

Ron Lalonde & Son BJ in Haiti

continued from page 1

"When out on a mission, the ship is resupplied in foreign ports and they can't always get things they are used to at home."

Joan recalled a time when the ship had been at sea for months and they pulled into port in Saint John's, NL. The cook asked what they wanted for sup-

per and they said Kraft Dinner and Bologna. "They are good old Maritime boys," she says with a smile.

Also see Leading Seaman Dave McCully photo on page 2 and enjoy our feature article from Commander Peter Crain, Commanding Officer, HMCS Athabaskan, page 5.

Dance-a-thon on April 9TH

By Heather MacKay

The Great Village Community Association is organizing a Dance-a-thon. This event is open to students grade 4-9. The money raised at this event will go towards purchasing equipment for some summer fun days. (ie: balls, hoops, ropes, and more.)

These events will be open to anyone that would like to join us and they will be free of charge. We are hoping to get

our kids more active and have fun doing so. The dance-a-thon at the Great Village Legion will start at 6pm April 9th ending at 10pm (if you must leave early please let me know in advance) at the Great Village Legion. Doors will open at 5:45.

Please get sponsors for the evening or by the hour. If you have any questions, or would like a pledge sheet please contact me at 668-2501.



Horse Power Logging

No sounds of heavy machinery or smell of diesel, just a "giddyup" and off they go. It was an enjoyable sight to see the team of horses, driven by Al Boyd, hauling the load of logs out to the wood yard for unloading. (Harrington Photo)



A group shot of the logging team. Fred Priest, left, stands with Dixie, the yard horse, while Al Boyd is next to Stetson and Irving. (Harrington Photo)



No need to walk when you can ride, but it was a long way up! Fred Priest uses the load of logs to climb high onto the back of Dixie. (Harrington Photo)

By Linda Harrington

Al Boyd doesn't need to worry about the price of fuel affecting his logging profits this year, he just needs to make sure he has a good supply of feed on hand.

Al and Heather Boyd own a small farm in Londonderry, with about 30 acres of pasture and 70 acres of woodland. Their livestock includes chickens, highland cattle and a team of seven year old Belgian/Clydesdale mix horses.

It was Al's dream to be able to use the horses to log his woodland the old fashioned way. He happened to meet up with Fred Priest, of Great Village, who had been logging with horses since he was 15 years of age. They were soon off to the woods.

Fred owns a dapple grey horse named Dixie and she is put to use as a yard horse. She drags the logs from where they are harvested to a central loading area, called the brow. Al's team of Stetson and Irving haul the bobsled loaded with logs out of the woods.

"This team has only been working together for a few months," says Heather Boyd. "It is amazing how well they are working."

Fred says the team is able to haul about a half cord of wood per trip and in an eight hour day they can easily haul out five cords.

The recent cold weather and snow fall has been perfect for logging with the horses. The frozen ground makes it easier for Dixie to drag out the logs and it gives a slick surface for the team to haul out the heavy sled piled with logs.

Al has been enjoying logging with the horses and he has been learning a lot from 69 year old horse-logging veteran Fred Priest. The pair use their own muscle power to load logs onto the sled. "It is hard work but a lot of fun," says Al. "There is much less impact on the forest and it is more economical. I have seen what the big machines can do to the land and I didn't want to do that to my land."

The top grade logs will be sawn into lumber for use on the farm.

Al and Heather's four year old son Liam thinks horse logging is a great idea, too. At the end of the day, a flat deck body is added to the logging sled and the family often enjoys a sleigh ride around the property.



Al Boyd (left) and Fred Priest use a lot of muscle power, and the help of a lumberman's peevie to get logs loaded onto the bobsled. They made this heavy job look easy. (Harrington Photo)



Al Boyd and Fred Priest load the bobsled with logs by hand, as the team of horses waits patiently. (Harrington Photo)

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