

The Amherst Island BEACON

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An all-Island school gathering, many years ago (1910-1920?)

file photo

THIS ISSUE

- Ian Murray, editor

The Beacon has a policy of avoiding controversial subjects which, I realize, is controversial in itself. In "Council Gleanings" below, I have (with some trepidation) mentioned the subject of shore road improvements. The Lafarge tire burning proposal may be controversial but is unlikely to cause strife within our Island community.

NEIGHBOURHOOD

- Lyn Fleming

Get well wishes this month to Helen Caughey, who made a trip to the hospital this month and to Freda Youell, Lorna Smith (Laurie Youell's mom) and Jeff deHaan, who all spent time in hos-

pital this month.

The last few weeks have been a busy time for Island sons getting married.

Congratulations to Neil and Alana deHaan who were married in an outdoor ceremony on Labour Day weekend at the shore on Kerr's Bay. A reception followed, by the water as well. Neil is the son of Hazel deHaan.

Congratulations also to Jeff Forester (son of Jack and Beth, grandson of Helen Caughey) and Susan Coleman, who were married at St. Paul's on September 18th. A reception followed in Kingston.

Steven Willard (son of Donna and Earle) was married in Toronto on October 2nd. The newlyweds then honeymooned in France and Italy.

Inside:

-A trip to Grape Island
-More news of the MV Amherst Islander (when the wind blows on the Bay this month, you'll miss it too.)
-BIG BIG trees!
-Oct 23 Angie Nussey in Concert
-Oct 30 HALLOWEEN PARTY at AIPS
-Nov 21 Guy Davis in Concert
-Dec 31 Reserve NOW for the New Year's Dinner / Dance
-Turtles, Mad Hatters, the 4H Harvest Festival & Grant Filson, All here in one place!



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TC: Terry Culbert
BL: Brian Little
BH: Bill Harris

Best wishes to Paul Henshaw, who retired this month from the Amherst Island ferry.

The ACW held their annual Turkey supper and bake sale, and as usual it was a great success.

Neighbourhood news is light this month and there seems to have been a mass exodus this week of construction vehicles and summer people as we prepare for 6 weeks of "living dangerously" with the Quinte Loyalist sort of serving our ferry needs. Some people get their adrenaline pumping by riding roller coasters or maybe taking part in a reality TV show. Amherst Islanders get theirs (whether they want it or not) every fall by living at the mercy of some MTO pencil pusher. Of course, everyone knows the safest time to be on the water in our area is during October and November gales on a ferry that is inadequate!

Wishes for a happy and especially safe Thanksgiving.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE



- Mary Kay Steel

The regular monthly meeting took place on September 15, commencing at 7 p.m., at the St. Paul's Church Hall. Members and several guests welcomed guest speaker, Lynda Whalen, a volunteer with the Canadian Diabetic Association and a Registered Nurse (and a diabetic). Her talk is one of the R.O.S.E. program presentations organized by the Amherst Island WI for the benefit of the community at large. R.O.S.E. stands for Rural Ontario Sharing Education, an outreach initiative begun some five years ago by the WI head office in Ontario. Mrs. Whalen's talk was most informative, giving an excellent account of the reasons for developing "adult on-

set" diabetes (it's mainly an offshoot of the aging process), and considerable advice on how to prevent it or at least slow its commencement, and how to minimize its effects. Exercise and careful eating were the recommendations. Watch those carbs! She cautioned the audience to read the content labels on foods they buy; there are usually some surprises for most people! Following her talk, we all dove into a fine, Amherst Island style lunch, albeit with guilty hearts.

After the refreshments, the meeting itself got underway. The president, Mary Kay Steel, welcomed

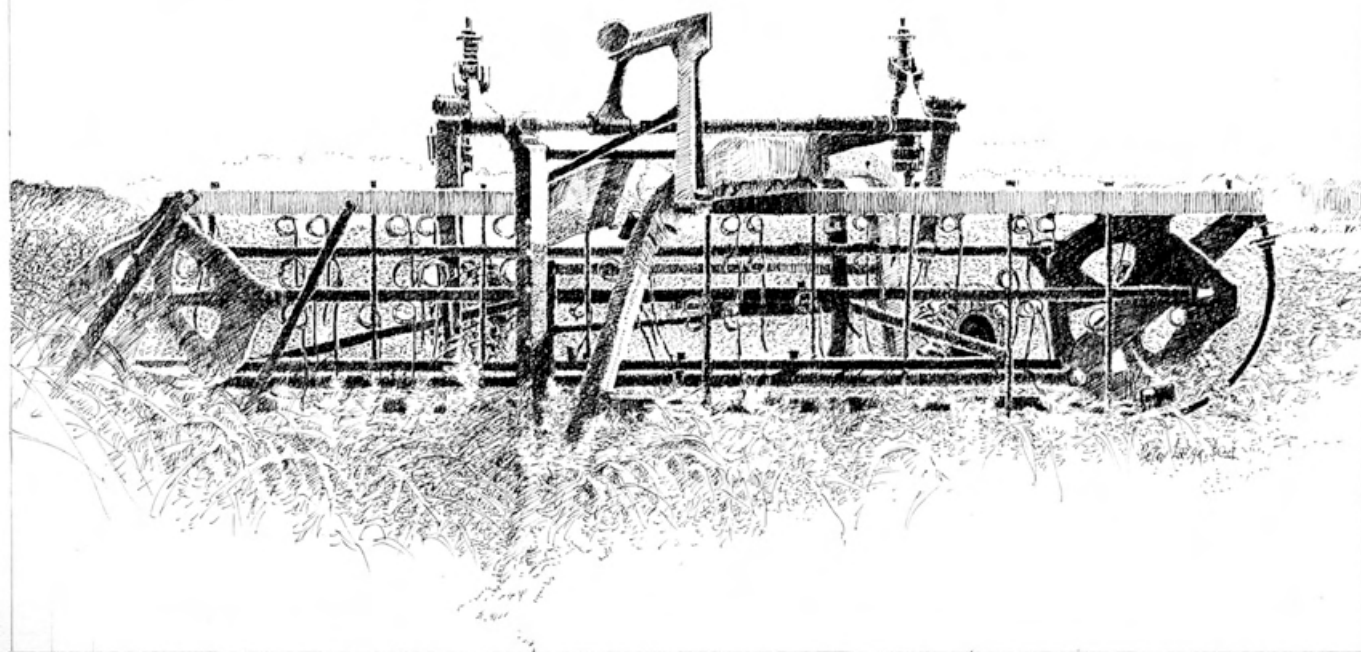
new member Stephanie Boissonneault; she brings the membership total to 22, with the addition of a few others expected later this fall.

A few highlights of the meeting itself - We will be preparing a new calendar for 2005, and committee head Jackie Sylvester has already put out notices for receipt of new art work and photos. A launching party, similar to last year's, will take place early in November at The Lodge (on Stella Point); don't miss it. An amendment page to the "Island Directory" will be coming out towards the end of October.



Commercial fishing boat off the Island, many years ago
(file photo)

Don't forget to give your corrections or changes to a WI member. We have agreed to sell our own famous baked goods at the "4-H Agricultural Festival" to take place at Dave Willard's farm on September 25th. We



New Idea Side Delivery Rake

New Idea side delivery rake

Peter Large S.C.A.

are busy planning details of our annual "Seniors' Christmas Dinner Party" to take place on December 5th. It was noted that our "Stone Fences Project" has been a great success, and will likely be highlighted in the WI provincial magazine "The Rose Garden" as a different example of a R.O.S.E. initiative, because it involves efforts by both WI members and community volunteers. Funding was primarily provided by the Kingston Community Foundation and the moving force is Joyce Haines; there are plans for more work next year. The new "commercial strength" dishwasher has been installed at the community centre/school.

Those are the highlights. We had a productive and fun meeting. The next one, open to the public also, will take place on October 20th at 7pm at the St. Paul's church hall, featuring a talk by Chris Kennedy of Topsy Farms on, (guess what?) Sheep!! See you there.

Any question on WI activities or membership, please call Nancy Henshaw at 384-0799



Amherst Island Public School

- Lyn Fleming

We had a smooth transition from summer vacation to back to school. Numbers are a little lower again this year (27) and school staff wonders why realtors don't promote the school - small class numbers with more 1 on 1 time, good community and volunteer support, dedicated teachers and staff etc. - when trying to sell homes on the Island.

Staffing this year is as follows:

Andrew Cotton - Head Teacher & Primary Class Teacher;

Jennifer VanDyke - Senior Class Teacher;

Stephanie Raeburn-Gibson - Science Teacher and Science School Co-ordinator/Instructor (.50);

Janet Scott - Resource Teacher (.50);

Lynn Fleming - Secretary (.71);

Donna Willard - Educational Assistant;

Jean West - Educational Assistant (.50).

Margo Virtue, our E.A. for the past 5

years was bumped from her position this year. Unfortunately E.A.'s don't find out until days before the start of the school year where they will be for the school year. Margo loved her time on the Island and enjoyed getting to know the students and their families and coming to community functions. She was sorry she didn't have a chance to say goodbye, but will be back to Island functions as she feels a strong connection to our community. She is currently an E.A. at Odessa P.S.

The person replacing Margo is life long Islander, Donna Willard, and we welcome her to A.I.P.S.

We also welcome Jean West, who is a ½ time E.A. at Bath P.S. as well as at A.I.P.S. Jean lives in the Bath area.

School set up this year is:

Primary Class - JK (2); SK (2); Gr.1 (5); Gr.2 (3); & Gr. 3 (4);

Senior Class - Gr. 4 (2); Gr. 5 (3); Grade 6 (4); Gr. 7 (0) & Gr. 8 (2)

The year is off to a busy start, with students from gr.'s 1 - 8 taking part in the Terry Fox Run on September 17th.

Again this year, we did our walk/run on the South Shore and every student from the youngest to the oldest completed the 2.8 km walk, raising more than \$400.00 for cancer research.

Students from gr.'s 1 - 8 also visited the Gould Lake Outdoor Centre for a day in September.

Late last spring, the A.I.P.S. Weather Station (Stevenson Screen) was installed and, over the summer, Community Volunteers collected data from the station. During the first couple of weeks of school, students compiled the data collected and created spreadsheets and graphs. After checking local weather for the summer, the A.I.P.S. data compared favorably to official data. Many thanks to the volunteers who collected the data over the summer; Bonnie Caughey, Beth Forester, Cathy Glenn, Debbie Miller & Lynn Fleming.

Junior and Intermediate students are now busy training for Cross Country on their lunch hours, with Vicki Keith and Mrs. VanDyke.

COUNCIL GLEANINGS

- Ian Murray

There have now been 2 open houses and a public meeting concerning possible improvements to the shore roads. It is now clear that the large majority of those living on these roads prefer that there be minimum changes to the present roads. I expect that the Township will do what it feels it must do to reduce its liability exposure to an acceptable level. It will probably do so by stabilizing the shoreline where necessary, improving sight lines, erecting some guide rails, and putting up warning signs. This should satisfy Island residents, pacify lawyers, and delight those who wish to keep taxes down: a win-win-win.

A determined delegation of Island residents, lead by Martin Hauschild, asked

Council to request a full Environmental Assessment of Lafarge's plans to burn tires and other waste products at its Bath plant. Despite strong support from Councillor Ashley, Council refused.

AIMS MEETING For SEPTEMBER

- John Kuti

Zander Dunn chairman

John Munro passed around the petition for members to support the child development centre in Kingston which was to be closed.



Is that Hamish McBain, CEO of the McButtery Shortbread Company of Outer Leith, Scotland?
No it's his look alike. It's wee Edinburgh-born Ian Innes staying on Amherst Island while attending his son Andrews' wedding in Kingston. TC

He reported that David Brady was just completing a video documentary on the Y Knot swimming program of the YMCA in Kingston. He indicated that its first showing would be in the Island school in the next few weeks.

Committee Reports:

Transportation Committee reported one request;

Assistance Committee had no requests; and,

the Nielsen Store Committee reported the roof inspection approval and that there would be a general meeting on October 22nd.

The financial report was given and the treasurer brought up the fact that the AIMS Higher Education Bursary would be given in September and there was only one person eligible for it. It was decided to set the amount at \$250.

Peter Large reported that he and Terry Culbert would be willing to do the Art Tour again next year.

The Chairman then reported that John Schram, ambassador to Zimbabwe, has agreed to speak in a public meeting October 27.

The new executive for AIMS is: Alan Kidd, Chairman; Neil Johnston, Vice President; Zander Dunn, ex-Chairman; John Munro, Social Convener; Jim Whitton, Treasurer; Terry Culbert, Recording Secretary.

John Kuti reported that the horseshoe pitch was approved by Loyalist Council and that it would be installed in Centennial Park next spring.

There was some discussion about the success of the Farmers' Market stall and it was pointed out that the donations by Tom Ivison of videos and DVDs from his store had contributed enormously to the financial success. The Treasurer suggested that a letter of thanks be sent as well as congratulations on his forthcoming marriage. The suggestion was approved unanimously.

Gian Frontini spoke about one of his abiding interests, namely bookbinding. He told of his six year apprenticeship with a fierce teacher who used physical and psychological intimidation to motivate her two apprentices. He told amusing stories about how she was a fierce feminist who rode a Harley-Davidson motorcycle, and how his fear finally became an ongoing friendship.

He told how books were once made

entirely on animal skins that were scraped for many weeks until they were as thin as paper. After that, papyrus came into use, but it could not be folded and so books were still impossible to bind. He told how Charlemagne decided to make bookbinding the business of monasteries because at that time books were not repositories of information but objects of adoration and reminders of mortality. Books were not so much meant to be read as to be carried in procession as venerated objects.

With the creation of the printing press in 1600, books became much more common and yet they were still thought of as the repositories of sacred communication. It was not until the 18th-century onward that books began to be used and thought of as means of communication.

He then demonstrated how paper always had a particular direction to its fibre which determined which way it could be folded. In bookbinding a Folio meant each page was folded once before it was stitched into the book. A Quattro meant it was folded four times before binding after which the upper folds were cut. An Octavo had eight folds per section that were then bound into a book.

He explained how book ends were not glued before 1500. With animal glue finally used to bind the ends, it was still a very slow process so that a binder would only do one to two inches of thickness per day. The book was then covered with wooden boards which were then covered with wet leather. The leather edges were tapered with a special knife to make them form seamless covers for the book. Later on, tape was used instead of sewn linen cords to bind books but this meant that covers were very vulnerable to breakage. He explained how William Morris re-instituted bookbinding as an art and said the process survives to this day because books of exceptional value needed the finest binding techniques to survive for centuries. He explained how a well bound book should have a 200 year lifespan, and how leather books needed to be touched so as not to dry out the leather. The oils

from hands using the book keeps them in the best condition.

He then went through a very interesting slide show showing how he bound books and explaining each step in the process. As he did so, he passed around books in various stages of binding as examples from the slide show.

He explained the care and difficulty in using gold leaf to do end titles, and how it is a process that is so meticulous and unforgiving that it is a very great challenge and a very great satisfaction to be able to create a beautiful book.

He pointed out that binding a book in leather, using the best techniques could cost anywhere from \$200 to \$3000.

The chairman then thanked him for the fascinating presentation, but no one seemed to volunteer as his new apprentice.

Next meeting Oct. 16. Speaker Alan Kidd

If you have more information on any of the older photographs appearing in this or any other issue of the Beacon, please write or phone us at our Global Headquarters.

*Ian's number is (613) 389-3802
Tom is at (613) 634-1855*

*-Who is in the photo?
-Where was it taken & by who?
-What was the occasion?*

Thank you! Your assistance is greatly appreciated!



*Joan Ellis on Stella Point in front of one of the summer cottages,
August 1953
photo sent by Mary Liz Ellis*

INTERVIEW: GRANT FILSON

- Zander of DUNN INN

On August 4, I interviewed Grant Filson in the residence of his daughter, Jan Sydorko, formerly the home of Billy and Helen Bulch, at 5755 Front Road.

That domicile is only yards away from his place of birth - the house where Bob and Diane Horth live today - 5675 Front Road. Grant, who has a phenomenal memory, was right at home as he told me about his life.

Grant's parents brought their bed downstairs into the parlor just prior to his birth there on May 26, 1921. He was the second of the five children of David Hugh Filson and Mary Shibley Fleming. Their first born was Janet. After Grant came Edward, Colin and Diana. Diana was born on February 15, 1932, the last night the ferry crossed for the winter that year. Grant's father had to pay for a special trip to bring Dr. Northmore over to the island and for another trip to take him back.

Grant's father was a veterinarian who used to charge \$2 per call, although he seldom got it - especially in The Depression years. As a result, he was never rich, even though he was often called out at night to attend a sick animal.

Grant's mother was a timid woman who feared thunderstorms. She was prepared for them though. She had each child pack a bag and get ready to leave whenever she heard thunder or saw lightning.

Stella was an exciting place when Grant was growing up. He played ball in the summer and hockey in the winter. Baseball required only one ball and one bat but hockey involved a personal stick, several Maclean's Magazines for shin pads and a frozen horse ball for a puck. The hockey game lasted until the kids ran out of horse balls or until a

melted one splattered on somebody's face.

Grant smiles when he remembers the school fall fairs in the Town Hall followed by a dinner in Victoria Hall. The churches took turns in putting on those great



meals. The Island Fall Fair was always the fourth Tuesday of September - a big day! A huge marquee tent was erected the night before and it was exciting to watch it go up. Grant's father was in charge of all the prizes so Grant felt important to be related to a leader of the community. Many mainlanders came to the Island for that special day.

In the winter were the horse races on the ice followed by dances at night. Bush roads were set up every year to guide the traffic over the ice. The kids played on their skipjacks. Skipjacks were barrel staves, smoothed and oiled as runners, fastened to a rough seat (like a 2 by 4) on which the kids sat as they slid down the banks of the Stella Harbour onto the ice.

The instant information of radio and T.V. today is slow compared to the speed with

which news got about the village. One Sunday afternoon, while the older folks were enjoying a siesta, Grant and Jack Instant (both about 11 or 12) were playing down by the creek (near Laura Gartner's and Raymond Wemp's houses) on a makeshift plank bridge the Sherry boys had made over the rushing water. Grant fell into the creek and found himself in water up to his waist.

When he looked up he saw the whole village peering down at him. They all watched him climb out to safety.

Stella was home to the Press brothers who were the first to electrify the village. They brought in a big dynamo and fed electricity to many homes. Upstairs in their own shop they made baby cribs and end tables under the name PREMCO. This operation later moved to Kitchener where it became famous. After they left the island, Stirling Glenn, who was handy with everything, took over the premises which he turned into an auto garage. The Whittons live in that location today.

Grant attended Number One School (now the Gertrude Maude house on Front Road). One story he does not remember but which was told to him, concerns his first day of school. Years ago he encountered Kenneth Stevenson, a few years older than Grant, who told him, "I remember you sat crying on my knee the whole day."

Grant remembers his teachers well. Kathleen Heinemiller and Ethel Gunter were his first two elementary school teachers. Mr. Diamond only lasted from September to April because he was unable to provide discipline. His place was taken by Miss Burns who laid down the law. Hazel Strain and Edith Scott were "born teachers" - both excellent.

Grant's school chums included: his own siblings, Janet and Edward Filson; Dick Saunders, a homeboy from England, who

remained a life-long friend; Juanita Gibson (later Mrs. Brady) who lived on the Island only a year because she and her mother left after her father died; Vaughn and Vincent McMullen; Kenneth Stevenson; Stirling and Stewart Kilpatrick (younger brothers of Twigg and Herb Kilpatrick); Wallace Wemp; Jack Instant; Margaret, Isabel and Jim Richards (who lived where the Foresters live now); Lorne and Phyllis O'Connor who lived in the house beside Victoria Hall; Mildred and Muriel Glenn who lived in the brick building which was situated where the Back Kitchen is now before it was burned down; Raymond Reid who lived with his grandmother in the house where Vera Hogeboom lives today; Les and Mary Glenn (Hall) who lived in the General Store; Mike and Janey Brown (McCaugherty), children of the blacksmith who lived in a house behind where Helen McCormick lives now.

In elementary school, Arbor Day, in the Spring, was a special event each year. After reciting the Lord's Prayer the boys raked dead leaves while the girls cleaned the windows of the school. Then the boys and girls took their lunches into the bush and, after a picnic, picked May flowers.

Christmas concerts were always well attended. Grant gave a recitation one year. He was puzzled by the laughter which accompanied his presentation. When he asked his mother later why everybody was laughing at him during his recitation, she said it was because he was so nervous he was shaking and he used both his hands and arms to wipe his nose, clear his face, scratch his head and pull his ears in what seemed perpetual motion.

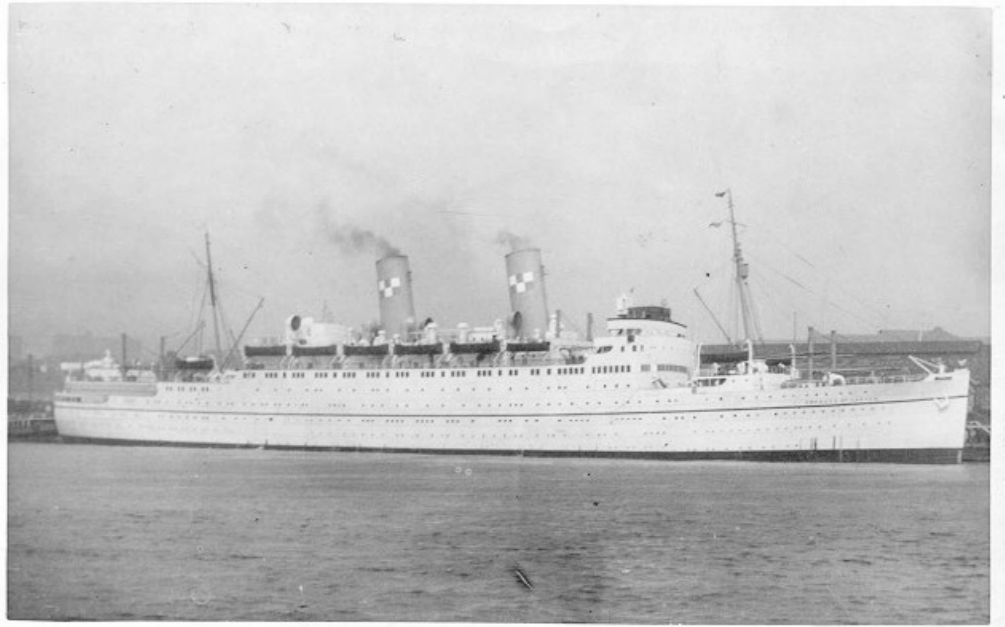
Grant's high school career lasted only two years, from 1935-36. In his first year Clifford Reid and Dorothy Brown were his teachers. In his second year Anna Neilson and Dorothy Brown (who lived where Doug Wilson lives today) taught

him.

Grant remembers vividly his job on the Island - delivering the mail. He had the route from the Post Office at Neilson's store to the Foot and then along the South

the stamps on for him.

One of the most interesting places on his route was called "The Cobweb Hotel." The first thing you did on entering that establishment (a residence, not a



The Empress of Canada, a troop ship converted from civilian use, on which Grant Filson sailed to England. file photo

Shore to Long Point. He moved about in a horse and buggy and in a horse and cutter. The winters were unforgettable. Two hot bricks were made ready for him by his mother, but by the time he got the mail sorted at Neilson's store and set out on his rounds they had cooled off. When he got to the Marshall farm on the South Shore he was almost frozen. Daily he was saved by Rob Marshall (Helen Caughey's father) who met him at the gate and took care of his horse while he read the newspaper. Rob's wife, Liz, took Grant inside to feed him soup and buns and give him two hot bricks for the rest of the trip. His route ended with Wilfred and Florence McCormac up near Long Point who often had a hot meal ready for him. People usually left him, in their mail boxes, three cents for a postage stamp, but he was unable either to grasp the coins or lick and apply the stamps because of the cold and because his hands were covered with big mitts. He was grateful to Rod Neilson who told him not to worry, he would put

hotel) was to clear away the cobwebs. Bob and Dave Bray, bootleggers, lived there together. The police were always out to get the Brays. Once they arrived disguised as fishermen, looking for booze. The Bray Boys were actually picked up by the O.P.P. who bought a bottle from their still. Grant's mother had no use for the demon rum. When she saw an inebriated man weaving down the road she would point in disgust and say, "He's full."

When the Second World War broke out Grant joined up with the 14th Field Regiment (Artillery) in Artillery Park in Kingston on June 17, 1940. He was sent to Petawawa in August. In February of 1941 he was moved to Debert, Nova Scotia (near Truro). In July 1941 he boarded The Empress of Canada for the trip to Gorrick, Scotland where he landed on July 29. From there he took the train to England where he trained in the Artillery Signals.

From Artillery Signals Grant went on

Ammunition Patrol. Although Grant's unit invaded Juno Beach on June 6, D-Day, Grant went in the next day with the ammunition. After the beachhead had been secured the regiment stood down. Its self-propelled equipment was replaced with 25 pound field guns. Grant then joined the gun crews and became a gun layer. Months later, when hostilities were coming to an end, it was his gun that was chosen to fire the last round of the war on May 4, 1945. As Grant puts it, "Hitler started the war but I stopped it."

Grant came home in August, 1945 and after a 30 day leave was discharged on September 18 with no idea what to do with himself. He took a course in plumbing, which he decided was "the biggest mistake of my life." Grant discovered he had no mechanical ability. He worked for a year in Kingston for the Lemon brothers who were later bought out by Vandervoorts Hardware. Hearing that the streets of Toronto were paved with gold, he moved to The City to seek his fortune. He got a job in Simpson's Mail Order office and was there when Syl Apps became the personnel manager of the department. Later he got a job at City Hall at the assessment office which later got him into the building department where he took a course in architectural drafting. He felt this was a perfect fit for him. Eventually he became a zoning plan examiner who approved all plans for building permits. He worked there happily for 31 years until he retired in 1979 as The Senior Zoning Plan Examiner.

Grant was married to May Trill, a widow with three children, Janice, Lynn and Charles, on June 18, 1955 in Georgetown United Church by the Rev. Morgan McFarlane, a friend of May's from Galt. May had been married before to Charles (Chuck) Trill, a United Church theological student, and they lived in the St. Alban's rectory because the Anglican Church was vacant at the time. Grant's sister, Janet, lived there also so Grant had met May on the Island. After her husband's death, May attended a funeral of a former parishioner on Wolfe Island and met Grant who was in Kingston on the same weekend. The rest, as

they say, is history. Part of that history involves the birth of his daughter, Kathryn, who, because her sister, Jan, has purchased a house on the Island, is now a frequent visitor.

After his retirement in 1979 Grant went back to high school. He had always had an interest in words and poetry so he took some English courses in 1980. Terry Fox's exploits challenged Grant deeply and he wrote a poem which he got published. All that led to his career as a volunteer with the Cancer Society.

Among other things, he joined the Speaker's Bureau where he learned much about public speaking. He really did not have much to learn. He had already preached sermons at his own United Church in Scarborough which had been well received. Grant spent 10 happy years with the Cancer Society. Obviously Grant has a Christian basis to his life. Not only has he preached in his own congregation but when he first went to Toronto he served as an usher in the huge Metropolitan United Church. He has ushered cabinet ministers and industrial leaders to their seats. He even ushered The Rev. R.K. Earls, the minister of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, to his seat when R.K. attended that church on his holidays. They enjoyed good chats about life on the Island.

In 1982 Grant attended Ryerson College where he studied economics. In 1987 he attended an Army reunion in Parksville, B.C. where he was treated royally and reconnected with many of his war-time chums. Grant declares he's seen most of Canada from B.C. to Nova Scotia.

When he returned from that trip he and his wife moved and he left the Cancer Society. He saw an advertisement in The Civic Garden Centre Magazine calling for volunteer guides for Edward's Gardens in Toronto. He answered the call and spent 12 happy years there guiding people from all over the world. He left that job only when he discovered his wife had Alzheimer's Disease. He quit to be with her.

After his wife's death in 2000, Grant was left with two dreams. First, he wanted to enroll in the School of Philosophy and

second, he wanted to have breakfast in London, England, travel by rail through the Chunnel to have lunch in Paris, France, return by the same route in time for supper back in London. The second dream is yet to be fulfilled but the first is in the process of being realized.

Every Saturday morning Grant goes to The School of Philosophy, a world-wide non-profit organization which began as an economics discussion group and is now a school of Philosophy. There are no formal trappings of academia, only small tutorial groups of people who gather in circles to share their insights and learn Philosophy. Everything is very low-key and low stress as the participants talk about Beauty, Truth, Wisdom, Goodness, Awareness. Among the many things Grant has discovered is that anger is an enemy of wisdom. Grant has completed level One and aspires to attain level Five.

To listen to Grant share so much of himself - his history, his feelings, his ideas, his dreams, his loves - is to listen to a Philosopher reflecting on the purpose of life. Grant bubbles over with stories, ideas, reminiscences, which tumble out to reveal a colorful character and create an equally colorful tapestry. And all of it began here on Amherst Island! It is good to have Grant back to visit. He keeps abreast of the news of the Island and maintains an avid interest in the Island of his birth.

Grant, who now lives at 1071 Don Mills Road, Toronto, rejoices that two daughters, Jan Sydorko and Kathryn Filson, have both renewed their ties to the Island. Their renewed interest has allowed him to return to be with us and to share with us in the privilege of living in this part of God's world.

"If you can hear the waves from the South Shore while standing on the North Shore or Centre of the Island, it's a sign of rain coming soon."

w.f.

TRIP TO EXPLORE GRAPE ISLAND

- Judith Harrower

Last month I had the opportunity to explore Grape Island with Susan McGinn and Bonnie Baker. Setting out from Susan's farm, located at the end of the Art McGinn Road, in a small boat Bonnie took the small outboard motor in hand, but not for long as the propellers rose from the water and I assumed we were going to have a hydrofoil trip. To both Susan's and my relief, Keith McGinn, Jane and Russell's eldest son, waded out to take charge and very deftly got us across the channel.

Landing in a small bay we waded ashore and arranged for Keith to pick us up in about three hours.

Susan and her family had resided on Grape when she was a child and she led us inland through seven foot tall golden rod and weeds. Bonnie and I often lost sight of Susan and could only tell where she was as the tall weeds swayed.

In the centre of the Island is a 'hunting cabin' which appears to be still used by hunters. I could hardly see the cabin as the weeds were dense and nearly covered the building. Inside was a room with rough bunk beds, table and chairs, and an old wood stove.

Looking around the inside various names of past visitors (hunters) were written on the walls and ceiling so we found an old dull pencil and wrote ours on the ceiling.

Leaving the cabin we walked across the Island to the opposite shore where you may see the west end of Amherst Island, especially Wemp's and Gull's Points with Nut Island in the distance. The entire island is small in area and is di-

vided by a small creek at the western end. It was here that Susan reminisced about her father, a fisherman, trapping bullheads by blocking off their escape. Susan and her siblings were sent out into the shallow creek to stun the fish by hitting them on the head with a metal bar and then her father would take the fish and sell them.

After this summer's generous rainfall the weeds made it impossible to walk in the centre of the Island so we walked the perimeter. Being left alone, nature has reclaimed the Island and huge willows spread in all directions including jutting over the water, making walking along the shoreline almost impossible. But to my surprise the Island has flat limestone ledges projecting well out into the lake and if you don't mind a bit of water sloshing into your boots it was easy to walk and enjoy the shoreline. Massive boulders are strewn everywhere and have every imaginable colour, which with the driftwood and over-hanging trees give an impression

of wilderness. Mosses and lichens are abundant. However there appeared not to be any great numbers of snakes as we saw none.

Now it did take us about two to three hours to meander around the perimeter, this was our choice as we saw the trip as a 'get away' but not really leave home. Along the shoreline of Amherst Island we could see stone duck blinds which added to the overall sense of being away from civilization.

Grape Island, I believe, is now owned by the federal government.

Normally, when there are drier summers, there is a sand bar that you can walk between the two islands.

This excursion was a great afternoon and, best of all, no great travelling distance.



Terrence's Front

Peter Trueman

BLANDING'S TURTLE

(*Emydoiden blandingii*)

- Terrence Patrick Culbert

As the late afternoon sun shone against Kirsten Bennick's South Shore Road home, she noticed a strange occurrence on the patio stones along the west wall of her sunroom. Kirsten watched a huge turtle strain and dig in the gravel between a stone and the house foundation. That day, June the 17th, Kirsten was actually witnessing a rare Blanding's Turtle prepare a safe area to lay her eggs.



Blanding's Turtle

TC



Kirsten and the holes in question

TC

The Blanding's Turtle was named after William Blanding, the early Philadelphia naturalist who first described this reptile. The turtles inhabit marshy shorelines, inland streams, ponds and wet meadows. This medium-sized, semi-aquatic turtle is very timid unlike other pond species. The chin and throat area is bright yellow. The smooth, high-domed shell is dark olive in colour and its shape indicates that they are not

still there at midnight when I went to bed, but gone when I woke the next morning."

The female lays six to eleven eggs. They hatch in the late summer. The young are seldom seen as they wander the waters' edge amongst the thick vegetation. The Blanding's Turtle population is concentrated in the Great Lakes region including southern Ontario, northern Ohio, Michigan and Wisconsin. They are also found in Indiana, southern Minnesota, Iowa and

Nebraska. Endangered, threatened and of special concern, these turtles can also be found in Nova Scotia and the states of New York, Maine and Rhode Island. Loss of wetlands for urban and agricultural development, along with road mortality, has lead to a population decline.

Over a weeklong period this summer, Kirsten saw at least ten turtles trying to lay eggs on her property. "They just kept coming," she said. "I went to the mainland and bought myself a digital camera in order to capture this special event. In the eight years we've owned our property, we've never seen a Blanding's Turtle."

While on holidays in Georgian Bay, the baby turtles were born. They hatched and left the security of their nest. "The mother chose a clever location, close to the house and quite protected. I hope they all got back to the marsh," she said. "When I was seven years old, I had a pet 'skildpaddle' (turtle) in my native Denmark. My mother drilled a little hole in its shield and fastened a string to it. The other end was attached to a peg in the ground. It could walk around, but couldn't get out of the garden. I don't really remember if it lived to a ripe old age," Kirsten replied. "That was my only other personal experience with turtles."

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Twins and pies: Doris Eves of Wolfe Island paid a surprise visit recently to her twin sister Dorothy McGinn, helping her make pies and bread for the Farmer's Market.

A.I. WOMEN'S INSTITUTE
Calendar Launch and Art Show:
Saturday November 13

*At The Lodge on Amherst Island
 Details to follow in the Beacon
 and by household mailer.*



The Mad Hatter's luncheon in Stella last summer.

TC



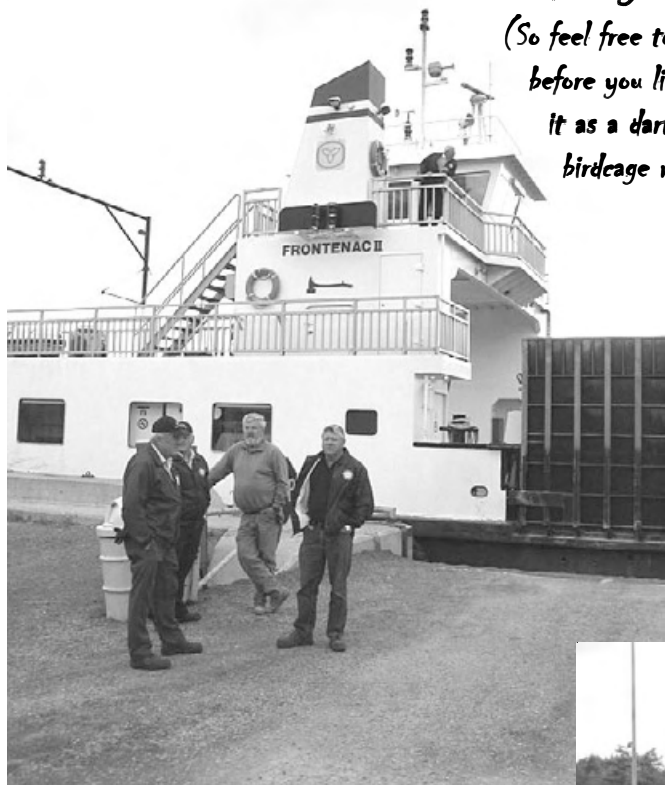
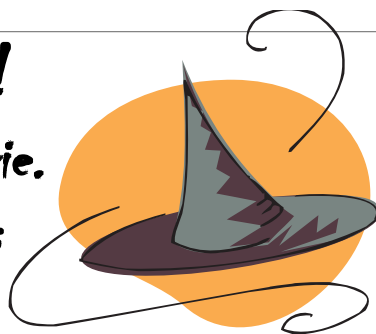
Happy Halloween, Amherst Islanders!

It's kind of like a train wreck in an old movie.

You can see it coming, you know it's going to be bad. But you have to watch,

because there's some kind of sick dychotomy between horror and fascination... (remember last year?). We at the Beacon know that nothing fascinates like the ferry changeover.

(So feel free to use this page as a dartboard before you line the birdcage with it- using it as a dartboard after you put it in the birdcage would be cruel to your birds.)



MTO Boys

TC



Quinte Loyalist waits in the wings TC



(Photos and captions by Terry Culbert except where noted. Title design, opening text and insults are the fault of TR. :^)



Frontenac II crew watch the MTO Boys

TC



Frontenac II crew have a laugh about the whole situation
TC



Pulling in at Stella Dock

TR



BH



Offshore of the Stella Dock, The MV Frontenac II turns
and heads East.
TR

HERE & THERE

- Ian Murray

Annual apology: on behalf of the farmers of Amherst Island, I hereby apologize for any interferences with traffic flow. And I thank those whose friendly waves lighten our days a bit.

I finally got a good look at the rebuilt stone wall owned by Garry and Anne-Marie Hitchins while hauling hay past it. Those who helped on this project must get a little surge of pride every time they drive past it.

After reading Lyn's AIPS article, I marvelled how expectations have changed in the public school system in the 50 years since I was there. Like most people of my generation who were raised in the country, I went to a one-room school with one teacher who had a Normal School diploma: I teacher, 8 grades - kindergarten was only a word in our spelling book - and 30-plus students. In 8 years one was expected to master spelling, arithmetic, and grammar. There were, of course, other subjects such as music and art, but the emphasis was on the 3 R's. And there were the high school entrance exams to pass if you wanted to extend your educational horizons.

A NEW CHAMPION IS DECLARED

- Bill Harris

Last year in the Beacon we reviewed the first results of our search for the largest Amherst Island trees. Both of these were on Garry Filson's property at the east end of the Island. One was a White Oak which recorded 260 cm. circumference (about 32" across in diameter) and the other a single trunk (of two) on a Black Willow that was 280 cm. in circumference, which is about 34" in diameter. Both trees looked great, but they were well below the six feet in diameter for trees that are Ontario

Champions.

Several Islanders responded with some suggestions. While I have not been able yet to follow up on all the suggestions, there are two that were measured and photographed. Both of these are *Populus Deltoides*, a variety of poplar seen along the lower Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River, where the tree is better known as Eastern Cottonwood, although it is also native to the Canadian Prairies.

Our Cottonwood is often mistaken for Balsam Poplar, which grows right across Canada, including Amherst Island, but the leaf on the Cottonwood is deltoid shaped while the Balsam Poplar is more oval. The buds of the Balsam Poplar also have a distinct odour, which is why some also call



The leaf of an Eastern Cottonwood from Amherst Island. **BH**



Barb Filson standing in front of a large Cottonwood on the lake shore in front of her home on Front Road East. This tree has a diameter of 59". **BH**

it a Balm of Gilead.

The reigning champion to date is a Cottonwood on the 3rd concession, just east of Lynn A' Court's home, who first suggested this tree to me. The circumference is 597 cm., and the diameter 75". This is the largest Amherst Island tree, but the largest tree in Ontario is also a Cottonwood, located in Chatham, which is 104" in diameter, almost 8 feet! Of course that tree is located in the middle of the richest farmland in Canada.

Anyone with a suggestion for a very large tree to be reviewed should telephone Bill Harris at 384-2407.

Note: The Balm of Gilead in the Bible refers to a small



Bev Harris standing in front of the champion 75" diameter Cottonwood beside the 3rd Concession, opposite the lake.
BH

tree, Opobalsamum, that grows along the shores of the Red Sea. The ancient writer Josephus relates that it was taken from Arabia to Judea by the Queen of Sheba as a present to Solo-

mon. There, being cultivated for its medicinal juice, particularly on Mount Gilead, it acquired its popular name which many first learned from the African spiritual hymn;

"There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole.

There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin sick soul."

In the USA the buds of Populus Candicans are called Balm of Gilead Buds, which yield a fragrant resinous sap sometimes used for medicinal purposes.



THE M.V. AMHERST ISLANDER: STILL SAILING!

- Fred Moeller

[The following was enclosed with a subscription renewal. Fred is married to Kathleen Neilson, daughter of Fred and Nellie Neilson, and sister of former Reeve Jim Neilson.]

In 2002 the relatively new M. V. Jiimaan (small canoe in Ojibway) that serves Pelee Island from Kingsville, Ontario, broke down and was in for extensive engine repairs. The MV Amherst Islander to the rescue!

A skeleton crew was brought in, her engines were fired up, the lines were cast and she headed across Lake Ontario for the Welland Canal at St. Catharines. The crossing through eight locks put her into Lake Erie three hundred feet higher than Port Colborne . . . and about 365 stat-



A real boat that was built to take the wind and the waves: The 1950's MV Amherst Islander goes where the 1980's MV Quinte Loyalist dares not tread (Gov. Schwarzenegger might have called the keel-less Q.L. "a Girly-Boat", but that wouldn't be politically correct).

DT photo



The MV Amherst Islander leaving Stella dock: Capt. Eldon Willard said he once got 24 cars on it... during the energy crunch in the 70's when everyone was driving tiny cars, they packed them in and you couldn't open your doors. The authorities made up new rules to stop that... but just once, two dozen cars sailed on the little boat. Does anyone else remember this?
DT Photo, TR text.

ute miles.

The Islander made runs between Kingsville and Pelee Island through July and August of 2002. Kathleen and I drove to Kingsville in August to pay our respects and waited at the dock as she returned from her 26 mile round trip. The captain was a pleasant young man who told us that the trip from Kingston took about two days including a few stops when the old girl coughed, spluttered and quit to get some needed attention. Even only 8-9 miles per hour puts a strain on you at 50!

We requested permission to come aboard and toured the decks only to find that the years had not been kind. The old boat was new to the captain and we answered many questions about its history and some of the structures on the deck. She needed lots of cosmetic surgery and it looks like the work will soon be underway.

After completing service at Kingsville she was moved to Leamington and tied

up from September 2002 to June 2004. A Mr. David Townsend of Tillsonburg, owner of Townsend Lumber, bought the Islander at auction after she was decommissioned by the Ministry of Transportation. . . . I spoke with Mr. Townsend who told me that the plan is to refit the old girl at Port Dover and use her as a floating showroom and "convention" boat. As a private vessel she can be "captained" by anyone. Good luck bringing a 19 car ferry into dock!

Captains Billy Cochrane and Eldon Willard must be having a good chuckle from their wheelhouse in the sky!



RECORD AUDIENCES FOR WATERSIDE CONCERTS

- Michael Shaw

Increased numbers of Island families and their friends supported the Waterside Summer Series of concerts this year, contributing to record attendances well ahead of previous years. Figures reviewed at a September meeting of the Waterside Committee showed a total of 566 tickets purchased for the 2004 season. This compares to 389 tickets sold in the 2003 season.

While the concerts are attracting growing numbers of loyal supporters from off the Island, the proportion of tickets purchased by Island residents and their families and friends this year was 65

per cent of the total. In the 2003 season 57 per cent of seats were sold to Islanders.

Another major contribution to the success of this year's Series was the number of sponsors and amount of their generous support, up nearly 50 per cent from the previous year. The sponsorships are vital in enabling the committee to provide top quality performers, some of whom are internationally-known and who have not played in the Kingston area before.

The celebrity concert for the year attracted a near-capacity audience. This event presented romances and rhapsodies by the tenor Mark DuBois, accompanied by pianist Gloria Saarinen who was performing for the second time at Waterside. While many reluctantly edged out of their seats to catch the ferry as the concert drew to a close, Mr DuBois continued singing an Italian love-song while strolling around and kissing the hands of some women in the audience.

A delightful personality, he and the



Mark DuBois and Inka Brockhausen after the concert on July 22.

BH

charming Ms Saarinen were given a standing ovation and returned for encores.

As expected, the most popular entertainment on the calendar was the rousing bluegrass music by the talented Abrams Family and Clarendon Station, all of whom hail from the Kingston area. Their lively and refreshing serving of skilful fiddle, banjo, bass and mandolin playing, plus engaging vocals by a 10-year-old boy and 14-year-old boy, was enjoyed by a sell-out audience. Sadly, many who requested tickets had to be turned down. The ensemble could well have played for a second night.

The Abrams group were engaged on the recommendation of committee members Bruce Burnett and Andrea Cross, who are keen followers of country music.

Perhaps the surprise event of the season was the appearance of the YMCA Bell Ringers and Choir from the City of Kobe, Japan. This group of 14 musicians

and music teachers happened to be visiting Canada for a convention of bell ringers. They were recommended to the Waterside committee by Janet Grace's sister Joanne Flint, who introduced them at the concert. Their versatile handling of bells of all sizes, some weighing 20 pounds, and playing of familiar numbers, hymns and classical pieces, was enjoyed by another capacity crowd - some of whom had previously associated bell-ringing with Sunday morning calls to worship.

All five events in what was the 11th annual Waterside Series were performed at St Paul's Presbyterian Church, which accommodated the larger audiences comfortably. The concert series continues under the music director, Inka Brockhausen, supported by an active volunteer committee.

Waterside is now officially under the umbrella of Loyalist Township. Benefits include publicity as part of Township events, and the ability to issue tax receipts to sponsors. The goal is to con-

tinue to provide musical entertainment by top quality performers in the friendly rural setting of the Island.

Suggestions for performers are always welcomed by Inka (389-3525).



-Alan Kidd

October 2004

Before we say good bye to the summer constellations, one more tour of the summer triangle is in order. This time we will focus on a couple of small constellations that lie in the Milky Way between Cygnus and Aquila.

These two are Delphinus, the Dolphin and Sagitta, the Arrow. These should be easy to see on Amherst Island but are usually invisible in the City.

Delphinus looks like a diamond of stars with a tail. A small telescope will show that the nose of the Dolphin, Gamma Delphinus, is a double star. Sagitta is even smaller than Delphinus, but is a good locator for the M27, the Dumbbell Nebulae, which is easily visible in even a small telescope, looking more like an apple core than what one would expect a dumbbell to look like. M27 is a planetary nebulae, that is a symmetrical ring of gas given off by a star in its final stage of existence.

Once again there are no planets visible in the evening sky this month. However, Venus continues to shine brightly in the dawn sky. It is in the constellation of Leo for most of October. Saturn continues to be in the dawn sky to the upper right of Venus. Saturn is in Gemini, nearly in with Pollux and Castor above it.

Jupiter reappears in the dawn sky this month. It climbs steadily through out the month and by Halloween will be get-

ting close to Venus. Mars comes into view late in October, also in the early morning sky, but it is much dimmer than Jupiter

The waning moon passes by Venus on October 10, and is a thin crescent just above Jupiter on the morning of October 12th. However, the big event of the month is a total eclipse of the Moon visible across all of North America on the night of October 27th. Earth's shadow will touch the moon at 9:14 PM and the moon will be totally in shadow at 10:23 PM. Totality ends at 11:45 PM and Moon departs earth's shadow at 12:54 AM.



New caption contest. Example: "Islanders will immediately recognize that each of these trucks boasts a greater capacity than the MV Quinte Loyalist... but don't tell MTO... they'll get ideas!" (TR found this picture in an old Beacon computer file and has no idea where it came from!).

JANET'S JOTTINGS

- Janet Scott

October

Along the line of purple hills

The crimson forest stands

And all the days the Blue Jay calls

Throughout the autumn lands.

In autumn the piercing "Jay, Jay" of the familiar Blue Jay can be heard frequently during walks along our Island roads or even while waiting in the ferry line. They seem to be everywhere. Their bright flash of blue swoops across roads and contrasts against the browns and oranges of the roadsides. What a beautiful sight as that flash of blue lands in a crimson maple! They sit boldly outside your window and demand that you fill the feeder. Where have they been all summer?

Although they seem to have just arrived the Blue Jay actually nests right here on our Island and in our area but seems to live a much more subdued life during family raising times. If you are lucky enough to come across young Blue Jays



they look like young robins but have a scruffy brush cut. Both parents care for the young and the male will feed the incubating female.

Blue Jays are a member of the same family Corvidae as magpies and crows. They have similar habits of hanging out with humans, after all those humans have been known to dump out tasty things, and also mimicking other birds. Corvidae feed in family groups and are omnivorous. Jays mainly feed on insects, nuts and berries but also raid nests for eggs and smaller nestlings. Their family feeding groups gather together in the fall and thus the numbers appear to have grown. During the summer they nest quietly in conifers and scrub using twigs and any man-made material that is handy.

The Blue Jays at our feeder have exhibited rather clever ways of getting the best food. They come swooping in on the feeder with the loud scream of a hawk. All Mourning Doves and Sparrows leave in a panic and the Blue Jays settle in to pick out the best things. They love peanuts and will sort through the seed mix on the feeder tray

looking for the peanuts. Alex had them trained so that they would catch a peanut in the shell as he tossed it in the air. They'd line up on the telephone line and take turns swooping for peanuts as he whistled. Another clever move was their ability to weigh the peanuts. We would line peanuts in the shell along the edge of the feeder area. The Blue Jay would walk down the line picking up different peanuts, shaking them and then putting them back until he found the one that we presume weighed the most. Other Blue Jays work and work at stuffing one peanut down their crop and then getting their beaks to close around another peanut so that they can fly off with two. The Blue Jays have always been the bully of our feeding stations but the year the female Red-bellied Woodpecker stayed at our corner she was Number 1 and put the run on any Blue Jay that presumed to feed while her ladyship was.

Crows will mob or gather in large groups to harass a Great Horned Owl and in the same manner Blue Jays let

you know where the smaller owls are roosting by day in the conifers. They swoop in on the resting bird and make an annoying racket so that Blue Jays answer from all over the countryside. Believe me the peaceful countryside is a myth.

Whether your local Blue Jay is mewling like a kitten, squeaking like a clothesline or screaming like a Red-shouldered Hawk enjoy his antics. His habit of putting his head to one side is endearing and his noisy calls will attract other birds to your feeder. Why not just watch and you'll have fun.

Good Birding!



4H Fall Harvest Fair, September 2004

Photos by Doug Williamson (DW)



Clinton Kilpatrick, Garnet McDonald & Wilbert Willard

DW



L-R: Judi Gould, Gayla Williamson (chef) David Albertan

DW



DW



4H kids preparing apples for sale

DW

More 4H fall harvest festival photos!



Laurie McEwen, Ronan Willard, Susan Sidorchuk
(former AIPS teacher) DW



Dave Willard with Ronan and Susan Sidorchuk
DW



Ian Murray and the Topsy Farms table DW



Gayel Willard selling apples DW



Diane Pollack's horse DW



Some sheep of Dave Willard's DW

What a rain! 5 1/2 to 6 inches of rain in one day on the Island: very few didn't have water in their basement, culverts ran over, bridges were under-water in the Village. Here's what it looked like in September 2004!

Brian Little is the photographer, the pictures were taken in his back yard on the Second Concession.



Dancing Dogs



Jack, Angus and Katie Little sailing on the Second Concession





Hosted
By
AIMS

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

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Tickets will be available mid October from:

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

Auld Lang Syne Dance & Dine

New Year's Eve
At the
Community Centre

THE LODGE ON AMHERST ISLAND PRESENTS
CANADIAN SINGER / SONGWRITER

ANGIE NUSSEY

In Concert- Saturday October 23, 2004.



Hello Islanders!

The Lodge has something to take your mind off ferry transit issues (at least for a couple of hours). This just came up, and is scheduled for less than three weeks from now.

We have the opportunity to have contemporary / folk artist Angie Nussey perform at The Lodge. Talented in guitar and keyboard, she is now releasing her third CD "Paint and Turpentine." She was recently seen at acoustic venue Hugh's Room in T.O., plus both the Shelter Valley & Ottawa Folk Festivals.

Selections of her music can be heard on The Lodge website, or at www.angienussey.com

Doors open 6:30PM, Show begins at 7:30PM at The Lodge, 320 McDonalds Lane, located on Stella Point, Amherst Island.

Make your reservation in advance by telephone: There is extremely limited seating for this intimate event, only \$12 per person.

Snacks & Refreshments will be available.
Phone (613) 634-1855 today!

ALSO: Be sure to mark your Calendar for Sunday, November 22, 2004!

The Lodge presents world renowned Blues Guitarist GUY DAVIS at The Victoria Hall Tea Room.

Tickets are \$22 in advance, and are available from Neil & Bernice in person, or Tom & Rosemary by phone (634-1855).

More details on both these events can be found at: www.amherstisland.on.ca/thelodge

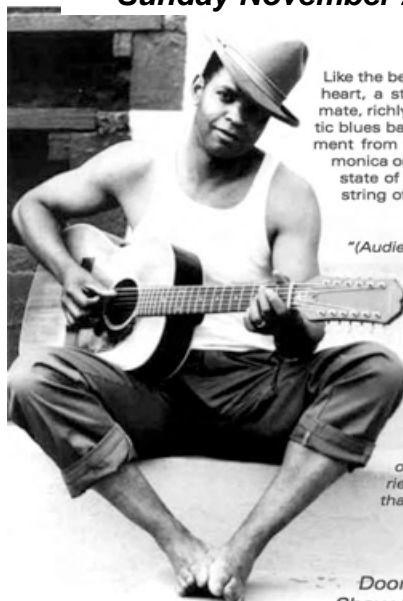
THE LODGE ON AMHERST ISLAND PRESENTS

BLUES GUITARIST / SINGER / SONGWRITER

GUY DAVIS

In Concert

Sunday November 21st, 2004



Like the best early bluesmen, Guy Davis is, at heart, a storyteller. A master at setting intimate, richly nuanced tales to stomping acoustic blues backing, often with folksy accompaniment from mandolin, banjo, didgeridoo, harmonica or accordion, he helped revitalize the state of country blues in the 1990s with a string of critically acclaimed albums.

"(Audience members) get a show that they can be involved in, that they're imaginations can run with. I want to take people back to when they were kids and they used to hear stories, and the thrill that you used to get when you could see everything a person was saying. When you'd hear words coming out of somebody's mouth and it just put pictures right in front of your mind.

I want people to have that kind of experience, not just with the stories that I tell, but also with the songs that I sing."

Doors open 6:30PM,
Show begins at 7:30PM
at The Victoria Hall Tea Room,
5545 Front Road, on Amherst Island.
A very short walk from the ferry dock.

All ticket sales in advance:
There is Extremely Limited seating for this intimate concert, and it WILL sell out quickly!

\$22 per person,
Snacks & Refreshments will be available

Phone toll free: (866) 552-3535 to purchase your ticket today.
More details can be found at: www.amherstisland.on.ca/thelodge

NEWS From the GENERAL STORE

Happy Thanksgiving!

New Video/DVD releases available:

Connie & Carla- Nia Vardalos

Passion of the Christ

Home on the Range- Disney

Thirteen- Holly Hunter

Jersey Girl- Ben Affleck

The Human Stain- Anthony

Hopkins, Nicole Kidman

Taking Lives- Angelina Jolie

Drama Queen- Lindsay Lohan-
Disney

Mean Girls- Lindsay Lohan

Man on Fire- Denzel Washing-

ton

The Punisher- John Travolta

The Ladykillers- Tom Hanks

We now carry Homemade fro-

zen pies, uncooked. Just Bake,

cool & serve! \$12 each

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Sat. - 9 a.m. to noon. Sun. - closed.

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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.

**VICTORIA HALL
CRAFTS & TEA ROOM**

-Hours for lunch, afternoon teas and early dinners:

Noon to Six, Wednesdays to Sunday,

-New and improved menu includes Godden Pork and Willard Lamb Sausages on homemade garlic and Parmesan cheese buns.

-Hot specials include homemade soups, lasagna, and smoked ham & cheesy macaroni.

-Hall available for private functions.

Gift Suggestions:

- Tea Room Gift Certificates

- John Munro Y-Knot T-Shirts @ \$5.00 each & Commemorative Swim buttons @ \$2.00 each

- Shirley Miller cards and paintings

- Tole painted Island sap buckets

- Topsy Farms wool products

- Quilts and throws by local quilters

- Local Authored Books

Tom Sylvester's Loyalist Roots Cycling Tours @ \$8.00

John Kuti's Archtypes of Self Esteem @ \$25.00

Nicole Florent's Walk, Hike or Jog Kingston @ \$20.00

Hans Krauklis' Amherst Island Video @ \$16.95

For reservations call Bernice or Neil @ 389-5389

AMHERST ISLAND T-SHIRTS AND SWEATSHIRTS

are available for sale from Beth Forester 389-5582 or Nancy Henshaw 384-0799.

Babysitter available

-After school and weekends.

-Responsible.

-Red Cross Certified

-Call Whitney Fleming 389-9869

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Torri Phillips: 389-0512

Babysitter

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The Lodge on Amherst Island

Lodging rooms and Rental available for special occasions.

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www.amherstisland.on.ca/thelodge

2 & 1 BEDROOM COTTAGES

on Stella Point: By the week or week-end, April-October. (Phone numbers above.)

NORTH SHORE COTTAGE

for rent. Private with good swimming. By the week or week-end, May-October.

HOUSE FOR RENT: year-round, by the week or weekend- North Shore. Call Cherry 634-1212

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.

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Gary McDonald: 384-1456.

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Godden's Whole Hog Sausage is available in four distinct flavours - Salt & Pepper; Honey Garlic; Tomato Oregano; Hot Italian - using ALL natural ingredients (no MSG, preservatives, colouring).

New! Breakfast Sausages - Salt & Pepper or Maple Flavour! Our frozen sausages are available in 5 and 10 lb. boxes at Poplar Dell B&B, 389-2012.

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To place your order call Marie Ward at 389-5767 or send E-Mail to: bmward@ihorizons.net

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For Sale**

Keith Miller 389-2588

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Wed 11-2; Sat 10-noon; Sun 2-4.

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Mon, Wed, Fri: 9-noon & 1-4

Ferry fuel-up days are Tuesday and Friday (be prepared for a delay).

LIBRARY HOURS

Tuesday 7-9PM, Wed 10-Noon, Friday 1-3pm.

Telephone 389-9371.

Topsy Farms:

Looking for a Christmas Gift? Want an interesting outing for visitors? Come visit our Wool Shed at 14775 Front Road. We offer lambskins & sheepskins; yarn & hats; slippers; mitts; blankets; lap robes and wraps. GIFT IDEAS: we have several new products available, including: muffs (warmth for winter ferry crossings), felted purses & other items, & chibis (3 darning needles in a plastic container - for pocket or purse). Prices \$2 to \$105. We'll mail orders anywhere. CALL TO MAKE SURE WE ARE HOME: (613) 389-3444.

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.

Bookkeeping, Property Oversight & Management Services

Rosemary Richmond. Home, Farm, Cottage, Small Business. Island references. 634-1855.

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 and 12" x 12" knitted squares may be left in my front porch or call for a pick-up. The animals really need our help. Freda Youell 384-4135.

Mindfulness Meditation Workshop

This practice deepens our connection to the richness of the present moment and develops concentration, insight and compassion.

Complementary Health-

Jocelyne Leyton, RPP, offers treatments in Cranial Osteopathy. This is a very subtle and gentle approach recognizing the subtle mechanics at work within the head, spinal column, viscera and pelvis. The understanding of the cerebrospinal fluid has a profound influence on the health of the whole body.

For an appointment telephone 384-6488, 9060C Front Road.



A cottage at Neilson's "Stella Point resort", Amherst Island, picture taken around August 1953. It is now Steve & Margaret Webb's cottage, the best remaining example of the tourist cabins on the Point.

Picture courtesy of Mary Liz Ellis whose family used to stay there years ago.