perhaps that mark is to be alive through Obediah.

And the empty aquarium bubbling away in his office? "As soon as I put fish in it, I'll be transferred," says Pole with a smile. "That just always happens!"



Mayor Visits Communications Canada Stand at Marine '91

Cynthia Pottle, GTA's District Office Clerk in St. John's (sitting), meets City of St. John's mayor, Shannie Duff, who stopped by DOC's booth, at the Marine '91 show. This year, the show was held on November 7, 8 and 9. Coordination at DOC's booth was handled by Gordon Garland. The following staff members also participed in this year's edition of Marine '91: Dave Bouzane, Tom Grant, Lynn Mercer, Loretta O'Neil, Jeff Butt and Bob O'Leary.