

COVID TIMES aka "Spot News"

WESTERN VANCOUVER ISLAND INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE SOCIETY

Address: 3250A- 9th Avenue

Port Alberni, BC V9Y 4T2

Tel. 250-723-4285

Website: ihsportalberni.ca

Facebook: Use our full name
& Alberni Pacific Railway

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Photo: D. Hooper



K.G. "Soup" Campbell 1934—2020

Clockwise from top: 'Soup' & Model "AA"; Salvage Expedition with 'Soup'; Track Repair on the "Hump"; Soup & Crane replace "No. 7" Saddle tank. *Photos: D. Hooper*



Soup passed away at home on July 26, two days after his birthday. He was a beloved husband, father, stepfather, brother, uncle, friend and local character. He was born in Eugene, Oregon to W. Gordon and Carolyn Campbell. During his early childhood, the family lived in several towns in Washington State, as his father managed different stores for "J.C. Penney Company.

Around 1946, Soup's father entered the logging business and the family moved to Point No Point, BC. There, Gordon ran a logging operation owned by Carolyn's uncle, Jim Waugh.

Soup and his family moved to Port Alberni around 1948, so his father could run Uncle Jim's logging operations on the Alberni Canal. Soup recalled that when he first visited Port Alberni, the drive from Sooke took most of the day and 3rd Avenue was unpaved and 'full of potholes'.

Soup quickly grew to love Port Alberni, mainly because of the many friends he made there and the outdoor adventures they had together. He spent many hours hiking up Mt. Arrowsmith, long before there was a road. There, he and his friends built log cabins, cut trees to make ski runs and eventually built a ski tow out of salvaged car parts and scrap metal.

1970s, Soup was and building the Mt.

Soup briefly attend- and then completed Joinery training at tional Institute. He berni, where he ter. In the early Roy Newton and Campbell Construc- built and renovated buildings in the Al- this time, Soup also weekends as a Ski Mountain and later Plateau.

In 1964, Soup mar-

His son Bill was born in 1966 and his daughter Kate, in 1971. Around 1976, Soup bought his first crane for industrial construction and demolition work. He formed "K.G. Campbell Contracting" in 1979 and operated it until his retirement in 2018. He bought the first hydraulic cranes in the Alberni Valley, which could be seen at construction sites and projects around town for 40 years.

In 1980, Soup got involved with restoring the '2-Spot' Logging Locomotive. He was a Founding Member of the Western Vancouver Island Industrial Heritage Society and was a passionate advocate for the preservation of West Coast logging and industrial history. Among his favourite activities were his 'Expeditions' afield to acquire logging and rail "artifacts" and the restoration of industrial buildings and equipment.

In 2008, Soup married Susan Mann. Together Soup and Susan enjoyed skiing,



Later, in the early involved in planning Arrowsmith Ski Area.

ed UBC in 1954-55, his Carpentry and the Vancouver Voca- returned to Port Al- worked as a Carpen- 1960s he joined with formed "Newton & tion". Soup and Roy many homes and berni Valley. During worked on winter Instructor at Green at Forbidden

ried Joyce Jenkins.

driving Soup's restored Model "A" Fords and cheering for the Alberni Valley Bulldogs. Soup is survived by Susan, Bill, Kate, Susan's children Collin, Michaela, and Neil, his brother, Jim and sister-in-law Christine and their children Michaela, Bobby & Erich. Soup was passionate about the things he enjoyed. His favourite things included family, skiing, telling stories, pickup trucks, Sproat Lake, local history, industrial equipment and building things.

He was tremendously outgoing and loved people. Soup had a remarkable number of lifelong and devoted friends he counted on until the end. He was an interesting, colourful and loveable person. He will be deeply missed.

—By permission of the family.

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"Soup" and friends heading off on an Expedition up the "Hump" 2008

This photo reveals a lot about 'Soup': he liked "Model As"; he liked doing things with his friends; he never threw anything away (this was his first car); he liked railroading; he liked to preserve history and "artifacts"; he was inventive—look at the wheels!; he was not a "clothes horse"; he loved an adventure and liked to include others on it.

Model "A"s: Soup was an "A" fan and a member of a Model "A" Club. He had five that were operational — red and green, "His and Her" pick-up trucks that he and Susan drove around town; a "AA" flat deck restored in memory of his Dad and his "Esquimalt Lumber Co." and an unpainted "AA" that he would bring to Shows for a "Before & After" display; and the above "A" rail car. He had a couple of more "As" in various stages of restoration.

His first "A" had quite a life after he bought it at the age of 15. The motor got packed by he and his friends up Mount Arrowsmith—no road—to power the Rope Tow for their Ski hill. After that operation, the motor got brought back to town and put back into the original frame and was still running , forty years later, in the Railcar version!

"COVID TIMES"

With the current 'COVID 19' situation, the activities of the Industrial Heritage Society ground to a halt for 2-3 months, then have resumed little by little, in different forms, under the new Guidelines, Policies & Procedures mandated by the Provincial Health Officer. When Meetings resumed, they were remote, using 'Zoom' technology.



As facilities under the City of Port Alberni, the Roundhouse and I.H.C. were closed to the Public. For **I.H.S. members** to return to our facilities, just like stores and restaurants, we had to come up with 'Policies & Procedures' including hand sanitizing, Cleaning & Disinfection Schedules, Signage, 'Sign-in Sheets' and practicing "social distancing".

Before we can re-open to **the Public**, the Industrial Heritage Centre, as a branch of the Alberni Valley Museum, will

Practicing 'Social Distancing': Frank (aka "Donut Man") passes donuts to Bob East; (right) Ted Maurice, John Mee & Jamie Bracht wait to depart on a "Covid Cruise", beside the "Baby Euclid". *Photos: D. Hooper*



have to come up with another set of "Policies & Procedures" for handling visitors - and the means of enacting them. In the meantime, the AV Museum has remained Closed to the Public.

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Soup—"Love me, love my dog."

Soup was a well-known dog-lover. Gordon Blake says that he owned 12 dogs over his life-time, mainly 'Border Collies'. He always had one or more with him when he drove around town and they followed him when he came to the Roundhouse or into the IHC. Some members looked askance when they came into the Lunchroom and Soup would give them cookies. Jack James recounted a story about one of Soupy's Christmas 'At Homes', when the dogs decided to have a scrap under the Christmas tree, in the midst of the reception. Excitement!

Soupy was an avid skier who, in his 70's, took up the new sport of 'snowboarding'. His dog took up the sport, too, taking position on the board at Soup's feet. What a sight! - the old guy blasting down the slope, with a dog at his feet, ears streaming in the wind!



Soup and I.H.S. Crew, on an Expedition, with two of Soup's dogs.

"SPOT NEWS"

—is published thrice yearly and is one benefit of membership in the I.H.S.... and you are supporting the preservation of industrial heritage on Vancouver Island. Send queries or material to: D. Hooper. E-mail: dshooper@telus.net

MEMBERSHIP IN THE W.V.I.I.H.S.

\$20 / year. Cash or cheque to Barry Miller
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Port Alberni, BC V9Y 4T2

SOUP'S MARK ON PORT ALBERNI—Some of it

Over his thirty-five+ years with the Industrial Heritage Society, Soup took part in and/or took the lead on many projects, starting with the restoration to operation of the 1912 "Two-Spot" Shay locomotive and showing it off at "EXPO '86". He was involved with the restoration of the Train Station to its 1912 appearance and salvaged a Water Tower and re-erected it beside the Station, to complete the 'package'.

Soup did not see a 'rusty piece of Junk' or a "worn-out building"; he visualized what it could be and worked to get it there. A big achievement in 2011-12 was when he stick-handled the restoration of the "MBL No. 11" former Pulpmill Yard engine. The erection of the Water Tower at the McLean Mill is an example of Soup's construction abilities and "Get 'er done" style. His generous donation of his cranes made many I.H.S. projects possible.



"2-Spot" AV Museum



Railroad Infrastructure

Restored Train Station & Water Tower.

(below) A.P.R. Roundhouse & Shop

(below +) "Hilton" Crew Trailer & APR Office
(salvaged by Soup.)



(l.) MBL "No. 11" with Soup in the cab.
(Below) Soup's crane lifts the water tank onto the Mill Water Tower.

(Below right) The last big Project CANFOR "No. 112". - Soup with Dan Gledhill & G. Blake.



Photos: D. Hooper



Soup .. "I bin working on the Railroad" ... Campbell

Soup was the Main Man when it came to Track Maintenance and Repair. When there was any kind of an emergency or Big Problem, the call went out for Soup. "Derailment?" - no problem. His cranes came in handy, too.



TRACK MAINTENANCE

(Above left) Soup works with nephews, Bob & Erich, behind the 'Barclay'. (above) **Replacing** all the **ties** in front of the Roundhouse. (Ken Fyfe—Excavator)

(Below) **Clearing Rockfall** on the "Hump"; (Below) Very old **Bridge Crane**—Soup liked fixing up old artefacts. (Below right) The "**Lobster**" - brush-cutting machine—He built it out of 3 machines.



Rebuilt 'Skeleton Car' (r.)

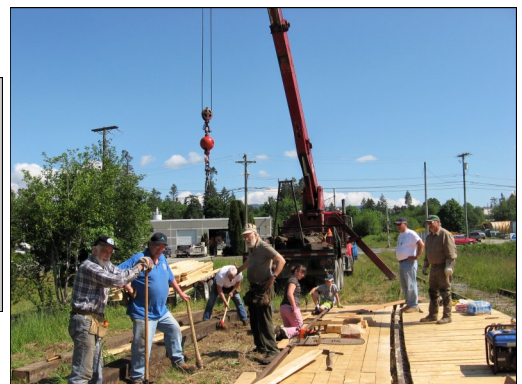
Soup & friends salvaged the remains of this log car—couplers, bunks and wheels—from a 'runaway' 70 years ago and he and Gord Blake rebuilt it. It is the only one remaining of the hundreds that used to carry logs to the 'dump', back in the days of Rail logging.

(Below) **"Mr. September"**

Soup — The only I.H.S. member to make a Calendar center-fold!



Passenger Platform by the "Barclay Hotel". Soup led this project.



SOUP CAMPBELL - "SHOWMAN"

If you were organizing an event or parade, you could always count on Soup to show up with something. Eightieth Birthday of "No. 7"? - Soup brought his 80 year old pickup trucks. (See photo.)

Truck Show? - no problem and often, he would bring something different. Eg. A collection of whistles and horns and a compressor to toot them. Usually, he brought a "Display"; not just a single vehicle.

When the "Mill-warts" Train & Magic School events were hosted at the Mill, he & Gord Blake staged the famous Weasly "Flying Car", flying by as the train steamed up the hill. (It was hanging off Soup's crane, hidden in the trees.)

On the opening of the steam train runs to the McLean Mill in 2001, Soup and friends, in period costume, re-enacted the "Last Spike" ceremony.

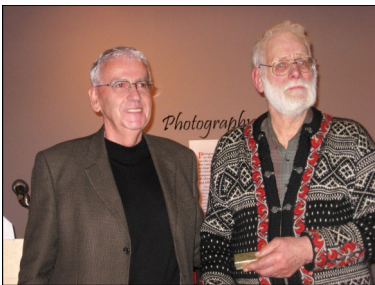
He enjoyed volunteering at the Mclean Mill— Boom-man, Tail Sawyer, driving an old truck and dumping a load of firewood during an Old-time logging Show. He liked performing for an audience.



Model A's at Truck Show

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



Receiving a "Heritage Award" from Mayor Ken McRae.

Over the years, Soup received several awards in recognition of his efforts to preserve local history. The first one was a framed picture of the "Two Spot", which he helped to restore. When he got home, his first wife, Joyce, asked, "How much did you pay for that?" His response, "About \$20,000 of crane time..... but that's OK."



EDGEMENTS

The Industrial Heritage Society wishes to recognize the huge contribution that the Boilermakers, retired and active, have made and continue to make on the rebuild of the boiler for the "No. 7" steam locomotive over the past two years.

Not only have they donated their time and skills, their Union has also made a financial contribution to help with the cost of the Project. The "International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders, Blacksmiths, Forgers & Helpers" donated \$5000, while Local 359, based in Burnaby, donated another \$2500!

This has been added to the \$20K from the City of Port Alberni; \$20K from the I.H.S. and \$20K from an 'Anonymous Donor' to cover the cost of Materials, tool rentals, etc. The Project could not even have been considered without the Boilermakers' help.

“What’s Up?” this summer with **Industrial Heritage**. Here are some pictures of I.H.S. members at work and around town.



I.H.S. trucks line up at the “Athletic Hall” to take part in a **“Covid Cruise”** in June. The 2000 “Volvo”, on loan from “Kingsley Trucking”, leads our contingent.

(Below) 1937 “White” (driver **Norm Groves**) and 1938 “Mack” (driver **John Mee**) make stops at “Smitty’s” while making a tour of the town.

(Below right) **Lesson Time**
Pete Geddes practices operating the model Grapple Yarder while **Hank Bakken** watches.



Tube Sheet Demonstration
Boilermaker ‘**Rocky**’ **Roxbrough** explains how boiler tubes are ‘rolled’ into the Tube sheets to make a tight seal. (These are the old Tube sheets removed from the “No. 7” boiler during the current rebuild project.)



(Below) **Bert Simpson, Grant & Dave Hooper** at work. Lynn Hooper donated 3 doz. ties obtained by a previous owner of the property. With the help of Bob East & Kevin Hunter, they were collected and have been installed in the Yard by the Track Gang. *Photo. B.EAst*

“Socially-distanced” Track Gang
Bobby Campbell spikes, with serious supervision by B. Walker, ?, Richard Spencer, K. Hunter, B. Simpson. *Photos; D. Hooper*

Cleanup of APR Coaches



Dave Warrender & Richard Spencer washed the walls (& floor) of the “Sharpe” coach, in preparation for painting. The windows smashed last year are being replaced by ‘Arrowsmith Glass’. Half of the new windows are already in



More Photos of **I.H.S. Activity around town**



June 3, the Boilermakers made a **successful Hydrostatic Test** on the boiler of the “No. 7”. Pete Geddes (l.) is with Rocky Roxbrough & Tim Murphy (on the engine).

(Below) **New Display at the Old Arena (IHC)**
Randy Catto creates a Construction Diorama to display some of the models from the ‘Ken McDonald Collection’
Ken left his collection of diecast models to the I.H.S.

Randy created two Displays with the models near the Entrance.



Antique Trucks parked at “Smitty’s” after a Cruise around Port Alberni.



“How to remain visible in ‘Covid Times’?”
With no trains operating, no “Old-time” Logging Show at the McLean Mill, the annual Truck Show cancelled and the Industrial Heritage Centre closed to the Public, what does one do to stay in the Public consiousness? We have taken part in two “Covid” “Thank you” cruises and have organized three ‘Cruises’ of our own: One on July 1st; one to escort Ken McDonald’s ashes to the Cemetery and one to honour the memory of Soup Campbell, on the weekend when we would have held our “Antique Trucks & Machinery Show”. The 1939 “Ford” fire truck did a tour around town, too.
Several APR Conductors paid a visit to our favourite ‘Flag Lady’, Sally Anderson, on her 75th birthday.
Summer Student Richard Spencer created a Web-site—ihsportalberni.com—for more ‘online’ presence.



1909 "CN" Caboose - More Progress

Frank Holm continues to work away on the multitude of 'finishing touches' on this Restoration project. Mostly involving individual work, often outside, the "Covid" has not halted the project.



When the Caboose was turned into a "Macdonalds Birthday Party Caboose" fifty years ago, they gutted the interior and removed the platforms, brakes, grab rails, ladders, steps—all of the external 'bits'. All of this has had to be rebuilt, including fabricating many pieces. I.H.S. members have helped Frank with this.

1. **Frank** on the platform. A new ladder is installed and the brake wheel bolted on, thanks to Bert and Les. 2. **Lane Boyd** welded on the Grab Rail and frame. 3. **John Mee** and **Les Stevens** completed the Safety railings and plate on the platform. 4. The finished job.

5. **The Interior of the Caboose**



AT THE INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE CENTER

After a total shutdown due to the "Covid 19", work has resumed slowly and at a reduced level at the I.H.C. The City's first Excavator, a 'Byers' shovel, was put on display by Tenth Avenue, the 1939 "Ford" fire truck went out for a Cruise before returning for servicing by Pete Geddes and an escort of restored vehicles escorted Ken Macdonald's ashes to the Cemetery for "Kenny's Last Ride". Vic Laughlin had promised Ken a ride in his restored "MG" and he delivered.

