

The Amherst Island BEACON

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October 2003



THIS ISSUE

- Ian Murray, Editor

We continue to get a steady stream of good articles, photos and sketches from our readership and it is much appreciated here at Beacon World Headquarters. I quite look forward to seeing the written submissions as they arrive; and also to see what photos / sketches have shown up. I also look forward to seeing what photos and sketches Tom has chosen for each issue.

The General Store ran out of copies of the last issue so this month we'll increase the order to 325 from 300.

NEIGHBOURHOOD

- Lyn Fleming

Get Well wishes this month to Peggy Coulter, Anne-Marie Hitchins, Calvin Thornhill and Earle Tugwell.

Continued good health wishes to Syke Fleming, Phil Silver, Sally Bowen, Lillian Miller and Dave Youell.

Congratulation to Elsie Densem, who recently celebrated her 96th birthday. I believe Elsie is now our oldest permanent Island resident.

Well, September wound up a very busy summer of Island connected weddings.

Starting the month off was Jill Caughey, daughter of Bruce and Susan. Jill was married to Mike on September 6th at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church. The wedding was followed by a reception at the water's edge at Jill's family home, Poplar Dell Bed and Breakfast, with guests attending from Indiana as well as many areas on this side of the border.

The next weekend, Douglas Gavlas, son of George and Ida, was married on September 13th. Doug married Kim Sherman



Two teenagers enjoying a slow day on the Island in 1947- Eldon Willard and Ed McCormick mug for the camera on the hood of an old Dodge pickup. Picture from Betty Windsor

of Kingston at Cooks-Portsmouth United Church, followed by a reception at the Junior Officers Mess in Kingston. Family attended from Toronto and Nova Scotia and points between. Following a honeymoon in Toronto, Doug and Kim will continue to live in Kingston.

Wrapping up this year's wedding season, was Larry's and my son, Jason's wedding, on September 20th. Jason married Angela Conners at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Napanee, followed by a reception at the Howard Johnson's overlooking Confederation Basin in Kingston. Out of town guests came from Leamington, Peterborough, Toronto, Winnipeg and Florida. Following their honeymoon in Florida, they will move into their house (formerly Jason's great-grandfather, Pete Wittiveen's home) on the Island.

Doris and Joe Crackle of Hollywood, Florida spent several weeks on the Island in their Winebago at Harry and Barb Filson's. Doris and Joe's daughter and her family, also of Florida, visited as well, late in the sum-

mer.

Barb and Harry also hosted Russel and Alice Filson recently when they visited the



Newlyweds Adam & Barb Miller at their reception August 9, 2002



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JH: Judith Harrower
TC: Terry Culbert
...others as noted.



Jason Fleming (son of Larry & Lyn Fleming) married Angela Conners on September 20, 2003.

Island.

Howard and Darlene Wolfreys of Winnipeg, and Todd and Scott Chamberlain of Orlando, FL all visited family while on the Island, as well as attending their nephew and cousin, Jason Fleming's, wedding.

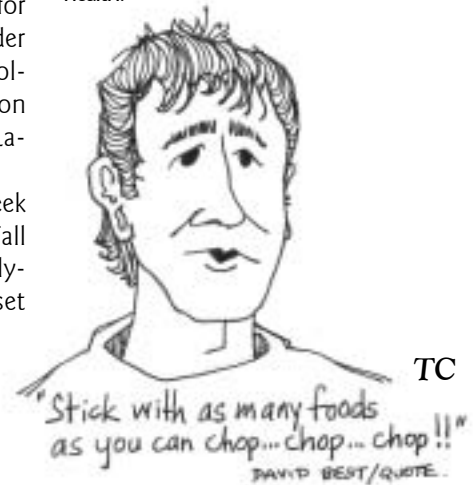
I say good bye to my mom, Kay Wolfreys, who has just returned to Florida after spending the summer with us.

Leslie Gavlas and Janet Scott were both honoured at a ceremony at the Ambassador Hotel recognizing their many years of volunteer work. Janet for her years (29!) as a Girl Guide leader and Leslie for her many years as a volunteer at the Lennox and Addington County Museum. Congratulations Ladies!

Fall is officially here and this week there is a bit of a bite in the air! Fall colours are just starting, geese are flying, sunrise is getting later and sunset earlier

somewhat wary of eastern or herbal treatments but David sees signs that today there is a trend to eastern and western medical treatments coming together and complementing each other; 18 to 20 years ago they were poles apart.

The speaker emphasized that genetics and life style are both important to our health; and mind, body and spirit are all components of a healthy immune system. Clean air, clean water and vital nutrient-rich food are essential to maintain health.



TC



WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

- Nancy Dunn

Amherst Island Women's Institute continues to provide ROSE (Rural Ontario Sharing Education) programs for the general public with September's offering being a look at "Food and Nutrients for Optimum Health".

David Best, proprietor of Green Door Vitamins on Wellington St. in Kingston, spoke to about 26 men and women at St. Paul's church hall on the evening of Sept. 17th. A professional engineer by training, David's introduction to "alternative" medical treatments and changes to his diet came through his own experience with severe recurring headaches which "modern" medicine and doctors couldn't seem to cure. Most of us are

He then went on to discuss water, food, vitamin supplements and various diets, indicating that everyone's metabolism is different. A regimen that works for one person will not necessarily work for another. He mentioned that wheat and dairy products are common allergens. Soya and rice milk are good alternatives. Essential fatty acids as in flax, sunflower and fish oils are helpful to most people. David has found that fresh, unprocessed and when possible, organic fruits and vegetables are better for our health and roughly 50% of vegetables should be eaten raw. Vitamin supplementation is indicated for many of us especially since pollutants and chlorination of water have resulted in decreased nutrient levels in fruits and vegetables. After answering several questions, he joined with the crowd in enjoying refreshments provided by Freda Youell with assistance from Leslie Gavlas and Judith Harrower.



Douglas Gavlas (son of George & Ida Gavlas) married Kim Sherman on September 13, 2003.

The lunch included all the food groups and a few sweets too. David's balanced approach to life and health allows a treat occasionally!

The regular business meeting of the 12 W.I. members present then took place with the usual opening and reports. We welcomed a guest, Mary Liz Best, who is the mother of the speaker.

Among the correspondence were announcements of district gatherings at Maple Ridge (09 Oct. - W.I. 70th anniversary celebration) and Hawley (08 Oct. - a Christmas decoration workshop). The area convention will be in Selby on 21 Oct.

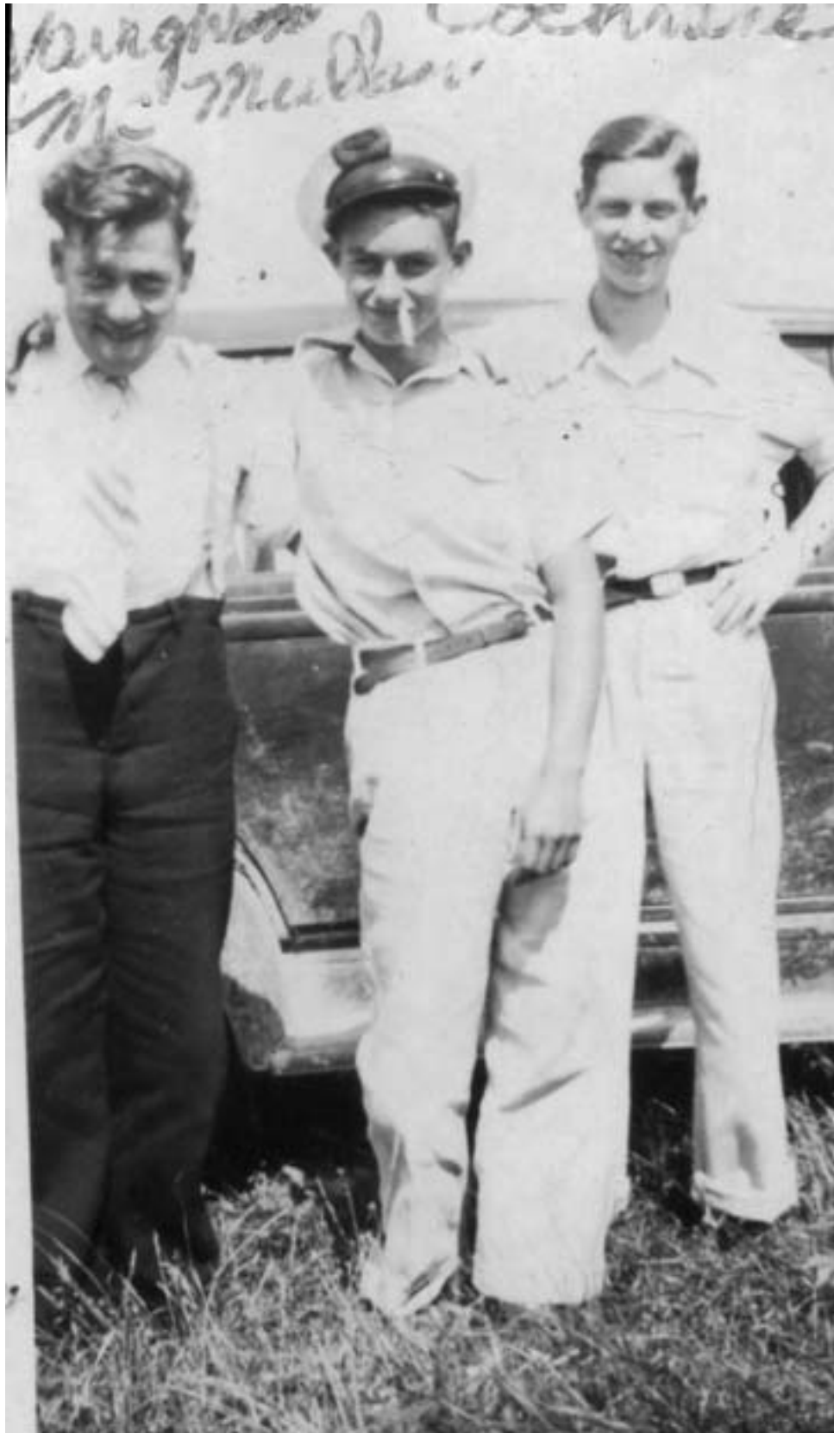
The current Tweedsmuir book in which we keep photos, pictures, newspaper clippings and other historical write-ups is now almost full. It will be photocopied for our files and the original sent to the Lennox and Addington County Museum in Napanee.

Judy Harrower has been organizing more clean-up and beautification projects in the public places of Stella. The toilets at the dock have been painted and fall flowers placed in the planters. Paint and roofing have been provided by the Township and Tom deHaan has offered to do the roofing free of charge. Brushing and run-down-fence removal at Centennial Park has improved that space. Shrubs in Glenwood cemetery have been trimmed and fertilized.

In most of these endeavours Judie has been assisted by some members of the W.I. but especially by high school students Will and Chris Reed, Candace Youell, Justin Hutchings and Crystal MacGinn, a temporary Islander who has since left us. We appreciate their help and are glad to provide some opportunities for them to earn the 40 hours of volunteer work they need to graduate.

If anyone has ideas for further projects which W.I. members could supervise using the time and talents of our students let Judie know.

Amherst Island Women's Institute has had a successful few months. We have earned funds through several ventures which Islanders and friends have generously patronized - our June Strawberry Social, the book sale, bake sales and our market table. As a result we had a lengthy discussion at the end of our meeting on ways in which we could utilize our funds



*In this 1948 photo,
L-R: Vaughn McMullen, Howard Cochrane, Bill Sharp
Photo from Betty Windsor*

for the benefit of the community. More time is needed to make decisions but "things" are in the works.

The 2004 calendar is soon to go into production. Advance notice was given of the Seniors Christmas Dinner (07 Dec. '03) and a committee struck.

Our next meeting on 15 Oct. at 7 p.m. will be at St. Paul's church hall and again will be open to all. The speaker will be Dan Clost of Connors Nursery. His topic will be "Native, Underused Plants that Grow Locally". Come and bring a friend.

We plan to be at the Farmers' Market until Thanksgiving. Drop by.



JANET'S JOTTINGS

- Janet Scott

A wonderful summer has come and gone and I know you hate to admit it but Fall is upon us. There are signs around the Island and vicinity that definitely point out that the inevitable is here!

The deer are coming now in the evening and early morning to eat the apples fallen from the old Barnyard Apple tree that is the last survivor from the Girvin apple orchard. The Macs are ripe on the dwarf tree in the front and they are more easily reached right on the tree. To add crunch to their diet the chestnuts are falling and they crunch right through that spiny husk to reach the nut inside. The old doe with the lame right hind leg keeps coming with a pair of fawns in tow year after year. She knows the sound of my car and just stands there looking at me when I drive in or leave but seemed more perturbed the other day when I was using the bus. She doesn't hurry away just calmly checks me out and saves her energy for when she really has to jump that fence and disappear into the brush.

The Northern Harriers that could be seen all summer hunting the fields west of the Stella 40 Foot are more adept at landing now. In July and August they were far from the elegant raptors they are as they thumped into the field after voles. Now they have their landing gear under control and deftly land and take off with minimum effort and a great deal of grace. They have been joined by more hawks pushing south following the migratory birds. The local American Kestrels' numbers have swelled



Ross Haines and his cherished windmill

JH

recently so I would think our own Island Kestrels have done well this year and are being joined by their cousins to the north. Sightings of Osprey, Bald Eagles and Peregrine Falcons have kept our eyes turned to the skies.

The European Starlings are gathering in migratory flocks and already their beaks have turned from yellow to black and their iridescent feathers are dull now and streaked. The small hawks like Sharpshinned are diving and harassing the flocks of Starlings as they spiral and circle the fields landing in masses in tall trees and screeching their indignation.

Both on the Island and on my beautiful morning drives to Enterprise I watch circling Turkey Vultures as they soar and ride the thermals. Earlier in the summer as many as 12 would be circling the Island skies. Re-

cently a Black Vulture was reported at Long Point, Prince Edward County so we should perhaps take second looks in our identification of these vultures. Like the immature Turkey Vulture, the Black Vulture has a black head but the difference is white wing tips.

An interesting visitor, soon named Tweety, showed up at Laurie Kilpatrick's and John Moolenbeek's feeder this past July. It stayed until almost Labour Day and taught its lower class feathered friends about feeding and drinking from china dishes while they tried to teach it about dust baths. The Budgie would land on a hand to feed, liked people and even entered a cage although it preferred sitting on the open door. One just never knows what will show up at a feeder!

The birds are gathering and collecting along the South Shore road as they wait to migrate - Robins, Water Pipits, a variety of hawks, shore birds and sparrows - so keep your eyes alert and binoculars ready.

Thanks for keeping me alerted to those special birds and thanks Angela for the nests.

Good Birding



COUNCIL GLEANINGS

- Ian Murray

Duncan Ashley was the only person to file papers to represent Amherst Island at Loyalist Council for the next 3 years. When I was in a similar position, I preferred to think that I was unopposed because of my good work and not because of the apathy of my fellow citizens.

Long-term service awards have been given to the following Township employees: Douglas Shurtliffe, 25 years; Lloyd Wolfreys, 30 years; and Raymond Wemp, 35 years.

The cost of re-roofing the Neilson Store Museum was expected to be about \$30,000 but the tenders were more than twice that amount. The roofing specifications are being reviewed by the Committee.

"Moved by Councillor Ashley . . . that the Clerk's report, September 3, 2003 re. Parking - Amherst Island be received and that staff monitor the two problem areas and investigate a plan to install "no parking" signs near the Presbyterian Church, Stella 40 Foot and the Anglican Church, Front Road, on Amherst Island by the spring of 2004. And further that Centennial Park also be monitored for problems next spring. Motion carried."

FOUR YOUNG WOMEN

- Joyce Brown

What excitement these four young women from Amherst Island must have experienced one morning in 1900. All were dressed in their best 'waists' and skirts and travelling to Kingston to have their photo taken at the Sheldon F. Davis studio. They were the daughters of William Wemp and Sarah MacKenzie Howard and great grand daughters of U.E.L. pioneer Barnabas Wemp of Amherst Island.

Catherine Jane Wemp was born October 31, 1875. 'Kitty' was 25 years old in the picture and was married to William Richards. She was the mother of three children, Blanche, Orloff and Cecil, all of whom

left the Island to live in New York state. Kitty died in 1951, and her grandchildren are scattered throughout the United States.

Elizabeth Gertrude Wemp was born April 3, 1881, and was 19 years old when this picture was taken. 'Bessie' married Richard O'Connor, a home boy from England sent to Amherst Island. They had two children, Lorne and Phyllis. Lorne died following World War II after service in that war. Phyllis Page still lives in Kingston with her daughter Marie Letourneau. Bessie died in 1956.

Ella Minerva Wemp was born October 30, 1882. 'Ellie' was 18 years old in this photograph. In 1907, she married Robert Glenn, son of Alexander 'Sandy' Glenn and Margaret Wemp. Her daughter, Pauline Glenn Taylor, gave birth to twin daughters, Joyce and Jean in 1943. Ellie died in 1956. She was my grandmother.

Beatrice May Wemp was born January 26, 1887, the youngest child in the family, and was called 'Beattie'. She was 13 years old on this memorable day. She and her husband, Amherst Island native and Kingston police officer Willie John McKee, raised a son, Vance. Their grandchildren, David, Bill and Liz, live in the Toronto area and the Yukon. Beattie died in 1972.

At the time of the Wemp reunion on the Island, Kitty's granddaughter, Catherine Richards, lived in San Mateo, California. She was the editor of a new age living magazine, and included this photograph in an

article she wrote on families. How amazed Kitty, Bessie, Ellie and Beattie would have been to see their photograph in a California magazine more than a hundred years after that exciting trip to Kingston when they were four young women.

DOWN TO EARTH

- Judith Harrower

Fall is a busy time for any gardener and particularly on Amherst Island.

Transplanting is ideal this time of year, not only financially as nearly all garden centres/nurseries have everything on sale, but also because winter is a dormant stage, not requiring new growth.

Transplanting bushes, shrubs, perennials, trees or propagating may be done right up until the ground is frozen. Fall lets plants 'rest', no new growth required while allowing roots to get adjusted to the new location. The only major difference between spring and fall planting is when one buys container items, DO NOT remove as much soil around the roots as you would in the spring, just free up a few of the major roots. Generally container plants have been in the containers for months and sometimes years. [In spring, to stimulate the roots into spreading out, remove the container soil and spread the roots evenly around the hole.] This results in the plant in establishing itself more quickly.

Prior to planting it is a good idea to get new soil, I buy mine in bags as I can store it anywhere over the winter, easy to transport to various locations and no major pile to get rid of. If you need a large quantity I have not bought A-1 topsoil, but rather the scrapings which is ½ the price. This includes black earth, garden soil, sand, and lower grade soil and seems to be just fine. Bags cost around \$4.00 and do about 3-4 bushes or one tree.

Once you have your hole with new soil, then add bonemeal/bloodmeal which is natural rather than chemical and does not burn/damage the new exposed roots (my bushes/trees have not shown any symptoms of mad cow). Water at this point to ensure that the bottom of the hole is moist, place you tree/bush and fill alternating with origi-



nal soil and new soil, water again. Nature in the fall usually assists with watering but not always so go back in three days and water again, repeating until it rains.

I favour staking as with the wind on the Island, it blows the tree/bush trunks back and forth for months compressing the soil away from the trunk. Then air gets in and dries the soil around the trunk and roots. After a year usually stakes aren't needed. Stakes may be bought but try the new construction sites on the Island, ask for discarded lumber for tying. I use soft wide ties from Canadian Tire used for staking tomato plants. These ties do not damage the bark and give enough that the tree is not rigid which could snap off the tops.

When buying new trees buy small as most of the Island has little topsoil and the bedrock is not very far down. Small trees' roots are able to grow into and break up limestone far easier than large roots. You may not be around to see the tree at its full height but I am leaving something behind for the next generation, just as we enjoy the labour of those who planted the trees along the roads especially.

To keep the shape and a healthy bush/shrub/tree, trim extensively in the fall. Any bush/shrub can be trimmed to suit the location or what height/width you want. This also prevents major wind-burn in the winter and the plant's energy goes into the roots. Even very old lilac bushes can be drastically trimmed, which will help rejuvenate them for the next spring.

Around everything mulch is wonderful, reduces weeds, keeps moisture around the roots, prevents weed eating from scaring or damaging the soft bark and assists in breaking up the clay soil. Wood mulch, available sometimes at our dump site but always at the Loyalist dump on Violet Road, grass cuttings, pulled weeds, hay,

straw and especially the green sludge from along the lakeshore. During the summer keep mulch about 6" away from the trunks but in winter cover right up to the trunk at least 8" deep and as wide as the limbs reach out in width. I also use bags of sheep/cow manure (no smell) before the mulch, and it washes down in gradually over the winter.

Winter-burn is a major disaster here and

when it has a burlap wrap.

This month all coniferous (evergreens) need a GOOD and DEEP watering. Leaving the hose trickle slowly is one way and allows you to do other things. So water thoroughly, add bonemeal/bloodmeal, mulch, which should protect you evergreens. When watering by hand, hose or container, spray the whole tree as moisture washes



Shed on The Second Concession

JH

unless you cover everything in burlap your garden will suffer. This past winter many trees/bushes suffered extensive wind-burn, those parts that were exposed above the two layers of snow and the layer of ice. However, once a plant has suffered wind-burn you can save the tree/bush by cutting the tops off or extensive trimming which allows the roots to produce new growth. Always cut at a 45-degree angle to prevent water sitting on the new cut area and seeping into the trunk. Wait until June at least, to remove what you think may be dead or not worth salvaging. I use burlap screens to protect the most vulnerable areas or certain delicate plants/trees. The screens may be unsightly but the snow often banks against them and helps hide them. Placing burlap right up against the plant is not as effective as a screen as the wind seems to burn right through to the bushes/shrubs

off dust and pollutants and your bushes/trees like a bath.

The clay soil on the Island cracks in dry weather. To help the clay retain moisture you can use peat moss, lakeshore sludge or any other better soil. My approach is one of doing certain areas not the entire property, as the cost is too dear. There are differences of opinions as to the length you should cut your grass for the winter, but generally longer protects the roots as it does throughout the summer, but also provides length perfect for vole tunnels. Fall fertilizers are excellent and seep slowly into the soil in the winter months and reduces work for the spring. But remember that most of the Island's drainage goes into the lake so use wisely.

Voiles, voiles and still more voiles this year will be a gardener's bane. I have purchased

a fine plastic black screening, relatively inexpensive from Home Depot, which comes in various heights and lengths. For my 'holding garden' where I have planted my seedlings that I bought two years ago from the Ministry, I am putting a barrier of this around this area, digging about 1 ½" into the soil. For bushes/shrubs, whose little stems are too flimsy for the white plastic wrap, I have found 'garden tape' at Canadian Tire, which goes on like scotch tape. I wrap anything else in the white plastic wrap. Dig about 2" into the soil and start the wrap below the soil level, fill back in and wrap well up to the bottom limb for protection. There is little one can do if we have deep snow and the deer or voles are able to eat the tops, but the plant will survive if the lower portion is protected, you'll have less height next year.

A commercial product, Skoot, is good but must be applied only after a freeze, not when there is rain, as it will wash off. December is often the best time if we have mild weather until then. Clearing away wood piles and cutting the grass around plants will assist you in not attracting voles, but this year it would appear that the Island is infested and all our efforts may be for naught. Having cats and dogs is very beneficial, especially a terrier type dog but I am not recommending adopt one just for the winter to protect your garden, borrow one!

Flower beds again may be cleared of dead plant material or some prefer to leave it to protect the root systems, however, this provides excellent coverage for voles and snakes to use in the winter. Flower bulbs may be planted right up until the soil freezes and there are a host of varieties to choose from. Tulip bulbs do not last as long as daffodils, narcissus and will need to be replaced in about 4 to 5 years. Mulching really does keep the weeds down as well as retaining moisture - saves time weeding and the cost of watering.

I have not experienced deer damage and have no information to pass on, but perhaps a reader will offer what they have found to be effective in previous winters. Would readers also write Ian and provide other helpful tips about winterizing and protecting gardens over the winter and those who have vegetable gardens.



OCTOBER SKIES

- Alan Kidd

As we move into autumn, Mars continues to be a very bright object in the southern skies. However, the Northern Cross and Lyra, the constellations that dominated the summer skies, are slowly moving into the west and another constellation is beginning to occupy the zenith (that part of the sky that is directly overhead)

In many ways the autumn is the best time for stargazing, since the bugs are pretty well gone, along with most of the summer haze. However, the nights are not so cold as to prevent us from spending some time outdoors looking at the heavens. Late in the evening during mid October, there is a pattern of four fairly bright stars directly overhead. This is the constellation of Pegasus, also called the Great Square. The Great Square of Pegasus is the major landmark of the Autumn Skies. Pegasus, of course, is the great winged horse of mythology. In the skies Pegasus is flying with his head

down, pointing toward the south.

If you extend a line connecting the western most two stars of the Great Square southward almost to the horizon, you will come to the star Fomalhaut. In the constellation Piscis Austrinus,

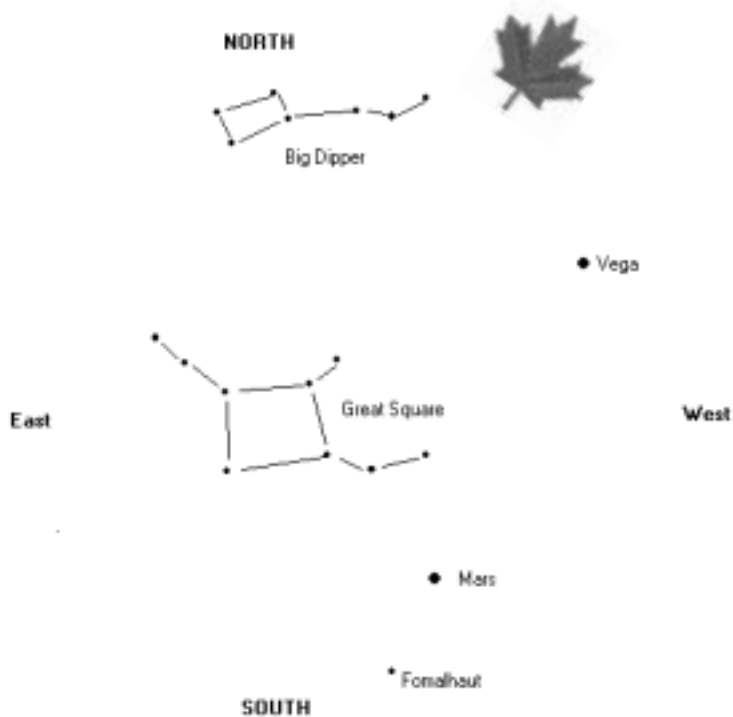
or the Southern Fish.

Fomalhaut is the brightest star of the autumn constellations, but is stuck more or less all by itself in the south. It is fairly easy to find now, because it is just a little to the south from Mars. It is the only bright star in the neighbourhood of Mars. In case you were wondering, Fomalhaut comes from the Arabic and means fish's mouth. It is part of the longer Arabic phrase meaning mouth of the southern fish.

Fomalhaut is quite close to us, only 25 light years away. This is about the same distance as Vega (discussed in the July article) but Fomalhaut is not as bright because it is a smaller star than Vega. It still has 16 times the luminosity of the Sun however.

Saturn continues to rise earlier, and by mid month it is above the horizon by 11:00 PM. Mars still dominates the evening sky, although it will start to fade noticeably this month as it moves further from Earth. By the end of the month Jupiter appears in the east just before sunrise.

On the chart I've added the Great Square, as well as the positions of Fomalhaut and Saturn. [Editors note: when you hold the chart over your head, west and east are as shown in the sketch].



An Interview with DOUG WILSON

- Zander of DUNN INN

For over 50 years I've wondered what was in the big metal-covered barn across from the Stella General Store on Front Road. I knew, of course, it had been a Blacksmith's shop. The sign "W. Brown and Son, General Blacksmith" told me that. I had heard many stories about the shop and about the buildings around it. I had heard, for example, that Wes Brown's people came to Amherst Island around 1845 and, not long after that, erected the shop for business. I had heard about how sturdy the building was and how popular a meeting place it was in "the good old days." Like many tourists I had admired the building itself and had taken



Doug Wilson in his workshop

Zander Dunn Photo

pictures of it. But I had never been inside it. I had never seen what it contained. All that changed when I knocked on the door of Doug Wilson who resides at 5680 Front Road on the corner of The Stella Forty Foot.

Doug had agreed to talk to me about himself and the Blacksmith's shop which is one of the biggest and most impressive buildings on Amherst Island. But it was not Doug who greeted me when I knocked at his door. I was welcomed loudly by The Boss, Doug's 107 pound, muscular, brown Doberman Pinscher. In fact, The Boss was so eager to greet me, Doug had to pull him off and put him in his cage in the front room.

Doug modestly said he had not much to tell and had not lived that long on the Island. But my few questions launched him into sharing a most interesting life history. Doug was born July 22, 1917, in Kingston, right next to St. George's Cathedral. He lived most of his early life in Kingston with his mother. When he graduated from High

School, in the technical department, he became an electrician and was hired by ALCAN where he started to work in 1940 for about 12 cents an hour. Later in the same year (by which time he was being paid 20 cents an hour), Doug joined the Royal Canadian Navy where he served his country until 1945. Doug claims he joined the Navy to get away from the 12 hour shifts at ALCAN.

Doug did not take naturally to the sea. In fact, he was so seasick during his first tour of duty on a convoy to Ireland that he was ready to jump overboard

in frustration and discomfort. He remembers how on that tour the enemy submarines sank 16 freighters carrying goods to support Britain's war effort.

His seasickness was so bad he was dropped off in Iceland on the return trip.



HMCS Guelph, a Corvette Doug served on.

Iceland had milder weather than Canada in January and he enjoyed his time there. He was later returned to Canada on a destroyer.

Back in Canada he was assigned to the Gaspé region of Quebec, at the mouth of The St. Lawrence River, to help open a naval base. It seemed to him the Canadian Navy lost almost as many ships in the St. Lawrence as it did in the Atlantic. From there he was posted to Halifax and then to Longueuil across from Montreal and then to Collingwood where he helped prepare a new corvette, H.M.C.S. "Guelph," for sea trials. That ship was so much better than an older corvette on which he had served - "Camrose." As an engineer on the Camrose he had to walk from his living quarters in the forecabin over the open deck to the rear of the ship to go down into the engine room where he worked. This was not only inconvenient, it was dangerous. On "The Guelph" he lived above his work station and could get to it quickly and safely.

Doug travelled across Canada and farther afield to work in various Navy postings. He especially enjoyed a training session in Bermuda. Doug even got a ride in a submarine which had no heat. He could not understand why anybody would volunteer to be a submariner for the 25 cents a day extra that such a position paid. Doug's rank gained him \$3 a day but he felt he deserved much more when he had to endure the terrible seas - the huge waves, the rolling ships and the danger of enemy attacks.

Only by a finger, a disabled finger he still carries, had Doug been refused entrance to the Army and also to the Air Force. His handicap was no problem for the Navy which took him on and educated him until he retired in 1945 as a Chief Petty Officer.

Petty Officers, like Sergeants and Warrant Officers in the Army and Air Force, are the back-bone of the armed forces. They were treated well by the standards of the day. When Doug compared his experiences with that of Billy Bulch, who fought for the Royal Navy, he realized how fortunate he had been.



ZD

Members of the Royal Canadian Navy were paid much more than their equivalent ranks in the Royal Navy. Men in the British Navy could not converse with others in lower or higher ranks. In the Canadian Navy the men were free to talk with seamen and with officers alike. Travelling across Canada on official business Doug, as a Petty Officer, went first class. The Royal Navy personnel were allowed to claim only third class treatment.

When the war ended, Doug went back to ALCAN and worked as a tool-and-die maker until he took early retirement in 1977. He came to Amherst Island that same year in response to a suggestion from his friend, Earle Bilow, that they buy a house together - half and half. The house they bought is the one in which Doug now lives

which is built right snug up against the property lines.

Every car on its way to the ferry must pass his home.

The whole corner property - 160 feet toward the ferry and 98 feet toward the Back Kitchen - was purchased for \$5,000. The arrangement is that Doug can live there for as long as he likes. When he leaves or dies the property goes to Earle Bilow's three



Doug and "the boss"

ZD photo

children.

When he arrived the house was a mess. Doug gutted the inside completely, applied insulation, erected partitions, rewired the building and installed a furnace and air conditioning. The house, which still has a small cistern, lacked a good well. On the day when five wells were drilled, Doug's was the only one to strike water - good water. The authorities would not allow him to lay out a septic system so he became the first island resident to install a holding tank. The house, which has no basement but is built on logs which run east and west but do not meet in the middle, is now solid and comfortable for one man and his man-sized dog.

Although Doug has demolished the old shed and a small barn and has cleared away much debris, the blacksmith shop remains in its original condition. As Doug points out, the elm beams are as strong and as hard as steel. Hanging from them are the blacksmith's tools - pliers, hammers, tongs, horseshoes. The forge waits patiently, the bellows leans nearby, the anvils sit stolidly, the vices and grips are ready to use. Among them are piled pieces of beautiful wood, cans of nails, tools of every description - all of which Doug has collected over the years.

It has been Doug's purpose to keep the Blacksmith's shop in good shape. He has painted it, has kept the metal roof in good repair and has kept the grounds trim. Once the sign - "W. Brown and Son, General Blacksmith" - which weighs about 300 pounds, fell down and Doug had to go to considerable trouble to get it repainted and restored.

Doug showed me "The Dog House" - a separate shed where the men of the Island used to gather to chew the fat, ar-



Nancy Dunn & Ian Murray at the Saturday morning market in Centennial Park.

ZD photo

gue, trade, get ideas and gossip. No doubt it was called the Dog House because the men liked to think they were put out of their houses by their wives and found refuge together in this location.

Around the old Quebec heater the men would socialize in the winter and perhaps play a game or two of cards. A bottle or two of gin would help lubricate the action. Today this shed and the workshop attached to Doug's house are full of every imaginable tool, every known device, every possible attachment. Doug has all the electrical tools anyone would ever need. He has one, or more, of every hand tool ever created. Many of his treasures are antiques and he has thousands of them. Screws, nails, binders, wires, nuts, bolts, are arranged in jars. Auto parts, construction implements, wood-working instruments and electrical connectors adorn the walls and ceilings. Doug declared, "If I don't have it, it's probably not worth having." Many of these

treasures Doug has picked up or purchased over the years. Others have been on the property since he took it over.

To see inside the Blacksmith's shop, the Dog House and his workshop is an education in itself. Doug has so many of almost everything he is willing to give it away or lend it without charge. His attitude is that when he does something good to somebody for free, that person, in turn, will help him at no cost. He values, far more than money, the good relations he has with so many Islanders. Because he has done so much for others, and is willing to help even more, he is confident the Islanders will treat him with the same open hearted courtesy and respect. There was a time, years ago, when he figured he'd done a favour for almost everybody on the Island and could expect the same treatment in return.

It was a non-islander who gave him only \$2 for a framed picture he had found in

the attic of his house. The man assured him it was not worth any more than that and Doug trusted him. You can imagine his sense of betrayal when he heard that man had sold the picture for \$200 and that it had later been repaired and cleaned up and sold for \$500!

Doug loves the Island as well as anybody who has lived here all his life. He enjoys a good life and finds the Islanders friendly. Even when he dies he plans to stay here. He has his plot all paid for in the Glenwood Cemetery.

When he leaves the island these days it is nearly always to go, via his 1996 Chevy Lumina van with only 40,000 kms on it, to Bath and Napanee. He has not been to Kingston in three years.

Only a few times did Doug ever drive on the ice - and then it was in good weather with the ice road well marked by Christmas trees. But he remembers, as do most Islanders, the winter when all the roads were plugged and a plow from Trenton had to be brought in to blow away the snow so Islanders could travel.

His residence must be well-built because it has withstood being crashed into by two vehicles. One truck hit the south-west corner and made no impression on the house but sustained considerable damage. A car backed up into the other end of the house on Front road but did no injury to Doug's abode. But Doug enjoys being at the centre of the action on Amherst Island.

There was a time when Doug knew everybody on the Island. No more. He marvels at the newcomers and the big new houses they are building. He laments that there are still drunk drivers on the Island. He wonders how long it will be before the Frontenac II will be unable to handle all the traffic.

Today Doug enjoys reading books, watching T.V., puttering in his shops and using his tools and he loves his dog who returns the favour with enthusiasm.

In Doug Wilson Amherst Island has a hidden treasure, with a heart of gold who has stored away things to surprise you and make your eyes pop.



TC

NEW BEGINNINGS

- Terrence Patrick Culbert

I discovered Amherst Island a dozen years ago while producing a story on newborn lambs at Topsy Farms for Global Television. I returned to the Island a short time later while working on the story of Catharine Anne Wilson's book "*A New Lease On Life, Landlords, Tenants, & Immigrants in Ireland & Canada*", published by McGill-Queen's University Press. Author Wilson told me that a number of the Irish descendants still resided on Amherst Island and gave me the name of Keith and Adam Miller. The Millers, along with many other Island families came from the Ards Peninsula of County Down in Northern Ireland. My great-great-grandparents, John and Mary Culbert pioneered 100-acres of bush in Biddulph Township northwest of Lucan. They immigrated to Upper Canada from Ballymackey, Tipperary in 1840, hence, my interest in anything Irish.

I did return to the Island on two more occasions. I came back to produce a story on the wonderful artistic talents of Shirley Miller and then to record a fireside chat with my old friend and colleague Peter Trueman. Peter delivered well wishes for a Global Tel-

evision anniversary presentation.

As the years passed, I never thought anything more about the area until the day Barb came home from work and asked me if I'd ever heard of Amherst Island? Barb worked with a woman named Judi Gould who had vacationed here for many years with her husband Jim. The Goulds stayed either at the Welbanks homestead on the South Shore Road or the Poplar Dell Bed and Breakfast on Front Road and both Jim and Judi were enamoured with the Island. Barb and I decided to pay a visit and after only a few days, we too were hooked on 'the jewel of Lake Ontario'. As I write these few paragraphs, Jim and Judi are building a new home on the South Shore Road and we hope to begin construction this fall on the Second Concession Road, next door to Dorothy and Kaye McGinn.

On the 9th of September, 'Baby the garage cat', Merlot and Justin, our four-year-old Bouviers, as well as Barb and I moved lock, stock and barrel to Amherst Island. We had long planned our escape from the hustle and bustle of urban life, however, the prospect of moving to an island seemed almost exotic. Our final relocation from York Region to Eastern Ontario, near the head of the St. Lawrence River, was a dream come true. With the help of a terrific little

moving company out of Newmarket, two 34-foot trucks and the fantastic crew of the Frontenac II, our worldly belongings arrived at the Stella Dock.

Our first evening was memorable. In the distance, a few streetlights shone, accompanied by a number of illuminated lamps glowing from the interior of our neighbours's comfortable homes. Periodically, a car or truck would pass our rental bungalow [formerly the home of Billy and Helen Bulch]. The night air was still and peaceful. All of our accumulated stress slowly dissolved.

Shortly before six the next morning, we were awakened by the passing of a number of vehicles bearing down on the four-way stop in Stella. They flew around the corner past the General Store, heading north on Stella Forty Foot Road in a desperate attempt to catch the ferry. Fully awake, we decided to brew an early pot of coffee and were rewarded by a flock of sheep walking single file as if on cue, searching for greener pastures. The sun slowly rose above the horizon and all was well.

During those first few days, we enjoyed magnificent sunsets, swims in the warm mid-September waters and taking Merlot and Justin for morning walks along peaceful country roads. Of course around ferry time, this tranquil Island seems to turn into a wild freeway, but such is human nature – some things remain the same regardless of where one lives.

HERE & THERE

- Ian Murray

A recent Whig-Standard article stated the following facts about the English River, a handsome working boat that goes by our farm quite often: there are 18 in the crew; the second mate is from Millhaven, Gordon Connelly; about 84 trips per year to pick up cement from Lafarge; it was launched in 1961 and is approx. 400'x60'; her ca-



Russell McGinn and a bumper crop

JH

capacity is 7450 tons at mid-summer draught - enough cement to fill 170 transport trucks. "The English River trades at Lafarge docks located in Bath, Toronto, Oswego, Buffalo, Detroit, and Cleveland."

The Eastern Ontario Farmer recently published 2 articles on local farms.

"A safe haven from wily coyotes", August 12, describes a 65 acre safe area built on the farm owned by Mark Ritchie and Cherry Allen - "a 1000 ewe pasture-based commercial sheep farm on 1000 acres".

The area is protected by a 4' high, high-tensile, small mesh, woven wire fence which is topped by an electrically charged wire above which is a grounded wire. The fence is supported by steel posts and is set close to the ground. The 10 gateways to adjoining fields each have two 8' wide by 6' high chain link gates.

The safe haven is sub-divided into 3 fields and can harbour 250-300 ewes plus lambs.

Mark: "One of our most valuable tools in limiting coyote predation is 'change'. The more we change and vary our control methods, the wavier the coyotes, the fewer our losses. The 'safe area' becomes yet another tool we can use strategically."

Other tools that Mark and Cherry have tried are donkeys, strobe lights, ultrasound,

hunting, trapping, and guard dogs.

"Coyotes are renowned for their adaptability, making it difficult to come up with a simple recipe for limiting predation. . . . Guard dogs have proven the most effective. . . Mark and Cherry currently have 8 guard dogs - Great Pyrenees and Maremma breeds.

'We don't know what we'd do without the dogs,' Cherry comments, 'but they do require considerable work and expenses.' She estimates food and veterinary bills at \$300 - \$500 per dog per year, in addition to their time to condition them to guard the sheep."

As an experiment that will help other farmers, the safe haven project received funding from the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association - OSCIA.

Topsy Farms, "Shepherd takes preventative environmental measures", also received OSCIA funding to prevent manure run-off from reaching Lake Ontario via a seasonal stream.

"Last summer, a local contractor [Noel McCormick] constructed a berm next to the stream to channel the run-off, separate it from the seasonal stream and then pass it through an 850' by 150' grassed area before releasing it further down-

stream. The berm effectively creates a shallow three-acre catchment basin, which forms the basis of the filter strip. . . . Topsy Farms has implemented several environmental improvements over the years. These include planting shelter belts, fencing sheep out of treed areas, rotational grazing, diverting water from the barnyard, abandoning one barnyard for wintering sheep because of its proximity to Lake Ontario and putting fuel tanks in a concrete enclosure.”

Peter Trueman wrote an interesting introspective article in the September PIC Press. I doubt Peter approves of the title “A Canadian icon examines a career based on journalistic integrity”.

The article certainly reflects Peter’s almost painful honesty which sometimes comes across even in casual conversation with him.

“I suspect that the number of people in this world who have real integrity could be counted on the fingers of one hand. Most of us quietly strive for it and are decently mum about the unending struggle.”

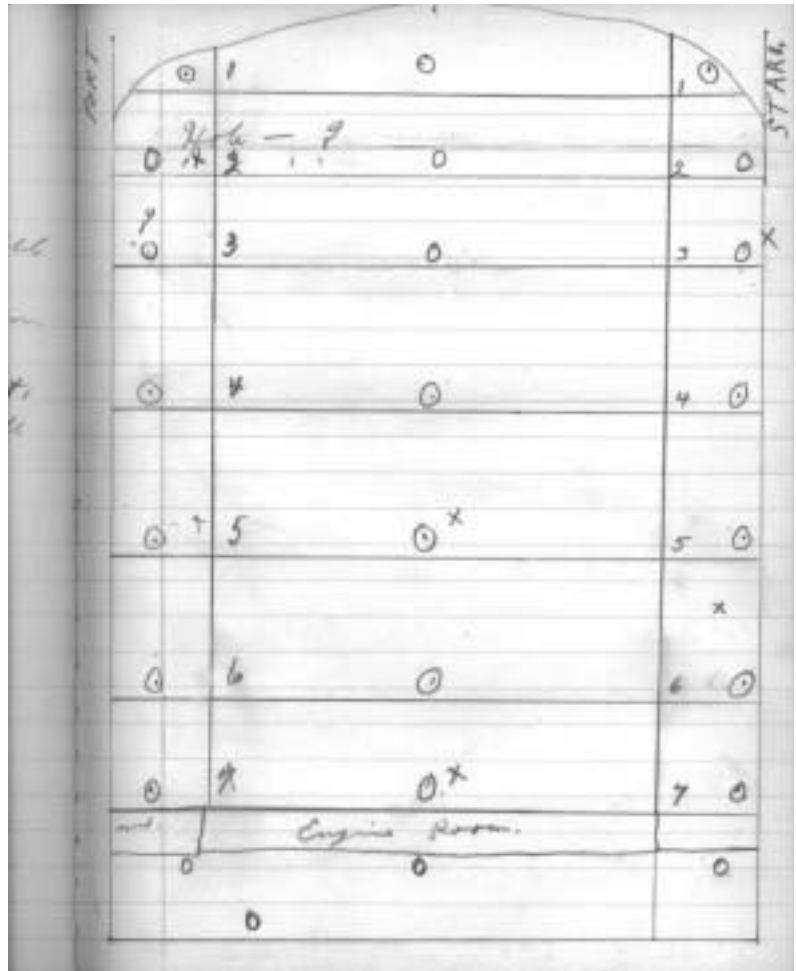
Its not only Peter’s height that sometimes makes me think of George Orwell.

We just received some form letters from the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation - mpac. The writer, a Custom Service Representative whose signature I cannot read, informs the Dear Owner that: “After reviewing your assessment, I am satisfied that your assessed value is fair and the classification of your property is correct.”

Despite this reassurance, I think that we’ll proceed with our appeals.

The article about Ernest Fleming in the September Beacon concerning Ernest’s long and productive life was certainly interesting for all of us who knew the man.

As I enter late-middle-age/early-old-age, I wonder if the joys of living to a very old age - watching grand-children and great-grand-children building their lives and the sun-rises and sun-sets and so on - balance the sadness of out-living wife and son and almost all of one’s contemporaries. *****



This note from the 1942-43 logbook of the MV Amherst Islander (a.k.a. “the wooden boat”) details the leaks (marked with “x”) in the hull that were to be fixed when the ship was in for work.

UPDATE ON THE M.V. AMHERST ISLANDER

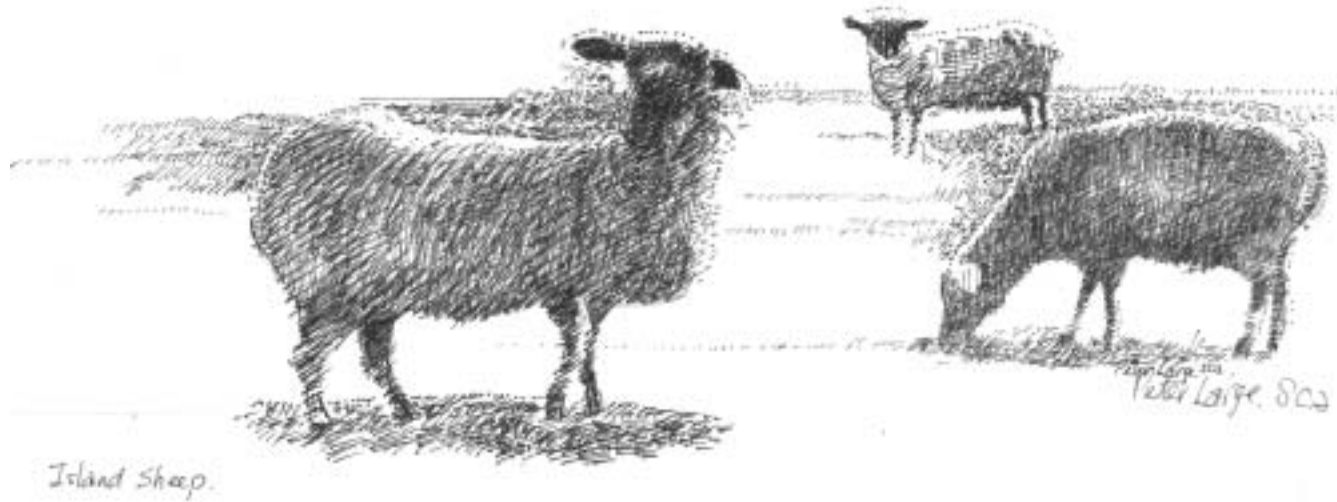
- Alan Kidd

I would like to give an update on the status of both the Amherst Islander and of plans to sink the boat as a dive site.

I recently talked to Peter Ginn, an MTO representative based in Kingston, about the status of the Amherst Islander. According to him, the Amherst Islander is currently tied up in the western end of Lake Erie, perhaps as far away as Windsor. It is there because its last assignment was to provide backup ferry service to Pelee Island. In any event, the boat is mechanically sound, all damages to its engines having now been repaired. However, the boat’s certificate of sea-worthiness has expired, and it would be an expensive proposition to get a new one, since a dry dock inspection would be required.

Mr. Ginn told me that the fate of the Amherst Islander is very much up in the air. Some groups, including the Divers in Kingston, having applied some degree of pressure to have the boat turned over for non-commercial use. Certainly no political decisions will be made until well after the current election. Mr. Ginn pointed out that bringing the Amherst Islander back to this area would be very expensive, since to travel under its own power an extensive inspection would be required. Otherwise the boat would have to be towed here from Lake Erie, which would also cost a lot of money.

One piece of good news is that the MTO has already removed several items of historical significance from the Amherst Islander, and these are currently at the MTO office in Kingston, awaiting transfer to the Township. These items include the ferry logs and some of its lights. Mr. Ginn is aware of the desire to have the boat’s



Peter Large, SCA

wheel turned over to the Township, but as long as the possibility exists that the boat will go back into service, the wheel will have to stay with it.

The possibility of sinking the ferry as a dive site still exists, but there are many obstacles in the way. As has been pointed out, removing all contaminants, including any asbestos, would be an expensive undertaking, even if the funds could be obtained to acquire the boat and get it here. The existing Ontario moratorium on the sinking of boats as dive sites is also a major factor. A representative of the divers' group has told me that after further study, and taking into account reaction of local residents, the group no longer believes Stella Bay is a suitable location. They will continue to study possible locations around Amherst Island for sinking the boat, but no decisions are expected in the near future.

The board of directors of the Neilson's Store Museum and Cultural Centre will continue to stay in contact with the Township, the MTO and any group interested in acquiring the Amherst Islander so as to be able to acquire the largest number of artifacts off the boat as possible.

LETTER HOME

- Christopher Kennedy

We finally got nearly two inches of rain last night, but it will be almost too late to give us much pasture growth this fall. In the early part of the summer we had plenty of rain which gave us excellent grass for the sheep. Then the second half of August and most of September were very dry and the pasture dried up. We have had to truck most of the lambs to the home farm and we are starting to feed them grain to get them ready for market. We have the ewes, about 1200 in all, in the pasture behind the school and are feeding them hay. We will move the ewes home gradually during the fall. We have stored a lot of the hay in the fields in which we made it, and will unroll it for the ewes. This way we do not have to truck the hay home and the ewes spread the manure themselves.

I am fascinated by the way the wild life changes on the Island from year to year. This year we have very few rabbits but the meadow voles are coming back. I see a lot of Marsh Harriers over the fields and the owls should be returning this winter. We have seen several foxes at this end of the Island and the deer are starting to appear in the fields, and on the roads. They spend much of the summer in the bush. My niece was visiting from Kentucky and was amazed

at the number and size of the deer on the Island. She said it was every Kentucky hunter's dream to come to Canada for the deer and moose. About three weeks ago the air at the foot of the Island was full of dragon flies. Dragon flies are superb hunters of mosquitoes and other insects. The rain this summer must have given perfect conditions for the dragon flies to breed.

The market for slaughter cattle and lambs is still dismal. The prices for young cattle for feeding have not been too bad recently so some buyers are optimistic that the border will eventually open for live cattle under 30 months of age. The market for older cull cattle is a disaster. We hope that the border will open for slaughter lambs in the not too distant future. Representatives from The Ontario Sheep Marketing Agency and The Canadian Sheep Federation went down to Washington last week to lobby the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Most of our summer visitors have left and now I can recognize some of the vehicles which pass me on the road. Soon it will be time to put on the storm windows and fire up the furnace.



from BORN ON THE ISLAND

- L&A County Museum and Archives

(Excerpts from the Napanee Beaver, April 1895-April 1897)

September 13, 1895

STELLA

Mr. Follock has gone to Hamilton on a two weeks* visit to his father, and Mr. Cumberland filled his pulpit on Sabbath evening.

Miss Follock is visiting friends at Glenburnie.

Miss M. McLean, Kingston, is the guest of Annie Moutray.

Mr. and Mrs. Smythe, Miss Smythe and Miss McMath, are visiting at Mr. T. Polly*s.

Miss Aggie Fleming of Millhaven, spent a few days at H. Hunter*s

Mrs. M. Montgomery has returned home after spending a few days with Miss McWaters, Portsmouth.

Mr. S. Kirk, formerly of Stella, was married on the 11th to Miss Lizzie Lee, of Kingston. Congratulations.

The Jubilee Singers on the 2d were a success.

Miss Minnie Taylor is seriously ill.

Mr. Stevenson*s horse ran away on Thursday evening, throwing him out and running into Mr. Walter Brown*s buggy, throwing him out also. No one was seriously hurt, but both buggies were smashed and are now at Mr. Pringle*s for repairs.

Mr. R.A. Caughey is back in Mr. J.L. Neilson*s store.

On Monday a little son of Alexander McKee had a finger nearly cut off with a straw cutter. Dr. Northmore dressed the wound.

October 16, 1895 AMHERST ISLAND SHOW

The Amherst Island Agricultural Fair was held as usual at Stella, on Tuesday, Oct. 8th. At an early hour of the morning the exhibitors were on the ground arranging their stuff, encouraged, no doubt, by the fair prospects of the weather. The



*EASY RIDER: Albert Henderson on his motorcycle, Spring 1948.
picture from Betty Windsor*

day was fine but cold, but judging from the crowd on the ground, was fully appreciated. There was a fine exhibit of grain, roots etc. The ladies* work was well represented and their work gained high recommendation. The show of horses was exceptionally good and the owners ought to be proud of owning such fine animals. The fruit and vegetables were immense and a great variety of

apples was exhibited. The exhibit for a special prize given by Uriah Wilson, Esq., M.P. for the best collection of apples was well contested, as good, if not better than any local show this season. The show of honey, although small, was of good quality, but there must be an allowance made for the small quantity shown as it is a new industry of the Island.

Our show was not only honoured by people from Bath but some from Kingston and other parts.

The following acted as judges:

Agricultural horses - Messrs. F. Baker and F. Amey.

Roadster horses and blacksmith*s work - J.R. McPherson and F.D. Miller.

Cattle - W.R. Purdy and T.S. Burley.

Fruits, vegetables and Wilson*s prize - A. Knight and J. Dennee.

Sheep, pigs, and poultry - Wm. Miller and B. Briscoe.

Grain and seeds - A. VanSlyke and N. Amey.

Ladies* work - Mrs. J. Baker and Mrs. Ed. Wemp

Prize List:

Stallion - Wm. Allen

Agricultural team - Wm. Hill, W.H. Preston, John Reid

Sucking colt - Thos. Hill, Wm. Allen.

Mare and colt - Thos. Hill, Wm. Glenn, Wm. Allen.

Two-year-old colt - Wm. Allen

Three-year-old colt - Wm. Hill, S.J. Morrow, J.C. Howard

Roadsters:

Stallion - C.H. Howard

Single horse in harness - John Gibson, C.M. Howard, W.J. Fleming

Team of roadsters - Wm. Hamilton, C.M. Howard, W.H. Preston.

Mare and foal - W.H. Moutray, C.M. Howard, W.J. Fleming.

Sucking colt - W.J. Fleming, W.H. Moutray, C.M. Howard.

Yearling Colt - Thos. Hill, A.W. Hitchins.

Two-year-old colt - John Richards, J.C. Howard.

Three-year-old colt - Wm. Glenn, S.J. Morrow, John Reid.

Other:

Crochet work in wool - C.M. Howard, Wm. Hamilton, Rev. J. Cumberland

Embroiding in silk - Wm. Hamilton, J.C. Howard, J.S. Neilson

Drawn work - A.W. Hitchins, J.C.

Howard, W.H. Moutray.

Specimen machine work - D. Finigan, Robt. Glenn, J.C. Howard.

Arrasone work - J. Patterson, Wm. Hamilton, Wm. Glenn

Braiding - D. Finigan

Hooked rag mat - D. Finigan, Thos Hill, A. Hill.

Toilet set - J.S. Neilson, W.H. Moutray.

Knitted lace in cotton - D. Finigan, S.J. Morrow, Wm. Allen

Outlining work - J. Patterson, J.S. Neilson, Wm. Hamilton.

Table mats - Wm. Hamilton, Rev. J. Cumberland, J.S. Neilson.

Table centre piece - J. Patterson, Rev. J. Cumberland, W.H. Moutray.

Home manufactured wine- Robt. Glenn, J.C. Howard, D. Finigan.

Quart canned fruit - Rev. J. Cumberland, Wm. Allen, Robt. Glenn

Best collection of flowers, six in number - J.C. Howard

Children*s Work:

Patchwork - Wm. Cooper Cotton apron - Wm. McDonald

Blacksmith*s Work:

Best ironed buggy - Sidney Pringle.

Wilson*s Prize:

Best collection of apples - Wm. Cooper, Wm. Glenn, Adam Miller.

Best sample of honey in comb - R.A. Fowler, John McVean, Wm. McMaster.

NOTICES

CALENDAR

Island Art Exhibit/2004 Calendar Revealed

The Women's Institute invites Islanders to experience our 2004 Calendar unveiling at The Lodge, 320 McDonald's Lane, Saturday November 8th 4-7 pm.

Collect your copy of the Calendar (and don't forget extras for gifts) while still available. Come and view all of the art submissions for the Calendar. Select your favourite (format restraints means there are wonderful submissions we couldn't include in

the Calendar). Many of these works will be for sale by the artists. Some of these works will be for sale by the artists.

Light refreshments provided

KIRK MEETS BILLY

Kirk Dunn, son of Zander and Nancy Dunn, will be performing in the one-man show, "Billy Bishop Goes To War" at the Stirling Festival Theatre on Tues, Nov 11 (2 p.m. and 8 p.m.) and at the Grand Theatre, Kingston on Friday, Nov 21 at 7:30 p.m.

Anyone interested in a car pool or a bus to Stirling or Kingston contact The Dunns, soon, at 634-0465. Special group rates and also for senior citizens and youth.

HALLOWEEN MASQUERADE

Saturday, October 25

7:00 - 9:00 PM

Amherst Island Community Centre

Pumpkin Carving Contest

(all pumpkins must be pre-carved)

Spooks 18 & over \$2.00, others free

DEB at the GRAND

Hi to all: The tickets for the show "**North of Normal**" on October 23rd at the Grand Theatre are doing well.

If you wish good seats down front I suggest you book soon as it is filling up quickly. I know some people like to be up close and personal.

Box Office is 613-530-2050

I just wanted to let people who have supported me in the past to have access to good seats.

Thanks for your continued support .

Deb Kimmitt



Congratulations

...to Matthew Gowan (son of Eloise and Dayle Gowan) who graduated from the Canadian College of Naturopathic Medicine in Toronto last spring and who has recently passed the Board examination to qualify as Doctor of Naturopathic Medicine. Matthew is now doing research and teaching at the College. He also has established his practice at the College clinic.

*-Do you have electric heat?
-Are you interested in saving up to 28% on your annual heating bills?*



Electronic thermostats that will work with all but the largest electric baseboard heaters are now available. They precisely meter the amount of heat needed to keep the room at a the desired temperature. This saves you money by not allowing wild fluctuations in temperature that standard (\$15 units) thermostats do.

They will replace your existing wall-mount thermostats in a few minutes each. They cost \$43 each in quantity (plus tax), but with the savings involved, they very well could pay for themselves in one or two heating seasons. Don't send Hydro more money than you have to!

The large 1" high digital display can be set to read in degrees C or F. They are made by Oulette, a major heating manufacturer in Montreal (they make most of the baseboard heaters sold in Ontario and Quebec).

Installation is extra, but relatively quick. Interested? Please call Tom Richmond 634-1855



A view of Stella bay, many years ago

By Maurice Hogeboom

AMERIKS SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Applications for the Ameriks Scholarship Fund, in memory of Reeve Frank Fleming, will be received by the Committee until October 31, 2003.

Amherst Island residents who currently attend post-secondary institutions on a full time basis are eligible to apply. Application forms are available at the Ferry Office in Stella during office hours, Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Please forward completed applications to Loyalist Township at 263 Main Street, Odessa, K0H 2H0, or leave at the Ferry Office.

THE BACK KITCHEN

... has moved to its Fall hours. We will be open Friday, Saturday and Sunday from Noon to 7PM. At this time we are still planning on staying open until October 19th as advertised, however, as business slows down it may become necessary to close a week or two early. In order to clean out the freezer and pantry shelves, we will have some food items for sale. If interested, stop into the Back Kitchen and check out the list of food available starting the first weekend in October. We are planning and looking forward to the 2004 season, and will miss you all over the winter.





Hosted
By
AIMS

Auld Lang Syne Dance & Dine

Doors open at 6:30 pm
Traditional Hip of Beef Dinner at 7:30 pm

Featuring music by Gary and Mickie Code
And the Running Kind Band

Advance Tickets Only
Limited Seating
No Jeans

New Years Eve
At the
Community Centre

\$50.00 / couple \$25.00 / single

Tickets Now Available from:

Bonnie & Allen Caughey 389-5729
Andrea Cross & Bruce Burnett 634-9734
Susan & Garry Filson 384-7866



Loyalist Township

is accepting applications to join Loyalist Township Emergency Services at the Amherst Island Fire Station. This is paid, part time employment that includes both emergency calls and regular training throughout the year.

Application deadline: 17 OCT 2003 at 5PM

*Send resume to:
Wayne Calver, Fire Chief
Loyalist Township Emergency Services
Main Street
Odessa, ON K0H2H0*

Questions? (613) 386-3762 during regular business hours.

NEWS FROM THE GENERAL STORE

Fall and Winter hours: Mon-Sat 9-6, Sun 10-5.

New releases available now:

Chicago - Richard Gere, Catherine Zeta-Jones

Lizzie McGuire - Hillary Duff

Daredevil - Ben Affleck, Jennifer Garner

Phone Booth - Colin Ferrell

Bringing Down the House - Steve Martin, Queen Latifah

Cradle 2 the Grave - Jet Li

What a Girl Wants - Amanda Bynes

Basic - John Travolta, Samuel Jackson

Solaris - George Clooney

Avenging Angelo - Sylvester Stallone

We also have a selection of DVD's Thank You for your patronage and support throughout the year

THE BACK KITCHEN:

Notes & News

The Back Kitchen is now open Friday through Sunday Noon through 7. We have homemade pies, delicious burgers and fries, and salads and subs for your eating pleasure. Our waitresses are waiting to serve you, so stop in for great food and friendly conversation.

VICTORIA HALL TEA ROOM

Crafts are selling well, come in and browse. By popular demand, Tea Room **Gift Certificates** are available for 'anyone who has everything else!' Drop by for Island Videos @ \$16.95 ... or just to say 'Hello'. REMINDER: Afternoon card games please call 389-5389. Open Tuesday through Sunday noon to 6pm.

SIGNS

Computer generated, vinyl lettering for mailboxes, vehicles or small signs. Different styles of fonts and colour choices. Lyn - 634-2509



Godden's whole-hog sausage

Made using the finest cuts of pork including hams, chops, loin, etc. Choose from regular, honey garlic, tomato oregano. \$40.00 for 10lb. box. Available at Poplar Dell B&B: Call Susie at 389-2012 or Lori at 705-653-5984.

Picnic Tables & Weather Vanes

For Sale Keith Miller 389-2588

Country Seats Repairs to woven chair seating: Reed & Ash, Splint Cane & Fibre Rush. Call Johanna MacKinnon at 352-7453

Summit International Canada

Carpet Manufacturer and Distributor Gord Forbes, Sales Agent ...389-8516

Amherst Island Video

sponsored by AIMS. Available in VHS and CD format. You can purchase copies at the Amherst Island General Store, or through Neil Johnston at 389-5389

I am collecting used stamps (any kind) for the guide dogs, clean used clothing and books for the "Cat's Meow." Used towels, cleaning products, A&P tapes & 12" knitted squares. Freda Youell 384-4135

Babysitter available

-After school and weekends.
- Responsible.
-Red Cross Certified
Call Whitney Fleming :389-9869



Babysitting

Red Cross Certified Babysitter. Available early evenings & weekends. Torri Phillips: 389-0512

Babysitter

- Red Cross Babysitting & CPR certified - available after school, early evenings & weekends. Call Beth Albertan: 389-2662

Seasonal Winter Storage for Boats, etc, right in beautiful Downtown Stella! Indoor, reasonable rates. Dayle Gowan,

634-3815

Amherst Island Sweatshirts, Golf Shirts & T-shirts. Embroidered Logo. Wide Selection of colours & sizes. Now available at Victoria Hall Tea Room

The Lodge on Amherst Island

Rental available for special occasions. Call Molly at: (613) 634-1388 or (416) 533-5997 www.amherstisland.on.ca/thelodge



2 BEDROOM COTTAGE

on Stella Point: By the week or week-end, May-September. Call Molly (416) 533-5997

NORTH SHORE COTTAGE

for rent year around. By the week or week-end. Please phone 389-2012.

SOUTH SHORE COTTAGE

for rent on private, secluded peninsula. Over 2000ft of limestone shoreline. \$650 weekly. Call (613)389-5536 for further information.

LAKESHORE RUBBER STAMP

I can provide business and art stamps, daters, signature and similar products. All stamps are custom made on the premises and can be ready in 24 hours. Please call 389-8441 or fax 389-9770. Email: selc.welbanks@sympatico.ca

This is a home-based business and available most days. Linda Welbanks

Tim Hicks Plumbing and Heating

Water treatment, pumps, heating: in floor; radiant; forced air; solar. Certified Master Plumber. Phone 545-3541

Frozen Meals Designed for Seniors

offered by Lennox and Addington Senior Outreach Services. Restricted and special diets can also be accommodated. Contact: Freda Youell at 384-4135 for menus, meal descriptions and prices.

FOR SALE:

Tales of Amherst Island by Dr. H. C. Burleigh call 389-3943



Topsy Farms:

sheepskins, wool blankets, yarn, socks etc. Queen size blankets, \$99.95



Phone 389-3444 to arrange a visit to our Wool Shed or see us at www.topsyfarms.com

Ted Gow Painting, wallpapering, tiling, home maintenance and repairs. Free estimates. Island references. 634-5404

Thomas A. Richmond, Certified Electrician. Home, Farm & Commercial wiring and repairs, right here on the island. Ontario Electrical Safety Authority Authorized Contractor Program. 634-1855

HAY BALES FOR SALE on the Island: 40-45lb bales. Wayne Fleming 389-9869



Bookkeeping & Property Management Services Rosemary Richmond Home, Farm, Cottage, Small Business. Island references. 634-1855

**2004 AIWI
Calendar Project.
Deadline is
7 October 2003.
Have your events
listed-
Call Freda Youell
with your dates.
384 - 4135**

25 CU FT. FREEZER for FREE. works great! It is now cold, running & empty and ready for immediate pickup on the Island. (this freezer is about 6ft by 2 1/2ft by 3ft) 634-1855

LANDFILL SITE HOURS
Wed 11-2; Sat 10-noon; Sun 2-4.
FERRY OFFICE HOURS
Mon, Wed, Fri: , 9-noon & 1-4
Ferry fuel-up days are Tuesday and Friday (be prepared for a delay).



Autumn on the north shore

Peter Large, SCA

ONTARIO PROVINCIAL ELECTION - AMHERST ISLAND POLL RESULTS - Ian Murray

There were more problems with the polling list than usual with 31 individuals having to fill in voter registration forms. The various errors and omissions in the polling list makes an accurate voting percentage calculation impossible. However, the 242 votes cast indicates that people living here still care enough about provincial politics to vote.

Here are the results:

Liberals - 143

PC - 58

NDP - 28

Green - 12

Spoiled ballot - 1

Family Coalition - 0.