

The
Whiteheads
Of
Eagle Bay



Anna and John Whitehead

~~Wedding Day.~~

1907.



Whitehead Family as they
leave Connecticut.

John, Anna, Nick, Ernie
and Hans.

Wedding Day

Top!

Recollections of Nick Whitehead A Homesteader's Son

-by Renee Hester

If perchance you strike up a conversation with someone from the North Okanagan, affectionately known as "The Shuswap", and if perchance you mention your home is at Eagle Bay, likely as not, he will say, "That's Whitehead country"! Absolutely right! While the Whiteheads were not the first folk to settle at Eagle Bay, they were the first family to come and to stay. In perusing the very first Eagle Bay Farmer's Institute's minute book, which records from April 9, 1915 to September 17, 1921, the Whitehead family name is the only one which exists in Eagle Bay to this very day. Many homesteaders came and toiled on their land, contributed to the wonderful mosaic of Eagle Bay history, then moved on to another locale and a new life. Anna and John Whitehead remained.

Nick Whitehead, firstborn of the Whitehead family, celebrated his birthday in May of this year. It is largely his memories of his early life at Eagle Bay that I put to paper today. Mary (Whitehead) Turgeon the youngest of the Whitehead daughters, has in her possession, the marriage certificate of her parents, Anna and John Whitehead, from the year 1907. Although Nick was only a lad of three when they left their Bridgeport Connecticut home in 1911, he has happy memories of a fine home, good furniture, and his mother's lovely clothes, especially her feathered hats. John Whitehead worked as a mechanic, a skill that would serve him well in the frontier life that lay ahead.

In the 1800s, Horace Greeley, the great American newspaperman and advocate of social reform, encouraged each young American man with these words, "Go west, young man, go west"! John Whitehead must have felt this good advice for the 1900s as well, and expanded it to, "Go west, young man, go west, with your lovely wife and three young sons"!

Nick says his father had "gold fever", and his desire to strike it rich was the reason for leaving a comfortable life in Connecticut to thrust he, his wife and family into the rigorous life of the frontier. Mary (Whitehead) Turgeon understood her father heard of gold strikes in California, and this was probably his original destination. Whatever the reason, what was the United States' loss was surely Canada's gain, for the Whitehead family arrived in Kamloops, British Columbia, instead of California. From there, John and Anna Whitehead, with young sons, Nick, Ernie and Hans, together with all their belongings, traveled by horse and wagon thirty miles to

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Savona, then seven miles to their destination, Deadman's Creek.

Believe me, there was no motel waiting for them! They set up housekeeping in a tent, as did many other pioneer families. The tenting sites were far from each other, and the wives and children were left alone while their husbands sought gold. How terrifying and difficult this must have been for young women who knew nothing of frontier life. It is said that one young mother, camping at Deadmans Creek, with a family of small children, was bitten by a rattler. Knowing she would die, and fearing her youngsters would starve to death or be killed by animals, she chose to shoot her children and herself to prevent slow and agonizing deaths. Can you imagine having to make such a decision?

Mother Nature necessitated the Whitehead's departure from Deadman's Creek, for in June 1911, the creek dried up. As Nick relates, rather dryly, (no pun intended!), "It's pretty hard to pan for gold in a creek with no water". In all likelihood, this cured the "gold fever"!

At this point, John Whitehead decided he must search for land suitable for a homestead. He left his family in Kamloops for a month while he looked for land, then brought his wife, children and one thousand feet of lumber, on the steamer, "*Andover*", and landed on the north shore of Shuswap Lake between Anglemont and Fraser Bay. Once again, the family home was a tent, and once again this father went in search of land. Nothing took his fancy, and he used the one thousand feet of lumber to pay to have his family transported by open motor boat to Salmon Arm.

There they remained for two years where fourth son, William, was born. Among the jobs John Whitehead did to put food on the table, was maintenance of two cars, owned by a wealthy Salmon Arm resident. All the while, he was looking for suitable land for a homestead. His first thought was to settle at White Lake, but this land was already claimed by others. The next choice and final destination was Eagle Bay, and, as granddaughter, Bunny says, "I'm so glad they made Eagle Bay their home. It's "paradise"!

It wasn't always a paradise. John Whitehead paid the Dominion Government ten dollars (\$10.) for his land, and was obligated to clear eight acres in five to six years to get final title. On October 13, 1913, John and Anna Whitehead, with four wee sons, came from Salmon Arm in an open motor boat to their homestead and one room cabin at Eagle Bay. It was already dark when they reached their destination, and the boatman, holding the only light, marched ahead on the trail, leaving the rest to make their way as best they could.

Life was tough, and Anna Whitehead delivered six more children over the next nine years--Winifred, Francis, Barbara, George, Mary and Johnny.

To the best of Nick's knowledge, no doctors ever visited Eagle Bay, and neighbouring ladies acted as midwives in the deliveries.

It was a long time before the Whitehead family had farm animals, partly because of cost and partly because it took years to clear enough land for feed. All the while, this father had to leave his family at the homestead and go where he could get work, cutting poles or doing any other manual labour that became available. Nick says, although his father knew nothing about logging, he eventually got into the business with his very young sons as helpers. Anna Whitehead would pack enough food for a week, and the "men" of the family would set out for the timber limit, and the small cabin situated where Nick's home is today. Nothing came easily, and, as Nick relates, the boys were far too young to be working as they did. One of the lads was terrified of bears, and was left to peel poles while his father and brothers moved on to other tasks. He peeled only one side because he was so scared, and because he wanted to be with the others. Unfortunately he lied and said both sides were done. This earned him a hiding. Nick says his brother was probably nine years old at the time, and like many others, was expected to put in a day's work.

When the farm started producing, Nick remembers well, crawling along the steep beach rocks to deliver milk to bachelor homesteaders. The cows, which the Whiteheads purchased in White Lake, would often try to return home, and the Whitehead children were sent along White Lake Trail to retrieve them.

Nick remembers Native Indians bringing fish for trade and simply dropping the fish on the kitchen floor. In return, they wanted flour, tea and other staples. Often, he and his brothers would watch the Indian fishermen spearing fish from lantern-lit canoes or from the steep rocks of Shuswap Lake.

There was no school in Eagle Bay until 1922, so the oldest Whitehead children were educated by their parents. When a school opened, largely due to the efforts of Anna Whitehead, Nick wanted to attend regularly, but could only go occasionally in the winter months. The rest of the year, it was necessary that he work to help keep the family. To compensate for his lack of formal education, Nick was self-educated, and spent any extra money he had on books, mostly to do with science and natural history. Reading was and is his first love.

What about transportation? Nick tells me, "There were no horses, no feed, no buggies and no money". Boat was the usual mode of transportation or simply walking. John Whitehead acquired a large row-boat, and on occasion, rowed through "The Narrows", past Sicamous, into Salmon Arm,

two days coming and two days going. Sometimes those needing to go to town, would walk the "Blind Bay Trail" to Notch Hill, and then take the train to Salmon Arm. Anna Whitehead seldom if ever, left the homestead except to visit neighbours.

Shopping was a challenge. Supplies for winter had to be sufficient to last many months. Hardware and clothing came from Eaton's catalogue, and were delivered once a week by a Notch Hill resident in a motor boat. If the lake was frozen, other arrangements had to be made. The same gentleman, who made the deliveries, would also take the ladies' shopping lists and deliver their needs on the next trip.

At some point in time, a dock was built at Eagle Bay and a post office became operational, with David Lamey as the first postmaster. There was no church, but Nick remembers the traveling minister, Rev. Gryce Hutchison, holding services in a shed on the present Adley property. He and his father would walk the survey line to attend the services.

In 1922, Nick and brother, Ernie, would row across the lake where they had a job paying twenty-five cents an hour. They saved this money and bought a battery radio, which brought in K.P.O., San Francisco, New York, Pittsburgh and Calgary. Although few would believe it, John Whitehead, Sr. predicted "radios with pictures", in the not too distant future; truly a man of vision! Nick and Ernie managed to bring the first car to Eagle Bay, a 1917 Chevrolet. It took two days to reach Kamloops with this car, and it usually had to be parked far from home because of mud and snow.

Most of the Whitehead sons homesteaded in Eagle Bay. Nick purchased his land from the B.C. Government for \$2.50 in 1932. He was able to work off the taxes of \$7.50 per year, by working on the road. To give his family the opportunity for an education he moved to Victoria for many years, but he retained the homestead and eventually returned to his roots.

In reminiscing about each stage of the Whitehead family's frontier life, Nick never failed to mention the hardships his mother endured, her wonderful spirit, and her infinite patience. As a loving son, he wishes his mother's life had been easier. He remembers working a full summer and earning \$150.00. Because he remembered all his mother had left behind, he used the money to buy lace curtains for the windows, a dining table and a linen table cloth. He knew his parents had no money to spare, so he used the rest of the money to buy Christmas presents so his younger siblings could enjoy Santa Claus. Sister, Mary, remembers this well, especially the doll "Santa" delivered. She also claims, no mother had a more loving and caring son than Nick, and no sister had a more kind and caring brother.

John Whitehead's life on the homestead was difficult, and the monetary rewards were small. He was not crazy about farming, and frontier logging was a grueling profession. Nick wonders why his father stayed on the homestead when he had other skills. The answer was the same for John Whitehead as for his sons, "Everyone did it"!

Nick feels the men of the frontier were far too over-bearing, perhaps but not likely, out of necessity. He also sees this as one reason for women to rebel and initiate the women's movement for equality.

Bunny Oakland, who remembers her grandmother as a wonderful lady and her best friend, says Anna Whitehead would not have changed a thing in her life. The satisfaction of a job well done, far outweighed any hardships she endured. How many folk are fortunate enough to honestly be able to make such a statement?



wedding band". Most of what remains of her gardens is the lupines which have seeded themselves close to the old family home and on close by homesteads.

For all Anna Whitehead's hard work, one grandchild remembers her soft and comforting hands; it was suggested they were worn smooth with hard work. She often comforted her children and grandchildren by singing to them, and she made all who knew her feel special with her kind and reassuring words. Not long ago, I spoke with a gentleman who is now 89 years old, and who lived in Eagle Bay as a lad. He said Mrs. Whitehead was the kindest lady he had ever known, and because of her sweet nature, he would have done anything he could for her. If she was afraid or unhappy she never showed it. The closest Anna Whitehead came to showing anger was to rattle the dishes as she washed them. Most in her situation would have thrown them!

We cannot write of the wonderful ladies who gave us life and guided us through childhood, but we can remember them on their special day. Anna Whitehead is one of these. Every mother is a pioneer, for no one has experience or training for this most important job of their life.

In 1907, a poetess, Ann Taylor sums it up for all of us—

*"Who ran to help me when I fell,
And would some pretty story tell,
Or kiss the place to make it well?*

MY MOTHER."



Anna Whitehead in her spring
garden - n.b. her beautiful daffodils.



“Tribute to a Pioneer Mom” was published in “View From Eagle Bay” by Renee Hester on Saturday, April 30, 1994 in “The Shuswap Market”.



Barbara Harper, one of the Whitehead daughters, alighting from the BC Transit Bus on its inaugural run.



The Heritage organ
in The Heritage
Church

Picture on wall is
"The Last Supper"
crocheted by "Grandma"
Whitehead when she
was nearly blind.



~~John Whitehead Jr.~~

ERNEST WHITEHEAD

Church
is the Heritage
The Heritage organ

The organ was
"The West
for children's story

was nearly blind.
Whitehead when she
crocheted by "Grandma"
"The West
Picture on wall is



Ninetieth Birthday, Nick Whitehead

-by Renee Hester



On May 2nd, 1998, Nick Whitehead, longtime resident of Eagle Bay, celebrated his 90th birthday at the home of his sister, Mary Turgeon. Nick is the first son of a homesteader and a homesteader himself.

In 1911, parents, John and Anna Whitehead with sons, Nick, Ernie and Hans, left their Connecticut home and headed west. Nick claims his father's "gold fever" was the reason the family left a comfortable home and a comfortable living in Connecticut. The family and all their belongings traveled to Kamloops by train then on to Deadman's Creek by horse and wagon. Their home was a tent. Shortly after their arrival, the creek dried up and gold-panning was impossible.

John Whitehead looked for a homestead and brought his family, now with four children and living in Salmon Arm, to Eagle Bay. They came by open rowboat on October 13, 1913. It was dark when they arrived and Nick remembers stumbling along behind the boatman to the dirt-floored cabin. Anna Whiteman delivered six more children on the homestead.

At an early age, Nick and his brothers were expected to work like men. John Whitehead became a logger and his sons were his helpers. They would set out for the timber limit and stay in a small cabin where Nick's home is today. Nick recalls the boys were far too young for work expected of them.

The older Whitehead children were educated by their parents because there was no school at Eagle Bay until 1922. Nick was self-educated and spent any extra money he had on books. Reading was his first love.

Life was tough as the homestead was cleared. There could be no animals until feed could be grown. A garden was needed to sustain a growing family. Despite the hardships, Nick has happy and interesting memories of his childhood. He speaks with affection of his mother; many say Nick inherited her gentle and patient nature.

As the farm became productive, Nick and his brothers delivered milk to bachelor homesteaders. He told me on several occasions I should write a book on "The Bachelors of Eagle Bay". Nick remembers the Native Indians spear-fishing from lantern-lit canoes. They would bring fish to the Whitehead home to trade for staples.

When a dock was built at Eagle Bay, shopping for homesteaders became easier. It was possible to order supplies and them delivered by boat. Nick and Ernie saved their money and purchased a battery radio, and with their father, they envisioned "radios with pictures" in the future. Nick and Ernie brought the first cars to Eagle Bay.



Nick with "Birthday
Plow."

In the thirties, homesteading was still the thing to do. Nick purchased his section of land at Eagle Bay, B.C. for \$2.50. He worked on the roads to pay the yearly taxes of \$7.50.

Nick met the lady who became his wife at a dance at the Carlin Hall. She was Edith Leslie; affectionately known as "Tiny". They settled in the homestead cabin where Nick logged with his brothers and father. It is now known as "Pop's Shack". Four daughters and a son were born to the couple, three at Eagle Bay and one at Victoria. In 1940, Nick and Tiny moved the family to Victoria where the children could be educated more easily and perhaps enjoy a better way of life. They remained in Victoria until 1971 when they returned to the homestead.

I wonder if Nick knows he is a rich man. He will likely argue he could never be rich because the government takes all his money in taxes. True riches are not measured in dollars; riches are measured in love and memories. Nick has plenty of both.

Only a loving family would have the plow from the Whitehead Homestead restored for their father's 90th birthday. Only a loving sister would remember a brother who was Santa to his siblings in the hungry thirties.

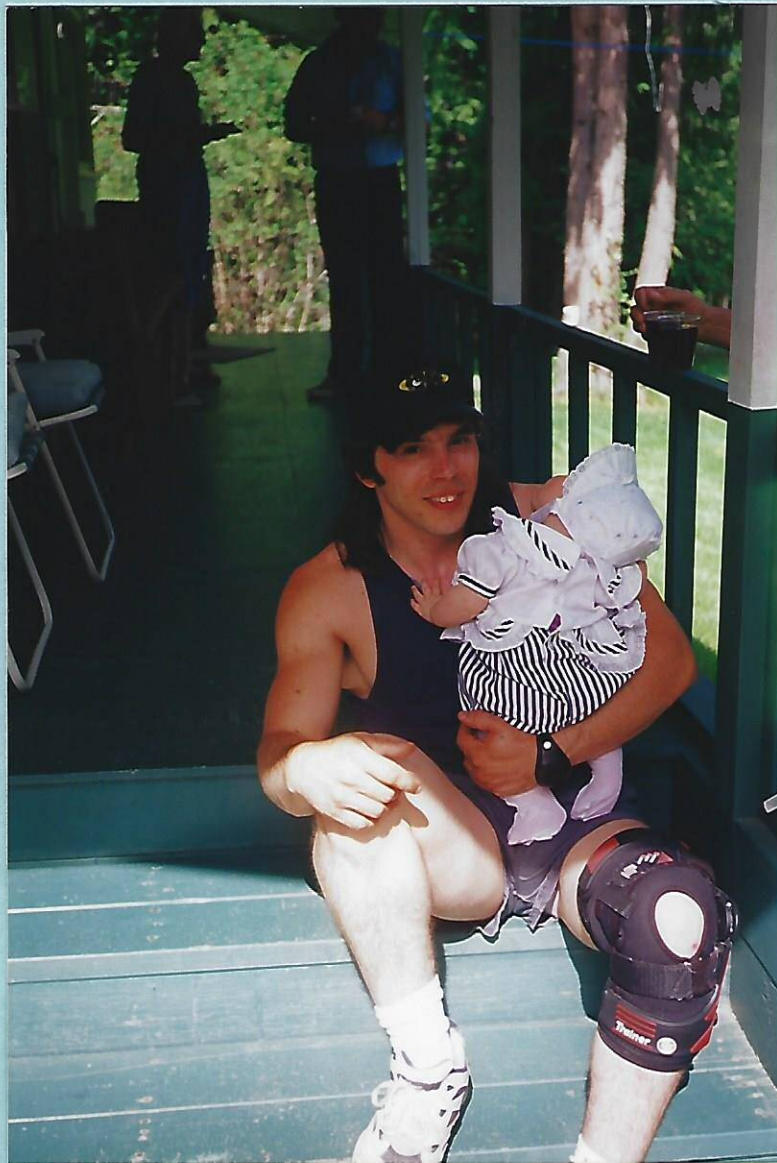
Nick's daughter, Barbara, tells me the words on the hat Nick ^{wore} on his special day, say it all. "If older is better, I must be approaching "MAGNIFICENT"!" Happy 90th Nick, and may your riches continue to abound!

"Recollections of a Homesteader's Son" gives a more detailed account of Nick's early life. Both the above article and "Recollections, etc." appeared in "A View From Eagle Bay" in the Shuswap Market.



Nick Whitehead on his 90th
birthday with sister, Mary
(Whitehead) Turgeon and sister-
in-law, Joan Whitehead. (lef).

Plow from the Whitehead home-
stead restored by family for
Nick's 90th birthday



Trevor Muir holds his daughter at Nick's 90th birthday party.
This is Nick's great granddaughter; her mother, Tracy (Whitehead) Muir.

Nick Whitehead
Farewell Obituary

-submitted by Renee Hester

Once again Eagle Bay bids farewell to one of its dearest residents. Nick Whitehead passed away on June 24, 1999, six weeks after his 91st birthday.

Nick was born in Bridgeport, Connecticut. He came to Eagle Bay with parents, Anna and John Whitehead, on October 13, 1913, to a homestead with a small dirt-floored cabin. It was years before the land could be cleared to provide pasture for animals and grow feed for same. A large garden was needed to provide food for a family which soon had ten children.

Nick knew hard work. He and his brothers logged with their father and were expected to put in the work of a man when only nine years of age. Nick said, "We were far too young and the worked far too hard". Nick had little time to attend school and was educated by his parents or self-taught. Books were his first love, reading his passion

In 1932, Nick purchased his own homestead for \$2.50 from the B.C. Government. It was located at the "timber limit", and the cabin he and his brothers used while logging was his first home. Taxes of \$7.50 a year were worked off by working on the road. Times were tough!

In 1929, Nick met Edith Leslie at a dance in Carlin Hall. They married and lived on the homestead. Three daughters were born when they lived on the homestead.

In 1940 the family moved to Victoria for perhaps a better way of life and to give the children easier access to education. Another daughter and a son were born there. In 1971, Nick and Edith returned to their Eagle Bay home. Sadly, Edith passed away in 1976.

Nick was a man of "firsts". He was the first-born of his family. He and brother Ernie brought the first car to Eagle Bay. The two brothers saved their money and brought one of the first short-wave radios to the area. Both felt the need to learn all they could about the outside world.

Nick was light years ahead of his generation in many ways, especially in his attitude towards women. He felt frontier men were too over-bearing. He also felt the women's movement for equality was dead necessary, an opinion he expressed freely and often.

Nick had no trouble voicing his devotion to the women in his life. He was a loving son and believed his mother worked far too hard. It is said that Nick inherited his mother's sweet nature. Nick was devoted to Edith, taken from him far too soon. He adored children, everybody's children.

Nick was the first to ring the bell at Eagle Bay Community Church in 1989. This was fitting as a stained glass window in the church is placed in memory of the Whitehead family, and three of Grandma Whitehead's crocheted pictures hang on the church walls.

Several years ago, Nick told me his life, although hard at times, was happy. He had dreams; some were fulfilled, some were not. He dreamed of being a railway engineer for trains were another of his passions. He settled for wearing an engineer's cap most of his life.

Daughter, Barbara, said she and her siblings and their children were fortunate to have their father, grandfather and great-grandfather for so long. The pain of arthritis took its toll in Nick's last years but he lived with happy memories.

Once again Nick was "first", first-rate at recalling Eagle Bay history. For this we

Nick Whitehead
Farewell Obituary

are grateful. He was loved by all and will be missed by all who knew him.
"Good-bye Nick, and thanks".

WHITEHEAD: Nicholas "Nick" Whitehead passed away at the Shuswap Lake General Hospital, Salmon Arm, BC, on Tuesday, June 24, 1999, at the age of 91 years. Nick was born at Bridgeport, Connecticut on May 2, 1908. He moved to Eagle Bay at a very young age and was a pioneer of that area. Nick was predeceased by his wife, Edith, in 1976. He is survived by four daughters, Josephine, Yvonne, Barbara and Karen; one son, Gerald; three sisters, Mary, Winnie and Barbara; one brother, George; also surviving are numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews. Dearly loved by all; Rest in peace, Dad. A celebration of Nick's life is to be held in the fall. If so desired, contributions in memory of Nick may be made to a children's charity of your choice. Cremation arrangements were in the care of Bowers Funeral Home and Crematorium, Salmon Arm.



Toddler, Nick Whitehead.



ALLABARTON, Frances Yvonne
(nee Whitehead)

Beloved Mother, Grandmother, and Sister, predeceased by her husband Harry (1975) and daughter Lynne (1997), Yvonne passed away peacefully at home, September 15, 2007. "Anda", as her grandkids called her, was born November 2, 1932. She lived in a log cabin on the shores of Shuswap Lake until she was 7. Her Father, Nick, moved the family to Victoria where Yvonne attended Cloverdale Elementary (as did her children and many of her grandchildren), S. J. Willis and Mount View High Schools. She fell in love with ex RAF pilot Harry and married May 26, 1951. By June 1959 Yvonne and Harry had 4 children, Jodie, Lynne, Lee, and Michael. Yvonne was a working mom who was a practical nurse at Clovelly Private Hospital, a realtor with Shirley Philips Homefinders, and a caregiver with Alpha Home Care. She was highly valued at Alpha as someone who could be sent on their most sensitive cases. Anda's children and grandchildren have so many fond memories of summer holidays at the family cabin on Shuswap Lake and special Halloween parties where she'd dress up and serve her famous pumpkin soup. In November she would gather the grandchildren for the traditional Christmas cake baking and in December they'd all meet again to decorate the cakes and make Christmas centerpieces. There were wonderful Christmas Eve gatherings with all the extended family of aunts, uncles, and cousins, lovely Valentine's teas, and fabulous Easter feasts, as well as numerous family dinners. Yvonne was an excellent cook and gardener, her backyard was a peaceful oasis in the city. A loving Mother and Grandmother, she will live on in the hearts of her children, Jodie (Gord), Lee (Steve), and Michael (Pat), and grandchildren, Ben, Jeff, Claire, Eric, Evan, Jackson and Natalie. She will be lovingly remembered by her sisters, Hazel (Red), Barb (Don), Karen (Lorrie), and brother, Gerald (Leah), as well as nieces, nephews, cousins, aunts, uncles, and friends at the Cedar Hill Senior Center.

*"We think of her as living
In the hearts of those she touched
For nothing loved is ever lost
And she was loved so much"*

We'll miss you Anda and as our late Uncle Frank used to say, "We'll see you in the sunset."

The family will be having a Celebration of Life on Nov. 2. If you wish to remember Yvonne please make a donation to a charity of your choice.

Yvonne Allabarton, daughter
of "Tiny" and Nick White head.



Nick Whitehead,

First Official
Ringing of Bell.

Oct. 8, 1989.



Center window in Eagle Bay Community
Church placed in memory of Anna and
John Whitehead.

The following are pictures of Ernie Whitehead Sr.'s homestead at the end of Eagle Bay Road. Ernie never returned from a fishing trip and it is presumed his plane crashed taking his life.



Buildings on Whitehead property
An environmental paradise! n.b bird houses.
There were many more. Some made from stove
pipes!





I believe there was a beaver dam on this body of water. Simply beautiful!



A note written to Ernie by a friend.



Toddler, Ernie
Whitehead, Sr.

The Emus of Eagle Bay

Another Life for the Whitehead Homestead

-by Renee Hester

"Why emus?" I asked of Lynn Whitehead when I visited the Whitehead Farm. "It's simple," she replied. "We are running out of pasture for the Herefords. We must raise something that is low in maintenance and requires little land for survival. The emu is the answer."

Lynn admits some folk think she and husband Kahn, are crazy to go with the emus, but it appears a good option at the present. One emu farmer they visited has 70 happy birds on five acres. The emus eat a special kind of pellet; do not eat grass so need no great expanse of pasture. The pens are roomy and during the winter, the birds have a heated shelter.

Now and for the next five years, emu farmers will raise birds for the breeding market. They weigh in around 135 to 140 pounds and measure 47 to 48 inches from ground the top of the back. When they stretch upwards, emus can peer over a seven-foot high shelter.

The birds lay eggs from December to April, and although the Whitehead birds produced a dozen eggs this year, the eggs were infertile. They now have a new male bird and high hopes for the future.

In the breeding season, the female makes a drumming sound and the male growls. Both hiss when excited. The eggs are dark green in colour and rather attractive. Baby emus weigh about 500 grams at birth, are about seven inches tall, and can fit in a chocolate box.

I was surprised the birds were friendly and did not mind humans in their pens. They are comical and very curious. Lynn tells me their bite does not hurt but an emu's feet are a lethal weapon. Lynn appeared to have a genuine affection for the birds, especially "Old Cyrus", who was not exactly a thing of beauty. However, poets will tell us to make no mistake for beauty is always in the eye of the beholder!

In time, when the Canadian emu population is sufficient, the farmers will raise the birds for meat. The Department of Agriculture in Western Australia tells us emu meat is ideal for the health conscious consumer. It is tender with a distinctive flavour. Besides food, leather produced from the skin of the emu is soft and good for making clothes. The oil has a multitude of uses including oil for muscle and joint problems, certain skin conditions, treatment of leather and even as machine oil.

As more research is done, some say emu oil is the greatest emollient in the world. Because it is completely odorless and extremely penetrating, it is used widely in body

care products, lotions, eye cream, shampoo and conditioner, after shave, lip balm, or simply in the plain state.

On October 13, 1913, Anna and John Whitehead with four young sons came from Salmon Arm in an open motor boat to their homestead and one room cabin at Eagle Bay. It was already dark and the boatman holding the only light, marched ahead on the trail, leaving the rest to make their way as best they could. They could never have dreamed that one day, their grandson and his wife would look out the window and see Australian emus on the Whitehead Homestead. Miracles happen!

This article appeared in Shuswap Market's "View From Eagle Bay" by Renee Hester.

The Whiteheads went out of the "Emu Market" and the homestead is now used as a golf driving range.

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Third generation family in Eagle Bay

by Renee Hester

The old homestead of the Whitehead family has a new look. Lynn and Kahn Whitehead, with son, Travis, are the third generation to work the family farm.

Pasture for their Hereford cattle has become harder and harder to come by, mostly because of extensive local development. It became necessary for Lynn and Kahn to find something requiring less acreage than cattle, something requiring low maintenance and something hardy enough to survive the Shuswap winters. The emu was their choice and several of the big birds make their new home at the Whitehead farm.

At the present time, B.C. Emu Farmers are strictly into raising birds for breeding stock. but eventually, these large birds will provide low cholesterol meat, soft leather suitable for clothing, and an oil, often called a "miracle worker." This oil, as well as being used in a pure state, is also the base for cosmetics, shampoos, antiseptic creams and veterinary medicines.

The emus are reasonably friendly towards humans and a bit comical. One named, "Old Cyrus", reminded me a bit of Andy Gump. I suspect from his strut, he fancies himself as a human.

Mrs. Jeannette Hester

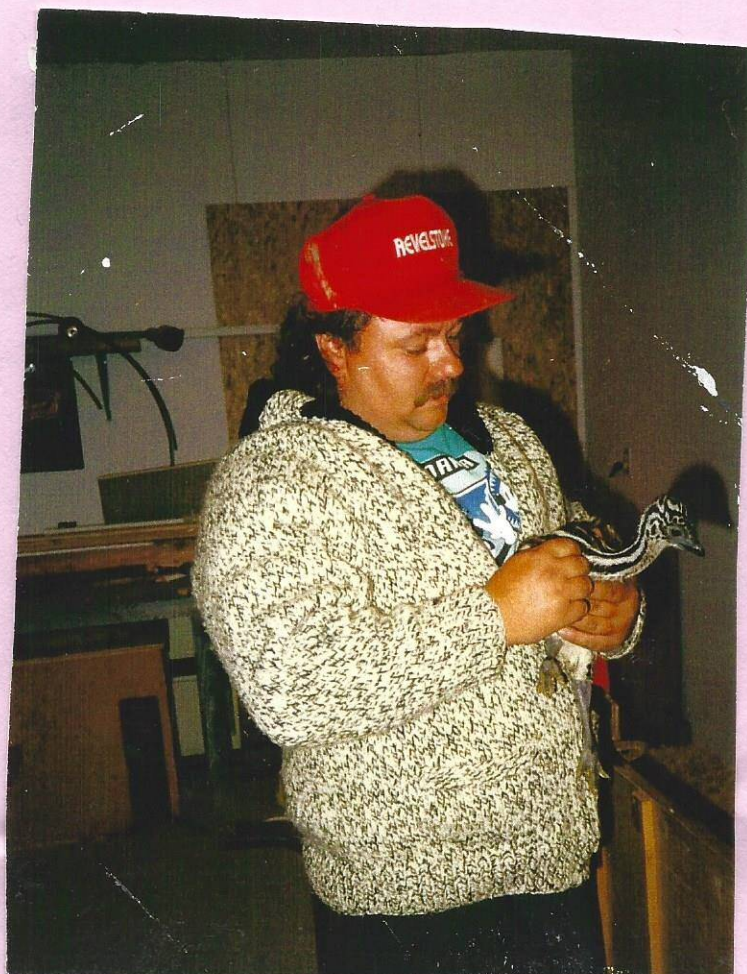


Looking toward the Whitehead farm from
Eagle Bay Road, circa 1995.

Mrs. Jeannette Hester



Lynn Whitehead with Cyrus.



Kahn White-head
with
Emu chick.

Eagles Realm Driving Range



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Phone 675-3366

Eagles Realm Driving Range Menu



**Eat In Or
Take Out
Menu**