

June 29/82

Garth Hall presented pictures which could be used for a 40th anniversary display. It was decided that the display should consist of two 4x8 boards which could be used on both sides. This type of display would accommodate approx. 140, 5x7 pictures set in 8½x11 covers.

-The committee chose approx. 100 pictures of those present to be used in the display. More pictures are available from which the remaining 40 will be chosen.

The re-union of the 341 engineering regiment was discussed. The re-union is to take place on July 9, 10 & 11th in Dawson Creek. A problem has arisen because our committee had not heard back from either the regiment or from our regional tourist office whether or not they wanted us to go ahead with any arrangements we suggested, because of this, nothing has been planned. It was agreed that our committee would provide as much as possible with such short notice including:

-Registration evening on Friday July 9th. Provide Donuts, coffee and information table displays. The registration will take place between 7:00 - 10:00 p.m.

-Tours of the Pioneer Village. These can be arranged for Saturday the 10th if requested by the regiment.

-Dance at the Sr. Citizens Hall on Saturday evening.

All arrangements are difficult as we have no idea how many people are planning to attend the re-union.

- The picture display will be completed by July 9th and can be used for registration as well as decoration for the dance.
- The Heritage Service Rodeo will be going on the 10th & 11th.

July 23rd Dance

Fred Horne has contacted Canadian Consolidated Salvage to arrange for the use of mess tents and parachuts to decorate the Hall.

Alfie Seidl has confirmed the band, they are waiting to see what fee we will offer them. It was agreed to offer the band \$300. plus meals.

Ticket price will be \$5.00 per person which will include a midnight supper.

Meetings will be held every second week during the summer. Next meeting date will be Tuesday, July 13/82 at the Sr. Citizens Hall.

Pictures chosen from books

3 bottom, 7, 13, 18, 19, 20, 35, 37, 43, 45, 50

June 15/82

7:00 p.m.

Sr. Citizens Hall

Dorthea Calverley - Displayed the completed map of Dawson Creek as it was before the building of the Alaska Highway began. Mrs. Calverley would like to keep the original map but would allow the committee to copy it for their use. Blaine Nicholson will obtain a copy of the map this week.

Suggested uses for the map:

- Part of the 1940's picture display
- run in newspaper as part of an awareness campaign for the anniversary.
- have it made into placemats for use in local restaurants.

Fred Horne - Stated that he would like to have dance tickets made up but needs to know who the band will be and the times they will be playing. -It was generally agreed to hire the "Regan" band from 9:00 - 1:00. Ideas for decorations were discussed, including:

- Silver balloons
- Parachutes
- picture displays

Garth Hall - Circulated photo albums containing some of the pictures to be used in the 1940's picture display. A discussion ensued as to whether the picture display should be contained in albums or on a large upright display board. Consensus of opinion was that the upright display would be more noticeable and easier for more people to see at one time.

Blaine Nicholson - reported that he will be distributing 40th anniversary buttons to local merchants this week.

Dorthea Calverley - Noted the importance of the Kistkatinaw bridge (built in 1943), and suggested that the 40th anniversary celebrations should include some type of recognition of the bridge's importance. The bridge is the longest curved trestle bridge in the world.

Sid Cooper - Procedure for 1983 homecoming registration:

1. send out registration forms advising of the cost and of general events.
2. When registration form is received, send out a more detailed brochure.

Mr. Cooper will draw up a registration form and will report back to next week's meeting as to a definite date to hold the homecoming.

Mike Gavin - Legion cards, inviting people returning for the celebration to the privileges of the local legion, are now ready.

- The "Mud Madness" which was to be sponsored by the Kinsmen Club will not be held this year. It was suggested that the Kinsmen try to hold this type of event in 1983 during the homecoming.

Blaine Nicholson - Reported on a meeting he had with a P.W.A. rep., regarding the possibility of having P.W.A. host an anniversary event. The representative suggested that they would be happy to sponsor an event, especially if they are given exposure in the 40th anniversary information packages and if they can foresee increased air travel as a result of the celebrations.

Next meeting date : Tues. June 22/82 Sr. Citizens Hall

MILE '0' ALASKA HIGHWAY 40th ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE MEETING

7:00 pm
Dowd Realdy

June 8/82

Blaine Nicholson circulated an outline for the certificate to be presented to those who worked on the Alaska Highway. There may be a problem with regards to cost of having the certificates printed. Blaine will be contacting the printers again to determine if they can be printed at a more reasonable cost.

Sid Cooper stated that the U.S. Army did not build the Alaska Highway, only the "tote" road. He suggested that our committee cater more activities towards the private contractors. Mr. Cooper further suggested that our committee begin planning now for a homecoming week in 1983.

Homecoming week ideas:

- We should find out dates for next years fall fair and try to co-ordinate the homecoming week around that time. Perhaps the week before so that many of the people will stay for the Fall Fair.

-A brochure should be made as soon as a date is decided upon. The brochure does not have to contain specific scheduled events.

-Brochures should be given to tourists and to local people who will then send them to friends who may be interested.

-Brochures should contain registration forms.

-Everyone who registers should receive a commemorative certificate.

The next committee meeting will be dedicated to discussions regarding the 1983 homecoming. Alfie Seidl will talk to Mel Benson from the Fall Fair Board to determine when next years fall fair will be held.

Fred Horne has confirmed the Elks Hall for July 23rd. The Elks will take care of the bar. Decorations will have to go up on Friday as the hall is being used on Thursday. Mr. Dunaway mentioned that the band should play ballroom dance music. Alfie has been negotiating with a band which will play 40s music. Blaine will also contact bands he knows of in Grande Prairie. The committee agreed that we should sponsor only 1 dance this year. It was also decided that the Sr. Citizens should run a dance on July 10th when the regiment is in town.

Blaine reported that the signs showing the location of old army camps are now back up.

It was agreed that the 40th anniversary buttons will be sold to merchants for 75¢ each with a suggested retail price of \$1.00.

ADJOURNMENT

NEXT MEETING DATE: Tuesday 7:00 pm. Sr. Citizens Hall.

MILE '0' ALASKA HIGHWAY 40TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE MEETING

Sr. Citizens Hall

June 1, 1982

Alfie Seidl advised that the 40th anniversary logo will soon be available at our local community level. We will then be able to offer the logo to P.W.A. for display inside their planes.

Royal Canadian Legion is printing cards which welcomes tourists to the rights and privileges of the local Legion. The cards will be available at the Chamber of Commerce tourist center to be given out to the people who worked on the Alaska Highway.

It was suggested that a 40th anniversary flag should fly from one of the tourist offices flag poles. Alfie Seidl will make arrangements to have a flag made.

Garth Hall suggested that the read-o-gram at hotels and stores should display messages of welcome to visitors returning for 40th anniversary celebrations. Blaine will investigate the possibility of having a sign erected at the Stone Cairn. A short history of the Alaska Highway is to be written on the sign.

The P.W.A. luncheon honoring people of the transportation industry was discussed. Cathy Cole suggested that some type of commemorative award be presented to local residents who participated in the building of the Highway. It was decided a certificate would be made. Some advertising will be done asking people who worked on the Highway, or if someone knows of a person who worked on the Highway to submit their name. The names can be submitted by calling the Chamber of Commerce office. A form letter will be written to go along with the Certificate inviting the people to attend a dinner sponsored by P.W.A. A date will be decided at a later date.

Alfie reported that 1,000 40th anniversary buttons were printed. The quality was not satisfactory and the buttons have now been returned.

Alfie has booked the Elks hall for July 23rd for the 40th anniversary dance. Cathy noted that there were no caravans scheduled in town on that day and that it was unfortunate that we would not have their participation.

Blaine reported that the Lions Club is thinking of running salmon barbecues throughout the summer.

Jean is working with the antique car club to arrange tours of the city for visitors.

A suggestion was made to have signs erected marking the sites of original army camps in Dawson Creek. Blaine will contact Sam Barber at City Hall to inquire if the City could assist in this regard.

ADJOURNMENT

NEXT MEETING DATE: Tuesday June 8/82
7:00 pm Sr. Citizens Hall

*respectfully
submitted
Cathy Cole*

MILE '0' ALASKA HIGHWAY 40TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE MEETING

Sr. Citizens Hall

May 11, 1982

Present:

Blaine Nicholson
Dorthea Calverley
Jane Dunaway

Carol Irwin
Muriel Washington
Jean Hunter

Nora Eberle
Cathy Cole

Mrs. Calverley presented a map she has been working on showing Dawson Creek business names and locations during the 1940s. Mrs. Calverley still has other names to add to the map but has to further research their locations. Although it was originally planned to use the map on placemats it now appears that the map would be too large and detailed. Carol Irwin will contact school art classes to see if they would be interested in drawing the map for display purposes. Blaine Nicholson will also contact Stable & Assoc. to request their assistance.

Dick Sequens has sent a tentative schedule to the 341st regiment for July 9, 10 & 11th. Our committee will now await a reply before proceeding with arrangements.

Muriel Washington advised that the Kilkerran Tea will be held from 2:00 - 4:00 on June 9th. Quilts will be displayed and raffled off.

The Kinsmen Club have now ordered souvenir hats, pins & spoons. They will be giving our committee a sum of money for the use of the logo. Blaine would like to see this money channelled into the fund for the travelling picture display. Sam Barber from the City of Dawson Creek has offered to obtain a film of the building of the Alaska Highway from Northern Lights College. This film could be used, along with the picture display, at the N.A.R. Station as a tourist attraction.

Blaine reported that there may be a possibility to hire a student for the summer through the Federal Government Youth Employment Program.

Carol Irwin reported that she may be able to arrange to have the Ft. Nelson marching band stop in Dawson Creek to give a concert on their way to the Calgary Stampede.

It was suggested that a band festival could be held with the bands playing music from the 40s. Mrs. Irwin advised that the bands would need more lead time to prepare repertoires of 40s music. Another suggestion was made to have a dance band which already plays 40s music to play a 40s dance. Monies received from the dance could go towards further promotion of the 40th anniversary. The dance is to be held July 24th. Blaine Nicholson will look into hall rental and Carol Irwin is in charge of finding a band.

Alfie Seidl is working on an awards ceremony. P.W.A. would sponsor the ceremony which would recognize people from the transportation industry of the 40s. Blaine will ask Alfie to contact Dorthea Calverley for her input regarding people who should be honored. The committee would like to see the banquet held on Friday July 23rd so that we can concentrate on a specific week to plan most of the anniversary events. Examples of people to be honored:

First Guide Up the Alaska Hwy
 First Party

McConeckey
 Loiselle
 Napoleon Thomas etc.

John Wilson from the Center Cinema contacted the Chamber office offering to try to bring in films from the 1940s to show at his theatre. All present agreed that Mr. Wilson should be encouraged to bring the films in during the week of July 14-24th, thereby concentrating on the same week. It was also suggested that the film on the building of the Highway could be shown before the full length feature. Suggestions for films to bring in:

Gone with the Wind
 Springtime - (Jeanette McDonald & Nelson Eddy)
 Bing Crosby films

Dorthea Calverley read a letter from a Mr. Wilson. Mr. Wilson had written to Curtis Nordman from Northern Lights College in Ft. St. John regarding the myths that have developed regarding the Alaska Highway.

A short discussion followed.

The official name of the committee will be "Mile '0' Alaska Hwy 40th Anniversary Committee."

ADJOURNMENT

NEXT MEETING DATE: Tuesday May 18/82
 7:00 pm Sr. Citizens Hall

*Respectfully
 Submitted
 Cathy Cole*

City Hall

April 28, 1982

Blaine Nicholson Chaired the meeting.

- Committee names and duties were circulated.
- Regional Calendar of Events was circulated.

Blaine explained the list of duties and established specific assignments for committee members.

The 341st Engineering regiment has confirmed the dates of July 9, 10 & 11 to be in Dawson Creek for their re-union. 10 rooms have already been booked at the George Dawson Inn. Mr. Sequens will report to the Committee when he is advised of numbers attending.

Committee members in charge of constructing a picture display(portable), will receive direction from Curtis Nordman of Ft. St. John Northern Lights College. Dick Sequens offered his assistance in reproducing pictures. When the anniversary celebrations are completed the display will be used for permanent showing at the museum.

Mike Gavin and the Kinsmen Club will be producing souvenir items with the 40th Anniversary logo on them. It was decided at the last steering committee meeting that there will not be a set charge for logo use.

Mr. Gavin is also responsible to try to involve the local Legion Branch to operate a "Canteen" similar to that being operated in Ft. St. John. A suggestion was made that people wearing 40th Anniversary buttons be allowed a free drink.

Alfie Seidl is presently receiving quotes on making 40th Anniversary Buttons. Mr. Seidl assured the committee that local businesses will be given preference.

Dick Sequens and Alfie Seidl will be responsible for press release items.

Brenda Colclough received suggestions for possible childrens events including a balloon release, treasure hunt (children have to answer questions re: Alaska Hwy before completing stages, these questions will best be answered by questioning old timers from the area), and to have schools participate by writing compositions on what the Alaska Hwy has meant to Dawson Creek.

Jean Hunter received the initial list of people who were involved with the Alaska Hwy and are still living in the district. Mrs. Hunter will complete the list and obtain phone numbers so these people can be used as resource people and also so they can be invited to events. Mrs. Hunter is also working on a map of Dawson Creek showing all of the original buildings from the 1940s which are still standing today. It was suggested that the map could be incorporated into a place mat with advertising surrounding it to cover costs.

A tentative schedule for July 9, 10 & 11th was discussed.

Friday July 9th - Registration at the Sr. Citizens Hall. Displays of pictures will be set up and coffee will be available. Local people who worked on the highway will be present.

Saturday July 10 - Gene Wilkinson will provide tours of the area in antique cars.
- Dance at the Sr. Citizens Hall

Sunday July 11 - Mr. Sequens advised that the regiments had requested Catholic and Protestant Church services. The Protestant service will take place at the Rolla Village Chapel. Mr. Sequens will be working to arrange a Catholic service.

Other suggestions during the 3 days include:

- Tour of the Pioneer village guided by Historical Society
- Tours of W.A.C. Bennett Dam
- W.I. members have offered to have people visit their farms.
- Heritage service rodeo will be taking place on the 10th & 11th.
- Kiwanis "mud madness" 4X4 race is tentatively scheduled.

It was suggested that a letter be sent to the regiment when plans are better known. The letter would show a possible calendar of events and request that the organizers advise our group as to which events they would be interested in or if we could organize events they wish to participate in

Blaine Nicholson explained that he has not yet received confirmation of when the army vehicles (tanks etc.) will be in Dawson Creek. The vehicles will be painted to look like authentic U.S. army vehicles and will have Canadian soldiers dressed as American soldiers riding in them. The estimated cost to Dawson Creek will be gas & oil while they are in our City.

COMMITTEE NAME

A brainstorming session was held to try and determine a committee name. Over 30 names were suggested following were some of the more popular names:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| North to Alaska | Mud & Mosquito Madness |
| Hwy North | The Great 42 connection |
| Northern Adventure | The Great Road North |
| Welcome back to the Great White North | |
| Mile '0' North Committee | D.C. Anniversary Committee |
| Alaska Hwy Anniversary Committee | |

Fred Horne, Alfie Seidl, Blaine Nicholson & Cathy Cole will decide on the name.

Dick Sequens advised the Committee that if specific events are planned the Minister of Tourism and possibly a few other cabinet ministers will take part in the event and possibly drive part of the Highway.

MEETING ADJOURNED: Next meeting date Tuesday May 11/82 Sr. Citizens Hall