



Diveky Times

Volume 9
Christmas, 1998

Weather We Like It or Not

Winter promises to hurt less this year. A dry spring and summer brought the bears right into town for their August groceries — once right to the end of our street — because there were no berries for them (it's their favourite food, that's why they're called bearies). For us, no cranberry jam, no rosehip tea but thank goodness for cat Dex who worked day and night chasing birds away from Janet's raspberry patch. In September our geraniums stayed out two weeks longer than usual. Then it looked like Janet's dream of a gre'en Hallowe'en would come true but it snowed at the eleventh hour, only to melt away a couple of days later. Our Elders predict an early and rough winter but as an Elder-in-Training I proclaim my own ecologically incorrect view: "Hurrah for global warming! The sooner the better". Mind you, caribou and their hunters are having a hard time on unseasonably thin ice and not enough snow for easy travel on the land.



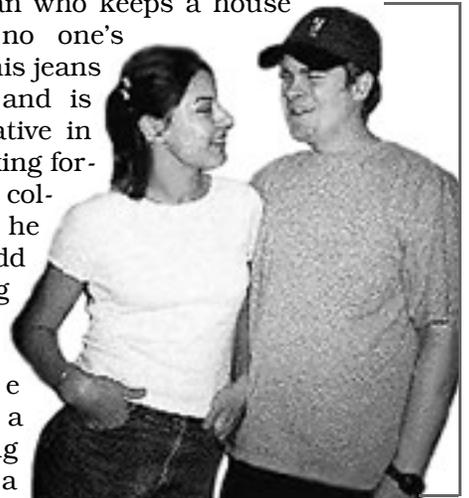
Men in Black

"Avant-guarde by Yellowknife standards," and, "we want more", said the paper about "Travels With My Aunt", the play George directed last spring. Based on Graham Greene's novel, it's a delightful complexity of plot, place and 34 people, men and women of all ages, shapes and sizes, a dog, all played by 4 male actors in black business suits. "Very gratifying", says G. of the play's success, "but next time we won't take so long to put the show together." I wonder: he's been reading "Waiting for Godot" lately, over and over, scribbling, day-dreaming....



I Am Never Leaving Home...

... was Andrew's firm stance until he took over Eva and Corey's house while they were away. Now he has reconsidered: "I'll always live nearby so I can come home for meals and laundry". This comes from a young man who keeps a house spotless when no one's looking, washes his jeans every two days and is fearless and creative in the kitchen! Looking forward to entering college in February, he now does the odd job while waiting for the end of the school day when Catherine appears. She's a smart, charming girl who writes a weekly teenager column for our newspaper and who likes him as much as he likes her. We all like Catherine, she seems part of our family. And no wonder: Andrew, like his father, shows very good judgment (luck?) in such matters ...



Back to the Books

After another ten-year teaching stint Janet is back in the library again and she's having a great time. Instead of homework Janet now brings home free time for her pottery (she sold a record \$35.00's worth this year), taking Jackie swimming, fund-raising, skiing, keeping busy as ever on top of being a full-time Grandma.



Lewis Leave Lotusland for Calgary, leaving lots of loyal friends behind. We miss them very much but we know summer will lure them back for a refresher. Best wishes, Della and Brian.



Drop Us A Line:

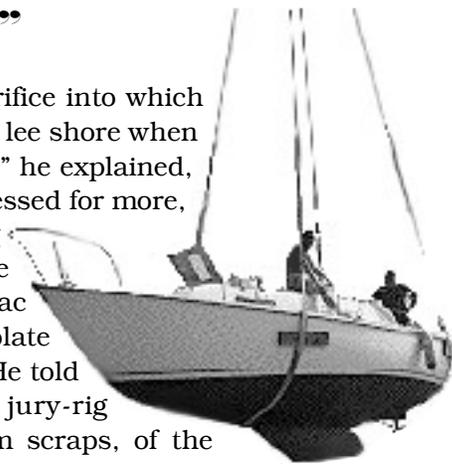
janet_diveky@learn.net.nt.ca
diveky@in.ternorth.com

Have a happy '99 and a bug-free YK2.

“It’s Like Having Your Bum Fall Off...”

... said Cap’n George of his annual adventure in Orpheus, the floating orifice into which he stuffs his cash. “There I was in a nasty near-gale, tacking away from a lee shore when the rudder fell off. It peeled away and sank, Orpheus beelined landward,” he explained, “... but enough said! The main thing is I’m here to tell you about it.” Pressed for more, the Cap’n reluctantly told of his struggle with wind and wave, towing

Orpheus in the dark, his Zodiac filled with chocolate bars and spray. He told of his cunning jury-rig rudder made from scraps, of the Kraken that later holed his boat, of pumping and steering, steering and pumping on his Ulyssean journey home. “But the worst blow was missing the hat-trick for the Griswold Cup” (*’97, Sailing by Braille; ’96, Underwater Rock Painting*). The Griswold went instead to Kathleen and Reg for anchoring their boat by capsizing it and securing the mast to the bottom. “Parvenus,” says the Cap’n, sneering affably.



Il Bel Paese at Last . . .

What a delight it was to return Rosemarie and Ricardo’s warm and generous hospitality when they came to see us in June, all the way from Milan via the Bascoli di Siena, Québec, Montréal, Toronto, Edmonton. But they wanted Canada, not cities like cities anywhere, so: minor oohs and aahs only, until they reached our beautiful unpaved summer paradise. They loved it here. They were charmed by the town, awed by the wilderness, astounded by clean air and enjoyed the grillades, street dancing and midnight shopping on Raven Mad Daze, our June 21 celebration of the midnight sun. Most of all, they loved the openness and friendliness of our people. What fun we had, how easily they made friends and how sorry we were to see them go — with Mo and Dave Miller who took them to a family birthday dinner in Calgary, q.e.d. Heading home from Vancouver they called to say they had the best time of all here in the North (with the notably diplomatic exception of their visit with Susie in Toronto).



Susie Wins Gold in Host Olympics

George shows up in Fort Lauderdale in January for a wonderful lazy two weeks in the sun. Rosemarie and Ricardo visit in Toronto in June. July: Janet arrives and off they go on an adventure with Hovercraft, beach landings, forced marches and the second act of “You Can’t Take It With You” at Niagara-on-the-Lake. Then more theater, uninhibited shopping and a round of visits to family and friends. In October Susie opens her door and there’s George again, time for two more lazy weeks. Jackie, Corey and Eva go by in November but Susie’s in Florida so they see a hockey game instead (Jackie claps and cheers and the Leafs win). Thank you, Susie, we love seeing you and you’ve really earned your gold medal.



Jackie On the Road

Jackie, Corey and Eva visited Corey’s family in Springdale, Newfoundland where Loretta and Ray and family were as charmed by their new granddaughter as we are. It was Corey’s first visit in years, high time for Loretta and Ray to see *their* baby again. Eva was taken with the beauty of the hills and sea and forest and especially by the friendliness and good humour she found everywhere. They went on to St. Steven in New Brunswick where Eva met her natural Mom for the first time, Jackie’s third grandma! They enjoyed a few days there with splendid picture-window views of the sea at the edge of the front yard! Eva liked it so much she brought back real-estate brochures for us ... temptations.



See Corey’s home town: the Wells family lives near the first houses down from the center of the picture.