



FRIENDS OF BARKERVILLE

Cariboo Goldfields Historical Society

VOL.10 ISSUE 1

"March brings breezes loud and shrill
to wake the town of Barkerville."

MARCH 2006

THE CURATOR'S CORNER

by Bill Quackenbush

From Research To Exhibit At Barkerville

Research at Barkerville is the driving force behind the exhibits. Some research is devoted to artifacts, some to buildings, some to the landscapes and some to the people.

Interesting information from the Minister of Mines reports has been discovered about an air compressor that has sat next to the games field in Chinatown for years. Shipped to a Slough Creek mine in 1899, it took two years to arrive. It supplied air and air pressure to the mine. The miners had to decompress as they came up out of the deep ground. A great venting stack still emerges from the ground and the remains of the mine entrance, blacksmith shop and associated town with gardens is testament to this 1900 going concern. They used the latest devices to assist in the extraction of gold. Many of the miners were Chinese and photographs in Bill Hong's book, "And So..That's How It Happened", shows the stacks of cord wood that kept the boilers going.

Around 1920, photographs of Bonner's Western Deep Lead Mine show a scatter of buildings across a virtually treeless hillside. Now, a small road off the Bowron Lake road leads through a forest past the mine shaft. A pond on the other side of the Bowron Lake road is quite large and is thought to have been built to hold water for this enterprise. Later Gunnar Halverson built a cabin on this pond and the remains from enterprises as late as the 1990s are near by. In reading through the Minister of Mines reports for the Bonner mine, I discovered that they had an elevator to take them down into the great depths that this mine went in exploration; (not much is reported in terms of gold recovery). In examining one of the artifacts in the field next to the above-mentioned compressor, I discovered the frame for the elevator transport used in this mine.

The Hay Shed behind the Halverson House mining exhibit is now the home of these and other of our large pieces of mining machinery. Underway for 6 years, this exhibit also features a restored Rustin Engine used in the Cariboo Gold Quartz mine, as well as pelton wheels and steam winches. It forms part of what is new in 2006

(continued on Page 3.....)

THE PRESIDENT'S PERCH

by Pat Pickering

Who would believe it is almost time to open Barkerville for the season! It has been a busy winter with a goodly amount of snow which will bode well for the run-off and in turn help with the dryness this summer.

In December, we opened the Hotel for both the "Old Fashioned Christmas" weekends. The weather co-operated this year and we had no power outages as we have had in other years. We also had running water and a bathroom available which made it much more comfortable for both the visitors and the volunteers. Thanks to all who came to help. It surely contributed to making both weekends a success.

We will be making a few changes at the Hotel this summer. We are trying to re-arrange the displays so that we are able to make our goods more visible and more compact. The Committee met and decided to hire Cathy Eisma full time and we have also hired Phyllis Smith from Cottonwood to fill in on Cathy's days off. Cathy will be in charge at the Hotel this year. She will certainly need volunteers to help out at busy times. Volunteers will find some changes. All goods will include sales tax where applicable. This will make it easier to do the sales. Cathy will also do the ordering and inventory entries in the computer. So she will need volunteers there to give her time to carry out these additional chores.

As you will read in other articles in the newsletter, we have had a meeting with Barkerville staff to discuss areas in need of volunteers. We will be actively recruiting additional volunteers in the very near future. We want the experience to be fun as well as helpful. **If any of the volunteer positions noted on Page 8 are of interest to you, please phone our Phoning Committee Chairman, Joan Huxley, 992-2696, in order for your name to be put on a list.**

Barkerville Heritage Trust has had a busy winter as well. As reported in the last newsletter, we hired a consulting firm to come up with a business plan for Barkerville. Secret Sea Consulting reviewed the books, the revenues, expenses, staff, work processes and general running of Barkerville. They held some public meetings to ask what outsiders felt about Barkerville and to discuss what felt could might be done to put Barkerville on the right track for success.

(Continued on Page 3.....)

Trails said that plans for the summer work and work parties were being discussed with probably the foremost plan being devoted to the completion of the huge grooming job started on the Stanley Cemetery and brought close to completion last fall. Drawings are being done to show ways whereby amenities to visitors might be provided at the site.

Directors for the **Blacksmith Shop and Waterwheel Committees** were unavailable -- (still enjoying the last of New Year festivities, no doubt.)

Newsletter: In view of the rising costs of postage and the rising number of memberships that still receive the Newsletter by mail, it was decided to reduce publication from 4 issues to 3 annually.

Membership: It is too early in the season for a count of new members. New cards are being printed.

Phoning Committee is presently chaired by Joan Huxley who has these details in hand.

Barkerville Hotel: The Christmas opening for two weekends, while not a great money-maker, did provide a haven of warmth, camaraderie, hot apple cider, cookies and taffy pulling. A nominal sum was realized after the weekends.

Old Business: We intend to revive the usual annual raffle for which we have had donations of prizes. The pool table requires some repair to the felt.

New Business: We were made aware of CRD and Heritage Designation of special sites and will receive information on this project later.

Meeting February 9/06:

Going directly to the business of the meeting a letter of appreciation was received from Christie Wilkins on being chosen as the winner of last year's Jerry MacDonald Bursary.

Discussion took place on proposals for the Wells - Barkerville Cemetery which needs further perusal of the Cemetery Act, this in care of Trustee Carol McGregor..

Committee Reports: Both Trails and Newsletter Committees provided budgets outlining funds they feel might be required to carry out summer work and maintenance and further newsletters.

Membership: Since memberships in the FOB are sold at the Visitors' Center, a "partnership" for sharing the proceeds has been struck, with the FOB'S share ear-marked toward the replacement of the aging waterwheel.

Barkerville Hotel: Cathy Eisma, who worked for FOB at the Hotel last summer, will be on hand once again as manager and in charge of the ordering, with relief help two days a week.

Other Committees are all in order and waiting for the action to start.

Barkerville Heritage Trust : See President's Report
FR PAGE

New Business: Ronda Wilkins, Director Electoral Area C -- (Barlow, Bowron, Cottonwood) CRD, attended the meeting and noted that it is intended that specific heritage areas will be registered. She also said that progression in the fight of the pine beetle should be noted along the Barkerville Corridor to answer the inevitable questions of tourists. (Cont. P. 5)

Two committees without chair designates:

Fundraising Committee and B. C. 's 150th Anniversary Committee

The following brief re-cap on the past three meetings may be of interest, in part if not totally, to our members at large.

The question of whether or not the Friends of Barkerville should have a representative on the Community Foundation Committee was considered, but the meeting felt that this should be questioned further with the possible impending of grant applications in mind.

The continuation of the Jerry MacDonald Bursary of \$500. for the best historical article submitted by a senior secondary student of either the Quesnel Secondary School or Correlieu Secondary was approved. The necessary papers were forwarded to the Manager of School Bursaries.

Committee Reports: Robin Grady speaking for

Continuing Report by Bill Quackenbush)

Also new is the restored Nicol Hotel.. Tommy Nicol was prominent in Barkerville from about 1900 to the 1930s and was the operator of the hotel for many years, as well as being involved in mining. The exhibit, which is under construction and expected to be opening on the June 24th weekend, features the firearms, bottles, jewellery, clothing and fabrics collections at Barkerville on the main floor.

On the second floor we have a surprise as we are blowing our own horn by showing people how we develop exhibits, from research on the buildings and the people, to the selection of wallpapers. We are leaving a good portion of the second floor in the same state in which we started -- dirty, messy and looking like it is ready to fall apart. To a degree, it is in defence of having to explain to people that there are new exhibits every year and having some say things like "there has not been any change at Barkerville in 15 years." There has been plenty of change, but the biggest change we need is in the attendance register to keep this gem of the Cariboo alive. So, should you get a chance, bring your friends and relatives up and smell the ...roses...and the thorns, and really take a good look around -- behind the building where there are doors that open onto the mysteries of Chinese life, in the kitchen and upstairs where you can learn about these old buildings. Could anyone imagine a hotel room without a closet, or a wall so thin you could hear the bed bugs scream in the room three doors down.

B.Q.

(Continuing the President's Report.....)

Thank you to all those who gave their time to participate in this important step of the process. The Trust received the draft Business Plan in early March and now have the huge job to decide what parts will be adopted. It was decided that we still needed to recruit a CEO and this process is in progress. The job competition closes on April 6th. We also advertised for a replacement for Danielle Kugelstadt who bid out to another job in Williams Lake. The Trust has set up several meeting dates so that we can get on with adopting recommendations from the business plan. We will also be holding the annual General meeting on May 14th in Barkerville. Watch for date and time in the local newspapers. This meeting will be open to the public. We will be adding to our Barkerville Heritage Trust membership with three "members at large" which was laid out in our by-laws at the time of the Management agreement with the Government. As I am your representative on this Board, feel free to contact me if you have any concerns. My phone number is 747-0112, or e-mail is <patp@goldcity.net>

I look forward to meeting many of you in Barkerville. Best wishes for a wonderful summer.

Respectfully submitted, Pat Pickering.

"Success seems largely to be a matter of hanging on after others have let go."

TRAILS COMMITTEE REPORT

by Robin Grady

It is time to start thinking about hiking again; hopefully the snow pack doesn't get to be much more than we have now. I think it is below normal for this time of year, so it may melt and dry up sooner. That was before I was up to Barkerville the other day and realized there is quite a bit of snow, with daily additions.)

Our first priority will be to finish the work at the Stanley Cemetery, painting the fence, moving the sign, building the entrance kiosk and whatever else is needed. Tied in with this, we would like to redo the fence at Blessing's grave site, by using some of the pickets from Stanley and some treated corner posts. It was hoped that we could get the Government to put in a toilet at Stanley and /or Blessing's grave, but with their 2010 budget hats on really tight, they are telling us to "hold it" until you get to Wells, or do whatever is needed before leaving Quesnel. There will also be work to be done at the Richfield Cemetery, rolling up some of the wire fencing and stabilizing the fence posts along the bottom portion.

As soon as we can hike the trails, we would like to get several speedy types to quickly hike all the trails to give us an idea of what trail work may be needed to clean up any debris or damage on the trails. We know that several of the campsites on the 1861 trail need some work on the tables, waterholes and toilets. If there is serious blow down along the trails, we will have to hire some powersaw people to do the work; if it is minor and we can get to it easily, we will do it ourselves with volunteers.

We still have quite a few signs to install and are having additional ones made that will be installed along all the trails that we work on and hike during the summer.

With the up-coming National Trail Annual General Meeting on May 6th in Quesnel, it would be nice to have the Quesnel River portion at least flagged and possibly blazed

The Quesnel Naturalists Club now has a hiking club within it, so there will be several hikes organized by this group. They will be posting the hikes, as some will rate "easy" and others will be more difficult. The rating of the hike will be from a standard that has been used by many clubs. (Usually by distance, elevation change, and time to complete.)

Most of our hikes, (Friends of Barkerville), have been rated moderate to hard mainly due to distance and time. We have marked a short "loop" trail from Richfield up Williams Creek and return along a leveled ditch line to the 1861 Gold Rush Pack Trail and down to Richfield for a distance of about 6 kilometres plus the hike to and from Barkerville.

Robin Grady, PH. 992-2008

The National Trail of Canada Annual General Meeting will be held May 6, 1:00 PM at Jean Speare's residence, 2525 Bouchie Lake Road; Ph.: 249-5150. President Patrick Harrison of Surrey will be present to Chair the meeting Interested persons most welcome.

A TRILOGY OF READING SUGGESTIONS

from Andy Motherwell

"THE MAN WHO MAPPED THE ARCTIC" by Peter Steele -- Raincoast Books

This is an excellent description of George Back's exploration and mapping of a huge part of northern Canada, before it had a name or boundary, but it also describes his life as a Royal Navy seaman; to being a prisoner of Napoleon for five years while he was still a teenager; to his joining Franklin as a midshipman; to his being on three expeditions with Franklin and to his discovery of the Back River and running its 83 rapids to the Arctic Ocean

What the early explorers and natives endured in privation, starvation, frost bite and phenomenal physical effort is hard to imagine. One outstanding observation in so many tales of early exploration, is how the Europeans failed to learn from their own errors or from the experiences of the natives.

His drawings, descriptions and maps were so accurate that they served for years to those traveling into the Arctic.

It is interesting to note that Franklin disappeared in 1845 -- 1847 period, just as exploration of B. C.'s interior would start. The Admiralty called off the search in 1856 just as the Crimean War was ending. Back died in 1887 at 82, which age was a great achievement in that period. The side notes make this a rewarding read. Enjoy.

"EPIC WANDERER" by D'arcy Jennish -- Anchor Canada. This is a very full description of the amazing feats of exploration, survey and mapping of western Canada by David Thompson. His accurate sketching of the land filled in a lot of what had been wilderness and is now Canada. In spite of very difficult circumstances and primitive instruments, his maps are very accurate in today's world. He has been credited with opening up and linking many rivers, routes and mountain passes so that a better appreciation of the country existed. Many modern historians now give Thompson his due as the premier cartographer of western Canada.

The sad part is that he died in poverty and forgotten. Several historians have tried to diminish his accomplishments as great people are often attacked, but this book and others pay Thompson his due respect.

An earlier look on Thompson's explorations -- Sources of The River -- by Jack Nesbit, details his work in northern Washington. One report of Nesbit is on meeting a gay native who was highly respected among the bands in northern Washington, something of which I have never heard before and illustrating the fact that homosexuality is not a new phenomenon.

"THEY WERE GIANTS IN THOSE DAYS" by Eldon Lee -- Heritage House The author has written several descriptive books on his and his family's lives at 141 Mile

House on the road to Cariboo and Barkerville. The detail he provides of people, places and events gives us a good picture of the life and times from 1842 to a hundred years later. the book shows the great progress we have made in developing the Cariboo, but it also describes a life style now lost and almost forgotten.

The author shows pride in what people from remote small communities and schools could accomplish in the larger world. While Barkerville was developing as a mining town, there were several other activities, such as ranching, trapping, farming and services to people using the Waggon Road.

THE WELLS NAMES BOOK

by Wee

A few years ago, I decided that there should be some record of all the people who had ever lived in Wells. I listed everyone I could remember and had my friends do the same, and gradually, with help, got them into order and into a loose leaf cover that could be left in the Visitors' Center in Barkerville. There people could add more names and make corrections where needed.

At the end of the tourist season, I bring it home and add all the new names and additions people have written down over the summer. Then I put the new edition onto a disc that will be kept in the Barkerville Museum.

It sure is great to see some of the entries by people I haven't heard of, or from, for many years. Many thanks to the Staff at the Visitors' Center for keeping it there where everyone can see it.

NEW BOOKS

Several new books will be found on the shelves of the Friends of Barkerville during the coming season. Although these are not all selected or ordered at this time (March), one in particular holds great interest for local people and readers in general.

"MEMORIES OF A CARIBOO DOCTOR" by Doctor Len Maher, now of Kamloops, but with ten years experience at the Avery Clinic of Quesnel during the 1950s, gives the reader an in-depth, sensitive look at the practice of medicine in our area at that time.

"Cariboo Doctor" will be found at several outlets throughout the Cariboo, at Caryall in Quesnel, \$25.00. and the same at the Friends of Barkerville.

MacGregor's Law: The first one to see a traffic light turn green is the second car back.

from "Thanks" by Marcia & David Kaplan

BARKERVILLE --
UNEXPECTEDLY EDUCATED and CULTURED
by Branwen Patenaude

Barkerville --- a gold mining town named for William Barker became the largest town in North America in 1864.

From the earliest beginnings the community included male and female residents from all over the world, Europe, the Orient, America, Africa, and many other countries.

Each fall with the coming of a long, cold winter, many miners, residents and merchants moved south leaving the remainder to spend the next six months trying to keep warm and seeking indoor occupations.

While there were a few rough and ready gold miners, illiterate and without manners, there were also many highly educated residents..

As early as October of 1868 a Frenchman, Monsieur B. Deffries, advertised in the local Barkerville newspaper, The Sentinel:

"INSTRUCTION

Monsieur B. Deffries, graduate of the Academie de Paris, who will remain on the Creek this winter, will give lessons in French, Spanish, English grammar, Theoretical and Practical Arithmetic."(1)

Later that same winter the Frenchman offered classes in "English comprehension, and classes in the dead languages." (Latin and Greek) So popular were these classes that his premises had to be enlarged to accommodate his pupils. (2)

Reading became a very popular occupation, with discussions on various books being held to stimulate community involvement. In 1864, John Bowron, local postmaster, became the first librarian. With the establishment of a reading room the residents raised \$1000 and petitioned the government to provide a building in Cameronton. The petition was granted, but three years later the facility was moved to a building in Barkerville, where a social centre, concerts and plays were presented.

This was not the only library; there were others along the creek. One of these was the Occidental Cigar store that had a lending library and sold novels.

In 1871 evening classes were offered by a public school teacher, Mr. John Mundell, who offered five different subjects per week for a fee of \$5.00 per month.

There was also a philosophical discussion group named The Pickwick Club that was formed in the fall of 1869. Their meetings were described as "a departure from the ordinary, with discussions on more profound topics or abstract doctrines." (3)

A four-page newsletter, the Cariboo Sentinel, first published in 1865, had a great educational influence on the community. It published for ten years, containing mining news, cultural and educational news, and locally written poetry.

Perhaps the most active cultural group in Barkerville was the Cariboo Amateur Dramatic Association formed in 1865 and produced many plays and musicals over the years

Music also played an important role in the history of Barkerville, and lessons in fiddle, flute, banjo and piano were given by John B. Malanion, a violinist who had played with the Paris Opera.

Barkerville had many Welsh miners. With their experience in tin mining in Wales, and their knowledge of underground mining, they became a valuable resource. The Welsh were wonderful singers and formed a glee club in the late 1860s, giving performances in the Cambrian Hall, built in the 1870s.

Imported from San Francisco in 1865 a group of second generation German girls traveled to Barkerville. Sponsored by a saloon keeper who indentured them until his expenditures were paid back, James Loring of the Terpsichorean Saloon in Cameronton, was probably the first to advertise the Hurdy Gurdy Girls. (4) More a form of exercise than a dance, the young women performed with male partners who threw them up in the air. Although they were not to fraternize with the public, several of the girls married local residents.

Footnotes: 1) Cariboo Sentinel, October 7, 1868

2) Cariboo Sentinel, November 3, 1869

3) Cariboo Sentinel, September 11, 1869

4) Richard Wright, "Barkerville", pp 46-47

(Continuing Meeting Re-cap Mar. 2/06)

Business Arising: A number of items came up for discussion, most of which will get further consideration at future meetings. These include an up-dating on the Wells/Barkerville Cemetery by its Trust; the Purden Lake Road possibility to which committee Ronda Wilkins, CRD, has been named a member; the staffing of the Barkerville Hotel, (now achieved); the need in the Hotel for more display space; and the need for an integrated volunteer system between Barkerville Management and the Friends of Barkerville -- *(this was recently discussed with Management -- see the issues on Pages 7 and 8 of this Newsletter.)*

Financial Report was satisfactory.

Committee Reports:

Trails -- see complete report on Page 3.

Newsletter -- progressing well

Membership -- Committee has plans for an on-going "treasure hunt" geared to school-age members.

Barkerville Hotel -- much the same as February's report.

Barkerville Heritage Trust -- as covered in the President's Report in the current issue of the Newsletter.

(Our next meeting will be April 6/06 Tower Inn, Quesnel)

BARKERVILLE HISTORIC TOWN

2006 Schedule of Events

"Enjoy Living History At Its Best"

Dates or events may change without notice, please call for information

- May 15th** Theatre Royal Spring Show begins (No Show on Sunday) 1/2 hour
May 15th Barkerville School Program : First day of our school programs
- May 22nd** **Victoria Day Afternoon Tea:** Join Barkerville's citizens at the Wake Up Jake Coffee Saloon and Restaurant to honour Queen Victoria's birthday.
- June 17th** Theatre Royal begins summer shows 7 days a week. (Shows are 1 hour)
- July 1st** **Dominion Day Celebrations.** Celebrate Canada's birthday the way they did in 1870. Children's races, Tug-O-War, Funny Face Contest, Greasy Pole Climb, many more fun family events.
- July 21, 22, 23** **End of the Trail Cowboy Festival:** Cowboy Music, poetry, food and special activities all weekend.
- August 5th** **Williams Creek Sports Day:** Games and activities for kids of all ages.
Goldfield Bakery 3rd Annual "Pie Eating Contest": Call (250) 994-3241 for more details.
- August 19th** **Mid-Autumn Festival.** A traditional Chinese celebration honouring Barkerville's Chinese heritage. Begins at dusk with a lantern parade through the streets of Barkerville. Bring your own lantern or make one at our lantern making workshops.
Tenth annual Canadian National Gold Panning Championships. Panners from all over Canada and the Yukon compete in the best gold panning championship in B. C.
Billy Barker's Banquet -- (Provided by the Friends of Barkerville.)
- September 6th** **Fall show at Theatre Royal begins.**
September 30th **Last day of the Theatre Royal show and interpretive programming for the season.**
- October 31st** **Celebrate Halloween:** With a "Ghostly Town Tour" in Barkerville.
- BARKERVILLE "OLD FASHION CHRISTMAS".**
Two weekends before Christmas. (Tentative)
December 9/10 Decorated displays, home baking in the Wendle House. The Goldfield Bakery and
December 16/17 many of the Barkerville businesses will be open for Christmas. Many historic displays will be open. Carol singing at St. Saviour's Church and music in the Visitors Centre. Different activities happening each weekend.

MEETING FOR INTEGRATION OF BARKERVILLE VOLUNTEERS

On March 16, five members of the Friends of Barkerville went to Barkerville to have a meeting with Administration of the heritage town.. The purpose was to find a way by which we can correlate a volunteer system that can be managed from Quesnel, yet be satisfactory to the needs of Barkerville.

This will require a strongly organized chairman (and perhaps an assistant) to enlist a group of volunteers, at the same time maintain a liaison with those involved in Barkerville management.

There appear to be several varied concepts in the necessity for volunteers. There are concepts that may be loosely defined, that do not require tight scheduling.. On the other hand, there are concepts that volunteers cannot carry out without considerable supervision and training. And then there are the many "in-betweens."

Reporting in brief on the requirements put forward by Curator Bill Quackenbush, he needs help with the cataloguing of artefacts and archival records.. This requires people who have had some training, or who are able to work under supervision. Bill specified that he does not want help in the "cleaning" of artefacts unless the help has an understanding of the process." In other words, dusting off Aunt Mary's 200-year old teapot in your own home is not quite the route taken by the curator in charge of Barkerville artefacts.

Quackenbush went further into what we have loosely labeled the "in-betweens", such as the cleaning of external areas of buildings, cleaning of windows, done at particular "time intervals", and requiring less supervision. *(continued on Page 8)*

NOTICE

Membership Application Form for the Year, May 1, 2006 to April 30, 2007

Individual: \$15.00 Family: \$30.00 (For families with children under 18 years of age.)

NEW: _____

RENEWAL: _____

NAME : (1) _____
Surname

Given

NAME: (2) _____
Surname

Given

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

PROV./STATE: _____

POSTAL CODE: _____

COUNTRY: _____

PHONE: _____

E-MAIL: _____

PLEASE PRINT THE ABOVE INFORMATION CLEARLY.

**Friends of Barkerville publish a Newsletter three times a year, Spring, Summer, Fall
which can be viewed or downloaded from our Web Page, www.barkerville.ca**

**FRIENDS OF BARKERVILLE : CARIBOO GOLDFIELDS HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Post Office Box 4152, QUESNEL, B. C. V2J 3J2**

(continuing "Volunteer Integration".....)

Then there are the "gardens" evident from Barkerville's past. A volunteer interested in seeing these brought back to reality would be invaluable. It is interesting to note that the gardens of Barkerville are/were not just areas of beautification, more accurately, they were areas authenticating plants grown there by ethnic groups in the early days. Here, again, is an area for co-operation with the Curator who has made an intensive study of the variety of growths. But, as the Curator concluded, "failing expertise on gardens and plants, just a general clean-up and on-going attention is important."

Not only was Bill Quackenbush on hand with suggestions as to where volunteer assistance would be most appreciated, but also Robin Sharpe, Ruben Berlin, Judy Mooring and Diane Nysven --- not to mention Prancer, the Barkerville resident cat. Out of inter-related discussion with them and with Bill, some major suggestions came forth.

A top requisite in the need for volunteers, (as menial as it may seem at first go-around), is the "Toilet Paper Run". Second to this is the necessity of getting "hand-out information" to incoming visitors, especially at times of staff holidays when even one member of staff away can throw extra responsibility onto others. These two requirements are very important, and while the second one is quite understandable, the first one is of the ultimate need not ordinarily considered as being in dire need of a volunteer. To assist with both of these will require considerable integration between our Volunteer Chairman and Barkerville Management. in order to give at least occasional relief to an already busy staff.

Another issue that will require organization between the two bodies is the achieving of a smoother movement of volunteer workers through the Reception Centre and past lines of visitors both outside and inside the doors. For a visitor to whom "time is of the essence", it can be disconcerting to rationalize the free-and-easy access of that which is not explained. A new routine on this is being achieved..

As stated by the Management group, almost all volunteers will be asked to sign a volunteer form for liability purposes., as well as the time put in on any volunteer job. The "signing in" and the "signing out" of a volunteer, and the area in which he will be working, is imperative for his own safety.

Other Items of Importance were: 1) The Tregillus collection needs much work. 2) A sawmill is still a viable project. 3) There is a small but important cabin needing dis-assembling and rebuilding; the components are all there. 4) Scything of grass and general tidy-up of back street areas. 5) Need ideas for retaining walls at the Wells/Barkerville Cemetery. (The Cemetery Trust may come up with management here.) 6) Attention must also be given to Chinese Cemetery near Richfield. 7) The bulkhead area needs on-going stabilization. 8) Stouts Gulch and Conklins Gulch require spring run-off cleanup of collected debris. 9) Painting of smaller buildings. 10) Landscaping around newer projects which could do with covering cement basements under the supports. 11) The gardens at the Houser House -- (family members are interested in this.) 12) The rock wall behind the Kibbee House, recently discovered, needs to be exposed to view and requires stabilization. 13) A trail needs to be marked from the Williams Creek Bridge to the Gunn (Canada) Hydraulic, up to the penstock and some distance beyond. This will also require attention being given to the building built on the east side of Williams Creek a few years ago that simulated the entrance to a drift. (A "drift" is a tunnel into a mountainside to access gold-bearing soil.)

So, for interested members of the Friends of Barkerville who would like to learn some of the finer points of Restoration and Preservation, the above needs can offer this should you wish to follow up your interest in volunteering during the coming months

"AFTER ENJOYING QUESNEL, TURN EAST ON HWY. 26

AND BE ENTERTAINED IN BARKERVILLE."