

# TRAVEL TALK



by **Brenda Johnston**

**ARIZONA** Last week I left you in snowy Fredericton and me in sunny Arizona. Twelve degrees below zero certainly isn't very conducive to sunny thoughts but warm memories pleasantly put me back at **THE WICKENBURG INN**.

Our drive to Wickenburg, a quaint town sixty miles north of Phoenix almost set the scene for a shoot-out as some wanted the windows opened to breathe the warm, fresh air while the Montreal hair-dos wanted air-conditioning. We soon forgot our differences as cacti, cotton, coyotes and the mountains had us in awe. There was **NO GRASS** save for a few out of place lawns and the golf course. That took a while getting used to. We anxiously awaited our arrival at The Wickenburg Inn.

Then there it was . . . a complete guest ranch setting on 4700 acres of desert carpeted in its own special way with flowers, trees and plenty of cacti. The main lobby welcomed you to "sit right down" around the huge fireplace which patiently waited for an evening fire. Antique furnishings set a mood of "slow down" while chess, bridge and checkers set idly nearby for the taking. We were given electric carts for our short walk and room keys, while a "wrangler" helped us locate our casitas. Our casitas greeted us with fruit and wine and a personal welcome card from Ed, the manager. The Spanish-ranch style casistas built of Mexican adobe brick and massive wood beams were well appointed in antique furnishings, while the parlor had a

fireplace and the bedroom had a huge walk-in closet. There is wet bar, a private patio also with each casita but ours as well had a private balcony and a jacuzzi. There are basic rooms available in the ranch lodge for those who don't want deluxe accommodations.

The accommodations were only the beginning as we soon found the food to be **FANTASTIC**. When you stay at the ranch-resort your visit includes breakfast . . . juice, fruit, cereal, grits, bacon, eggs, toast, ham, toast, coffee . . . lunch . . . often a buffet is salads, cold cuts, breads, pickles, hot dishes, soup, desserts, beverages . . . dinner is an excellent choice of four entrees of home cooked delights. Great as the service was it did not surpass the cooking. The outdoor Western cookout scheduled once a week was barbecued steak, Coors beer, sourdough biscuits, beans served under a starstudded Arizona sky.

No vacation should be just eating and laying around, The Wickenburg Inn, though it had a pool, offered so many other activities that I didn't take time to get a suntan. Seventy saddle horses are available for horseback riding with three gorgeous **WRANGLERS** to assist you (We don't have anything like it here in Fredericton. Sorry guys) C.W., Cody and Carson keep the corral in order??? and patiently take beginners and more experienced riders on trails through the resort. This is truly **HOME HOME ON THE RANGE** country. This again is included with your visit. The wranglers duties don't end in the corral as they very professionally provide musical and comical entertainment around the fireplace as well as around the fire at the outdoor cook-out. But there is more . . .

There are eleven tennis courts with a staff of teaching professionals together with automatic ball machines, rebound nets, and practice walls. The Pro Shop which was reasonably priced offered a good selection of tennis equipment.

Fifteen minutes away is the Wickenburg Country Club with real green grass.

Ken and Margaret, bug nuts, are the naturalists on staff who provide excellent information on all the animals and plants that flourish in the desert. This would not normally capture my interest but the nature life is so unique and different from ours that it was most enjoyable. Margaret, an old pro at catching rattlers, the whole ninety pounds of her, was a national geographic on foot. If you're a little pooped after your bug walk, horseback bouncing and tennis game you can visit Barb in the Arts and Craft Studio and purchase jeans, shirts, or souvenirs. If you are a little more energetic she will give you instruction on making leather belts (\$6.50), weaving, beads, clay or macrame. I am now the proud owner of Olive the owl, my macrame creation which proudly adorns my wall and reminds me of the A Wickenburg hospitality.

Needless to say, I did not welcome my departure from The Wickenburg Inn. Great as the facilities were, delicious as the food was, I must say that the nicest part of the entire visit was the people. Friendliness, thy name is The Wickenburg Inn. Slow down under the sunny blue skies, leave all those busy ideas home and loaf around in your blue jeans. **FANTASTIC !!!!!!!**

Now go put on your coat, scarf, gloves and brave the winter; I'm going back to Arizona!

## Santa kidnapped?

or How Rene L. ruined Christmas

By **JAMES BROCK**

'Twas the morning of Christmas day 1983 and children all over the world were waking up to find that dear old Santa Claus had not made his usual visit to put presents under the tree for all the boys and girls of the world. All the children were looking for clues as to why Santa had not made his usual visit. Many parents were woken that fateful day to the cries of their children who were understandably upset by the mystery. Everywhere it was the same. Frantic parents everywhere were attempting to find out what had happened so they could explain to their children what has happened to dear old Santa Claus.

But, somewhere out in that great expanse that is this world of ours, an old man turned on the radio to get the weather (he was planning on driving to his sister's place 75 miles away if the weather was good). He turned the radio on just in time to hear the announcer come on with a special bulletin. He announced that Santa had not as yet made a visit anywhere in the world because he was forced to land in Quebec (which was at this time separated from the rest of Canada and generally cut off from the rest of the world (mind you, the population of Quebec was now less than 250,000 people). Due to some quirk of fate, Santa had chosen to go to Quebec first that year. He was forced to land because he had refused to speak French to air traffic controllers (Santa had always spoken English - the international language of the air). Anyhow, ol' Rene L. had decided that nobody but nobody could disobey the rules of his country. Ol' Rene L. had decided to bring up Santa on charges of refusing to 'parle francais' which was a 'decidedly heinous' act according to Quebec's dictator for life, ol' Rene L.

This terrible act was not taken to very kindly by the parents of the world and a task force was quickly formed to rescue Santa from the hands of ol' Rene L. These people descended on the office of ol' Rene L. and rescued Santa.

Some of these people escorted Santa around the world to distribute all his gifts to the children of the world. The remaining people clamped ol' Rene L. in irons and hauled him in front of the International Court of Justice where he was charged with obstructing the duties of a hero of the children of the world. Ol' Rene L. was promptly found guilty as charged and sentenced to spend the rest of his days chipping stone in a "No Smoking" area of a Siberian stone shed.

## bulletin

Charles Williamson, Chief of Security at UNB suffered a mild heart attack on Wednesday November 30th. A call to the Security early Thursday confirmed that Chief Williamson as he is known on campus, is resting in the Coronary care unit of the Everett Chalmers Hospital.

The staff of the Bruns send sincere wishes for a swift recovery.

### Second-Language Monitors Required

#### PART - TIME MONITOR PROGRAM SEPTEMBER 1978 - MAY 1979

A minimum of 800 students who qualify for admission to Canadian university-level institutions will each receive at least \$3,000 dollars for 9 months of participation in the two aspects of this program which is financed by the Department of the Secretary of State: working part-time as second-language monitors while studying on a full-time basis in another province (and in some cases, in their own province). Participants will be reimbursed for travel expenses for one round trip between the province of residence and the host province.

The number of French-language and/or English-language monitors accepted by a host province will be determined according to the particular needs of that province.

Requests for application forms will be accepted up to and including December 31, 1977. Completed application forms will be accepted up to and including January 13, 1978.

To obtain a brochure and an application form, please contact:

Mrs. Viviane Edwards,  
Co-ordinator of Second Languages,  
Department of Education,  
P.O. Box 6000  
Fredericton, N.B.  
E3B 5H1



Department of Education  
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## CHSR 700 Yours!

College Hill Student Radio will not be broadcasting January 4th to 7th. We apologize to our listeners for this inconvenience, necessitated by Workshop Week, a four day program of retraining clinics and program improvement. programming will resume January 8th.

New members are always welcome