

Talk about the cabin on the Chandalar continues. Joe tells about couple men neighbors who came from 35 miles or so away to visit. This when Joe was the first in the country. He and his partner were cooking sourdough pancakes, but they didn't know how to make bread. The visitors showed them how.

One year Joe was partnered up with a German fellow who, Joe says, was lazy.

Then back in Fort Yukon one day someone comes up to Joe and tells him that Ellen, an Indian lady, wanted to "marry with him". Joe married Ellen and built a new cabin. Fred the German could not make a living trapping by himself. Ellen's family lived in Fort Yukon. She had children, but apparently they were grown. She and Joe adopted Jimmy. Joe says he let Jimmy eventually have his long trap lines and Joe worked those lines that he could reach and return (to cabin) in one day. When he was doing "real trapping", including the long lines, he used six dogs for his team. Later he cut it down to four dogs.

At the time of this taping, Joe is 88 years old. Ellen is gone. Joe and Ellen had happy marriage for 50 years.

Joe says it took him 14 days to make the round trip on his long lines. The line to Chandalar Lake took 8 days. He had about 11 cabins (line cabins). He normally covered 25 miles per day. When he started trapping he was about 26. His first cabin in Fort Yukon Joe bought for \$25.

Good year in trapping: one year Joe got 75 lynx, most years maybe 20. Some of the trappers he remembers or knew or worked with: Jimmy Carrol, Will Mason, Curtis, Jacob Thomas (Tommy the Mate) and Johnny Thomas.