

# Amherst Island Beacon



Issue 439    *BONA LIBENTER, TRISTIA MAESTITER, MALA NUMQUAM*    Feb 2015

**The Amherst Island BEACON Issue 439, Feb 2015**  
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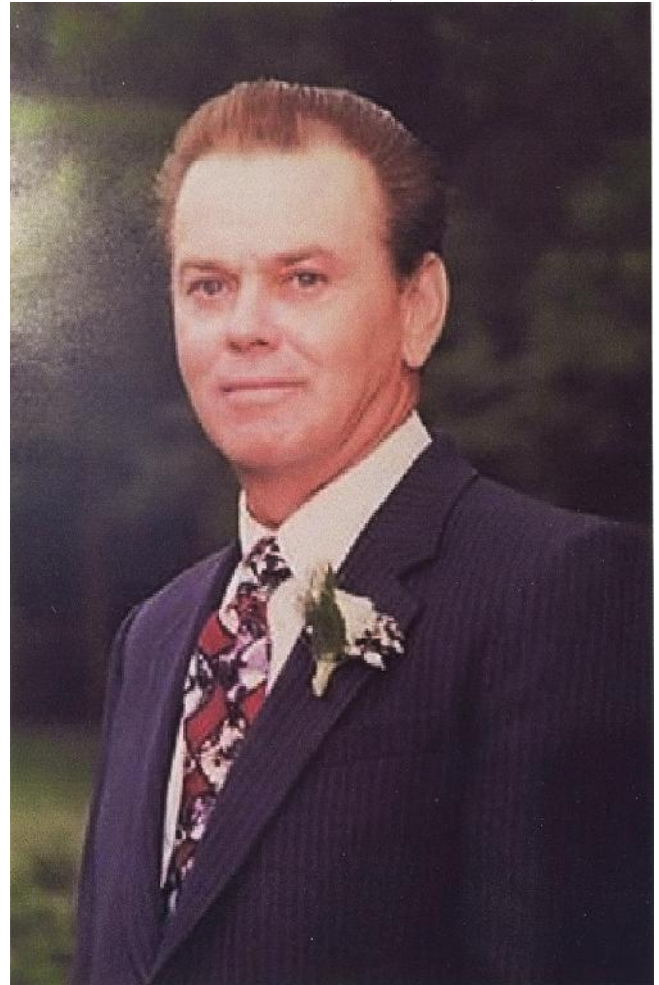
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to suggest he check out this or that Island happening. Fortunately, one does not need Terry’s experience and skill to take a few photos and/or write a few paragraphs about a family event, an interesting wildlife sighting, or whatever.

What you find interesting, other Beacon readers are likely to find interesting as well. Please contribute.

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EDWARD GRANT WEMP (1944-2015)



Grant died at home in Cookstown with his family by his side on January 3<sup>rd</sup>. He is survived by his wife Gail (Leduc), sons Derek and Barent, sister Brenda, brother Duane, and six grandchildren. He was predeceased by his parents William and Eveyln (Bulch).

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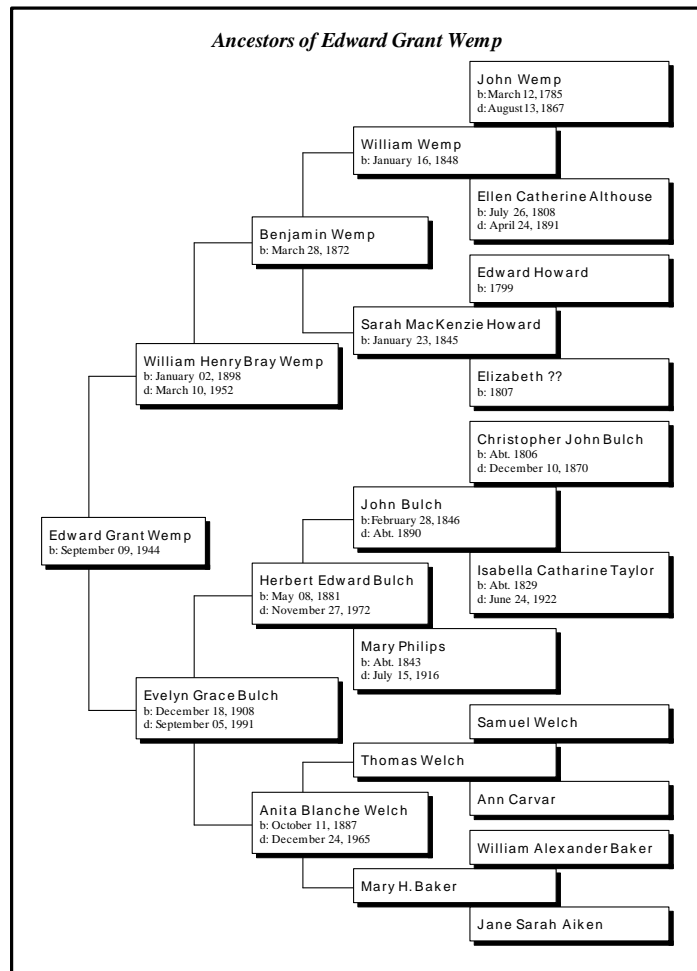
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### THIS ISSUE

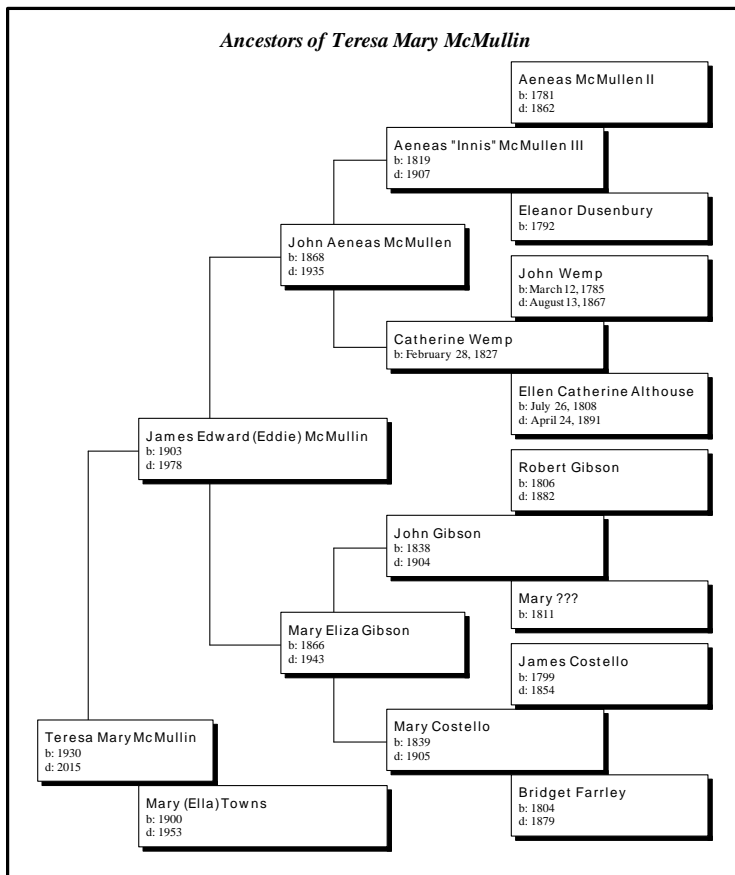
-Ian Murray, Editor

Each issue of this newsletter depends on contributions from its readers.

Unfortunately, I can no longer phone Terry Culbert



\*\*\*\*\*



**MARY TERESA MacARTHUR (nee McMullin)**



Theresa died peacefully at KGH on January 14<sup>th</sup> in her 85<sup>th</sup> year. She is survived by her sons Clifford Sudds, John MacArthur, and her sister Helen McCormick. She was predeceased by her daughter Laurie Sudds and her brother Vaughan.

She is also survived by granddaughter Teresa Bienes, 6 grandsons and 7

great-grandchildren.

[The McMullen/McMullin family branches may use one or the other spelling but they are related.]

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**DON GARDNER & AMHERST ISLAND**

-Allison Adomovits

Don and Joan Gardner bought their forty acres with waterfront on the 3rd Conc. in about 1967.

Their property lies between Dr Lavertys' property and that previously owned by Peter and Eleanor Trueman (I can't remember the fire locator number).

We 'children' (now we are in our 50's) grew up spending every summer for those 48 years at 'the cottage' my parents called 'Windover'. Now Joan and Dons' grandchildren and great-grandchildren are learning about and loving the Island too. Windover will remain in our family forever.

In the early days they were friends with The Baker family, Mr. Howard Wemp and Mr. Ameriks Sr. Over the years they built friendships with Shirley Miller, Jeff Matthews, the Mrs. Glenn who used to run the General Store, of course Peter and Eleanor Trueman, among many others. Perhaps their longest friendship would be with Janet Apps Grace, as they knew her since childhood, when our families were neighbours in Kingston.

Over the years a new year-round home was also built on the property so we can all go to the Island in the winter months as well.

Mom and Dad were consistent patrons of the Saturday morning AIMS market, St Pauls' Annual Garden Party, Topsy Farms' Wool Shed, and the Weasel and Easel.

I hope some of these details will help your readers remember my Dad and his love for the Island.

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## DONALD ARTHUR GARDNER

Don Gardiner died suddenly at home on January 27 at the age of 84 years. Beloved husband of Joan. Loving father of Allison (Peter Adamovits), Susan (Mark Barclay), and Steven (Joanne). Proud grandfather of Steven and Laura Jamieson, Michael Adamovits, Michael, James and Robert Barclay and Carlyne and Jennifer Gardner. Cherished great grandfather of William and Ava Jamieson and Abigail and Connor Kausch. Dear brother of Rachel Hall.

A fourth generation Canadian, Don grew up in Powell River, BC, and lived his early life on the ocean and in lumber camps of the west coast. An engineering graduate of UBC, it was there he met his wife, Joan. Together; they celebrated 60 years of marriage in 2014. Following their marriage, Don and Joan moved east, living for many years in Kingston and then Ottawa, where Don's commitment to public service drew him to careers with the Government of Canada, where he worked with Parks, Indian Affairs and held executive positions with the Canadian International Development Agency.

A well-earned retirement was spent at his beloved cottage on the sand bluffs of Amherst Island, on eagerly anticipated winter holidays in Barbados, with his doted-upon horses and ever-present dog companions, and on precious time with his family. A brilliant man, devoted to family, committed to integrity and honesty in all that he did, Don has left the world a better place by his being in it, and will be so missed by those who love him.

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## (SYBIL) MARGARET PLANK (1921 – 2015)

Margaret died in her 93rd year, peacefully, at Helen Henderson Home. She is mourned by her husband Charles, and her children Sybil Jane and Charles William.

Margaret left home at 18 to learn nursing in London, where she worked in a major hospital all through the war, including the bombing Blitz. Seeking adventure after the war, she travelled to Africa where she worked as a nurse, and met her future husband, also a British ex-pat, working as a railway design engineer.

Family lore reports that she always cheerfully followed Charles during his various job changes, including moving from Africa to 500 miles north of Winnipeg in Manitoba, where they lived for a time

in tents, then to the comparatively big small town of Hinton Alberta. Amherst Island became her much-loved home for her later years.



\*\*\*\*\*

## NEIGHBOURHOOD

- Lynn Fleming

Get Well wishes to Lloyd Wolfreys, Jack Forester, Will Reed

Condolences to John McGinn and family, whose son Randy recently passed away.

Condolence also to Charles Plank Sr., and son Charles, following the passing of their wife and mother, Margaret Plank.

Our sympathy to Helen McCormick and family, who recently lost her sister, Theresa MacArthur.

Congratulations to Dianne Marshall and Chris Kennedy on the birth of their first grandchild. Annabelle was born to Dianne's daughter Bonnie and her husband Neil, on January 18<sup>th</sup> in B.C. Dianne headed west to meet and spend some time with the newest member of the family.

I realized I missed a welcome to our newest Islander before Christmas. Belated congratulations to Mike and Jill Walhout, and Anna and Lucas, on the birth of their newest addition, a son & brother, Nolan, who was born in November. A new grandson for Bruce and Susan Caughey.

We haven't had much snow here on the Island this year. However, we have had some frigid weather to start 2015 with. I think I would rather have some more snow and a bit milder temps.

The bay froze over on January 13<sup>th</sup>. I heard from a friend that one of the old fishermen used to say the north channel always freezes over within two days of January 15<sup>th</sup>. It would be interesting to know how close to the 15<sup>th</sup> it has been over the years.

It's that time of year again to thank the ferry and road crews who get us to work, appointments, shopping, & home again in snow, wind, ice etc.

February 16th is Family Day – I hope you get to spend some time with yours!

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#### WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

- Mary Kay Steel

On Wednesday afternoon, January 21<sup>st</sup>, thirteen members of the Amherst Island Women's Institute gathered in the bright and cheerful living room of Liz Harrison for their regular monthly meeting. (Often in the winter months we choose to meet in the daytime rather than drive in the dark evenings when roads may be slippery.) President Joyce Haines chaired the meeting. We reviewed our monthly financial summary and heard brief reports from our various standing committee conveners.

Among several items of new business was the highly anticipated Dry Stone Fence Gathering scheduled for September 2015. Our member Andrea Cross reported on the event, and we as a group reiterated our support for this "first-time-in-Canada" gathering, and will offer whatever assistance we can.

As well, we noted that our indoor walking program has begun, in the school, on Mondays at 4pm: - free, and all are welcome.

Sharen English and David Pickering are housing our collection of home health care equipment, and one can borrow any of it without charge by calling them. Our branch recently added a few items to that collection.

In addition, we agreed to think about ideas for our contribution to the celebration in July 2017 of

Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

A few other items were dealt with, and then it was time for refreshments, a good old chat, and a book exchange: members had each brought two or three books to give away, and in turn went home with someone else's contribution. Altogether, a cheerful and enjoyable afternoon.

Our next meeting is Wednesday, February 18<sup>th</sup>, at Norma-Lynn Cole's house, starting at 3:45pm. We will watch a movie starting at 4pm and then enjoy supper together. Guests welcome.

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#### JANET'S JOTTINGS

- Janet Scott

Bird Feeders

I was only six when I remember our first bird feeder. Dad would put out the leftover porridge after breakfast for the birds to eat. They were probably Starlings that came but we would watch them from the kitchen window as they descended on the still thawed treat before it froze hard on the tray. The stand I use today that holds up my beautiful tray feeder, a retirement gift from the school, was made by my father-in-law way back in the sixties and has moved with us ever since. I just can't imagine not having a feeder, although I know many apartment complexes ban them because of the unwanted bird droppings they accumulate.

There are many of us on the Island who have feeders and it is amazing what visitors will come and take advantage of your feeding tray. On the South Shore we even had a hen pheasant sit on the feeder which looked very odd from the inside as she was so large she filled it. A young deer used to visit that feeder for the grain that dropped to the ground and the cock pheasant and he would come to frequent stand-offs as to who should eat first.

Many predators of course take advantage of the numbers of birds gathering to a feeding station and are attracted by the feeding noises that the sparrows make. Cats, foxes, birds of prey like the American Kestrel, Northern Goshawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Northern Harrier, Coopers and Sharp-shinned Hawks will hang out at your feeder as well. We can't always pick and choose the birds that visit either. We may love the shy Cardinal that visits early morning and late afternoon but abhor the noisy European Starlings that come in hoards and devour our precious seeds. I fed a lot of Blackbirds, Grackles, and Cowbirds before that one special time

when I looked out the window and a Yellow-headed Blackbird was happily sitting on my feeding tray. Aren't you glad that God welcomes us all not just the beautiful ones. Ovid said that the woods would be a quiet place if only the beautiful birds sang.

What am I seeing at my feeder? Well now that it is colder there are a lot of American Tree Sparrows with red caps, brown streaked bodies, spot on the breast and two toned beaks (the top dark, the lower one yellow). Woodpeckers, Downy, Hairy and Red-bellied come and eat sunflower seeds or suet. Mourning Doves come early, stay late and are the clean-up crew picking up all those small seeds that are in your mix. The Rock Pigeons from the barn have started to come to the edge where I scatter seeds, they don't seem comfortable under the tree but need open spaces. The two White-breasted Nuthatches entertain us with their upside-down antics on the tree and quick trips in to grab a peanut or sunflower seed. The Black-capped Chickadees, ever the brave ones are close to the deck telling us that we need more seed and will hold a sunflower in their tiny toes right on the deck railing while they pound it with their beaks. The noisy, resident House Sparrows like the conifers right under the window and chatter happily in the warming, February sun. The male has gray cap and black bib while the female is all brown. Once in a while we get an American Goldfinch in his dull yellow winter outfit or a rosy coloured House Finch visiting the Niger seed feeder or on the ground with the smaller seeds.

I buy my seed from Willow's Feeds at 3560 Wilton Road, Harrowsmith run by Lois formerly Henderson from Amherst Island. Her wild bird mix costs \$18.90 for 18 kg., but there is no waste and they love it. The bossy Blue Jays let me know last week that this seed from Foodland was just not to their liking and demanded that I replace my stock plus buy more peanuts which they love. The Blue jays are the guardians of your feeder. They are quiet all summer long, may nest close to your house but you'll never see them but once fall comes and you hear that Blue Jay call you'll know that they are establishing winter feeding grounds. They spot danger the minute a hawk, human or cat enters that area and the little birds don't take a second look but dive for cover when they hear the warning. One sneaky Blue Jay at my old house discovered that if he called the Red-tailed Hawk scream all the Mourning Doves would scatter and he could have his pick of the seeds but most Blue Jays, although noisy,

are the early warning system for unidentified flying or otherwise objects.

I enjoy my feeder. It's entertainment and company and a great way to observe bird behaviour.

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## COUNCIL GLEANINGS

- Ian Murray

From the December 8<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting

Moved by Councillor Hegadorn and Seconded by Councillor Ashley: THAT Council receive the verbal presentation by Beverley Harris, Artistic Director of the Waterside Summer Series, and that the Waterside volunteers continue to work with Township staff who will assist the Waterside volunteers in furthering their goal of obtaining charitable status for the Waterside Festival and that staff continue to work with the Waterside volunteers until this status is resolved.

Motion carried

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AIMS Meeting, January 10

- Anders Bennick

Chair: David Pickering

Attendance: 11 members

Breakfast: David Pickering thanked the senior class, Betty Wemp and Jane McGinn for an excellent hot breakfast.

Agenda

1. Presentation



David Pickering talked about computer security, malware (malicious software) and the criminal organizations that use it. He discussed some of the many ways in which hackers can gain access to your computer and how they use it for their own purposes. Often, today's hacker is part of a research division of an organized crime group that can use access to your computer in many different ways. They can get profit by using it to send large amounts of spam, use it as storage space to hide software files or take advantage of its computational power. The simplest

way to gain access to your computer is to send an apparently legitimate message asking for the password, but there are many other ways to get in.

David introduced us to many different terms such as logic bomb – a piece of code inserted in the software that will set off a malicious function; zombies - a computer connected to the Internet that has been compromised by a hacker; computer virus – software that replicates by inserting copies of itself (possibly modified) into other computer programs, worm – an independent malware computer program that replicates itself in order to spread to other computers; and Trojan horse – attractive and useful software that hides a piece of malware. All of these remain invisible in an infected machine, but still give the criminal controller full remote access to that computer. (They can even activate microphones and cameras.)

To get the malware INTO the target machine, there are a variety of access methods. These include phishing - an email that falsely claims to be a legitimate enterprise in an attempt to scam the user into surrendering private information to be used for identity theft (or to get them to visit a compromised site to download malware); pharming – redirecting users to false web pages which may masquerade as a bank or some other site; or simple social engineering via either e-mail or voice. (Pretending to be Microsoft or Apple, or the police) and convincing users to open doors for access.

Botnets (also known as zombie armies) are comprised of a number of Internet computers that, although their owners are unaware of it, have been set up to forward spam or viruses to other computers on the Internet. They can also be used to attack other computers on command. Rootkits may be used by malware authors to hide the malicious code they have put on your computer and make it much harder to detect and remove.

He also discussed the many ways of password cracking; apparently the most common password is sex! Finally he talked about ways of insuring computer security such as firewalls and the importance of updating your programs.

David also pointed out that this was a very abbreviated talk, and that much more information is available through the Internet Café.

This must be the scariest talk ever given at AIMS and it certainly emphasized the need to be vigilant and not to take the security of your computer for

granted.

## 2. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the December meeting were approved as circulated.

## 3. Treasurer's report

The treasurer reported the bank balance. There have been no expenditures since the last meeting.

## 4. Transportation Report

There have been about 3 requests for transportation in the past month. Additional transportation requests have been completed by Don Pepper.

## 5. Application to the Township

On behalf of AIMS, Dayle Gowan has submitted an application to the Township requesting support for the flower baskets in Stella next summer as well as maintenance of the flowerbed in front of the Neilson Museum

## 6. New business

- In view of the low turnout at this meeting there was a discussion of possibly canceling future January meetings. It was decided to table this item for the February meeting.

-Larry Jensen indicated that he would like to step down from the steering committee. A motion was proposed to replace Larry with Don Pepper. Don accepted the nomination which was carried unanimously.

7. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at ~9:45.

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**Paul Cuyler rolls out his new creation**

**Photo by Victoria Cuyler**

**(Watch for an article on this impressive project in next month's issue of the Amherst Island Beacon.)**

## ISLAND TOUR

-Doug Green

Between growing up in the country and having my own farm, I have lived in the country for almost my entire life. But even after living on the Island nine years now (how time flies when you're having a good time) there were many mysteries about this amazing place. Who or what lived down that almost-hidden laneway or who used to live where the clumps of old lilacs and perhaps an old cement pad stand in the middle of a field? Why does that double line of trees head off into nowhere and where's that forty foot that never got used or closed down. Mud house? There's a mud house on the island? They used to do what? How many boatbuilders lived here? Seriously? Oh, the stories I'd hear and wonder about.

I first heard that Keith Miller gave Island tours at a Museum event. Mayo and I suddenly had to go off-Island for the day and I left an absentee bid hoping to win a tour. I lost. So I asked Keith about it one day when I visited him in his office and he said he did do the occasional one and the money would go to the radio station. And if I wanted to take a tour, he'd provide one.

I confirmed my interest on the spot and agreed on what I thought was a very reasonable price for Keith driving his Jeep around the entire Island on a 4 hour tour. Four hours! It turned out to be longer than that for us. I guess Mayo and I asked too many questions, the three of us got laughing far too often and Keith was extremely generous with his time and gas. We crept along every road on the Island - over fifty miles of them - while Keith told us who lived in the houses now, as well as stories about the places and the people who used to live there. Some laneways I've never explored became treasured moments when Keith drove them. Where else in the province would you hear about throwing buckets of water onto houses to put a thick layer of ice on the wall? I've heard about putting bales of hay around the house to slow down the winds but at least one Islander had his own unique method of slowing down winter's gales from squeezing between the numerous cracks in the old farmhouse. Where else on the Island would you get to see the houses while the tale of soured romances and attempted retribution - arson kept pace with the car as we wandered along the road? After Keith's tour, the Island came even more alive for both of us.

I know some of you are going to ask the cost-

question. It's always mentioned in reviews of this kind of tour but I'm not going to mention a number. In part of one day I learned more about where I lived than in the preceding 9 years. To borrow an advertising meme - cost of gas, \$20 bucks. Information and entertainment - priceless. Mayo and I couldn't have gone to a theatre event and dinner in Kingston for what we paid. And the money went directly to the radio station; Keith doesn't even take any for his gas never mind his time. So the next time you see Keith in his office, book your tour (remember he only takes a limited number of tours.) You'll be glad you did.

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**Mel Eves and tasty friend**  
**Photo by Robert Eves**

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FLAG DAY - February 15th  
Canadian Flag's 50th Birthday  
-Submitted by Lynn Fleming

The search for a new Canadian flag started in earnest in 1925 when a committee of the Privy Council began to research possible designs for a national flag. However, the work of the committee was never completed.

Later, in 1946, a select parliamentary committee was appointed with a similar mandate, called for submissions and received more than 2,600 designs. Still, the Parliament of Canada was never called upon to formally vote on a design.

Early in 1964, Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson informed the House of Commons that the government wished to adopt a distinctive national flag. The 1967 centennial celebration of Confederation was, after all, approaching. As a result, a Senate and House of Commons Committee was formed and submissions were called for once again.

In October 1964, after eliminating various proposals, the committee was left with three possible designs - a Red Ensign with the fleur-de-lis and the Union Jack, a design incorporating three red maple leaves, and a red flag with a single, stylized red maple leaf on a white square. (Pearson himself preferred a design with three red maple leaves between two blue borders.)

Dr. Stanley's design is based on a strong sense of Canadian history. The combination of red, white and red first appeared in the General Service Medal issued by Queen Victoria. Red and white were subsequently proclaimed Canada's national colours by King George V in 1921. Three years earlier, Major General (later the Honourable) Sir Eugene Fiset had recommended that Canada's emblem be the single red maple leaf on a white field - the device worn by all Canadian Olympic athletes since 1904.

The committee eventually decided to recommend the single-leaf design, which was approved by resolution of the House of Commons on December 15, 1964, followed by the Senate on December 17, 1964, and proclaimed by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Queen of Canada, to take effect on February 15, 1965.

In due course the final design of the stylized maple leaf was established by Mr. Jacques St-Cyr, the precise dimensions of red and white were suggested by Mr. George Bist, and the technical description of precise shade of red defined by Dr. Günter Wyszecki.

The national flag of Canada, then, came into being, credit to those eminent Canadians: the Right Honourable Lester B. Pearson, who wanted a distinctive national flag as a vehicle to promote national unity; John Matheson, who established the conceptual framework for a suitable flag, then sought out and combined the appropriate components to create it; and Dr. George Stanley, who provided the seminal concept - the central concepts of red-white-red stripes with a central maple leaf - in this process.

[\*Sally's grandmother Minnie Hallowell Bowen, a published poet and a resident of Sherbrooke, QC, kept in her trunks stitched samples of flag submissions and correspondence with the government of the time on this issue. These samples are now in the archives of Bishops U. in Sherbrooke.]

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**Robert Eves and HIS tasty friend.**

**Photo by Mel Eves**

(Rob, this looks like our guest at the Super Bowl party. Thank you very much for bringing him.)



## STATUS UPDATE ON SAND BEACH

-Diane Pearce

The Big Marsh/Sand Beach Committee met on January 23<sup>rd</sup> to review the latest (and hopefully final) draft of the Stewardship Plan prepared by consultant Dale Kristensen of the firm, Ecological Services. Mr. Kristensen will make minor changes to the document that will be presented to Council in February for approval, then forwarded to Ontario Heritage Trust for final approval. Murray Beckel, Director of Planning & Development Services for Loyalist Township, expects that the Stewardship Plan will be on the February 2<sup>nd</sup> or the February 9<sup>th</sup> Council meeting. Please check the Township's website [www.loyalist.ca](http://www.loyalist.ca) to see the full report that will be on the Council or Committee agenda.

The following is a brief summary of the draft Stewardship Plan goals. Please bear in mind that the document stills requires Council approval.

The Stewardship Plan is primarily intended as a guide "on how the Property should be managed to protect identified natural heritage features and functions for present and future generations, while at the same time allowing for limited public access and site use".

The Significant Natural Heritage Values identified in the Baseline Documentation Report (BDR) are the thicket swamp, a significant woodland stand of Green Ash and Red Maple, approximately 1000 metres of sand and wave smoothed gravel shoreline and dune habitats and breeding habitat supportive of nationally recognized species at risk (Bobolink, Barn Swallow, Wood Pewee, Snapping Turtle and Monarch butterfly).

The Stewardship Plan Goals are:

- 1) To protect and maintain the significant natural heritage values identified in the BDR;
- 2) To remove or reduce disturbances and threats to natural heritage values associated with the property;
- 3) To provide opportunities for public use of the property that do not conflict with the goals and objectives associated with sustainable land stewardship;
- 4) To increase public awareness and understanding of the community benefits associated with land use stewardship.

The Stewardship Plan Objectives identify how the goals will be implemented by following the covenants for the protection of the natural heritage features, regular monitoring of the Property,

maintaining records of status of existing and newly listed species at risk, discontinuing use of all secondary trails crossing the dune and barrier beach areas by signage and providing limited access routes, restricting unauthorized vehicle traffic across the Property, maintaining the hayfields as functional habitat for Bobolink, and constructing new facilities appropriate to the planned public use (access to beach and wetland viewing platform, regulated parking area and washroom, gates to prevent unauthorized vehicle traffic on right of way).

Although not specified in the Plan, the expectation is that the Property will be open for public use in the coming months. The public is asked to respect the Property and the rights of private landowners by avoiding private property. Dogs and, of course, unauthorized motorized vehicles are prohibited on the beach.

Note re Fundraising:

Thanks to the generosity of many people and groups, the Sand Beach fund currently stands at \$18,750. Your support of this project has been amazing. We still need to raise \$6,250 to reach the \$25,000 goal. Please make your cheque payable to Loyalist Township (for Sand Beach acquisition) and you will receive a charitable donation receipt from the Township.



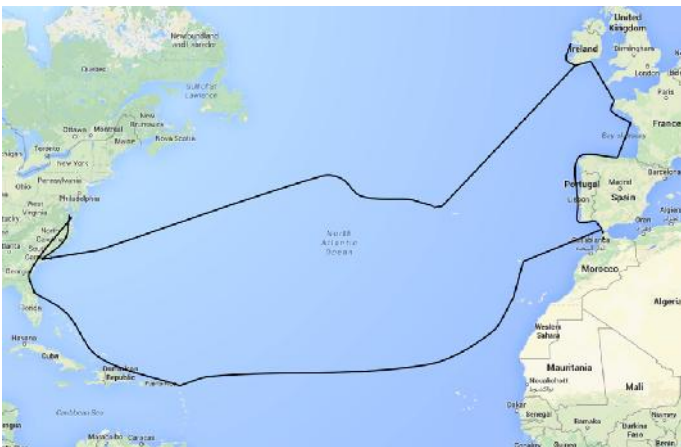
Alicia and Dan Wolfries

## A YEAR AT SEA -Christopher Kennedy



**Carl and Leah in the Azores**

There was a full house for the Back Room talk at the Museum on January 23<sup>rd</sup>. Leah Murray and Carl McCrosky gave us a tour of the Atlantic from the deck of their 40 foot yacht, the Arioso. They took a somewhat northerly route to Bermuda, on to the Azores, and then over to a landfall in southern Ireland, and then spent some time on the west coast of Ireland. Then they headed south across the Bay of Biscay to Spain and Portugal, before returning back across the Atlantic via Madeira, the Canary Islands and on to the British Virgin Islands in the Caribbean and on up the east coast of the U.S.



Sometimes they had other crew with them, sometimes it was just the two of them on the wide ocean. They talked and showed pictures of the places they visited and some of the people they met including Kitsy McMullen, sometime Island resident, who is working in Ireland at the moment. It must have been an interesting to arrive at these places by sea, as people have done for centuries, rather than the modern way by car. The places they

saw, and the people they met, seem to have been the highlights of their year away.



**Kitsy found them.**

I was also very impressed by the knowledge and skill it must take to sail and navigate what is not a very large boat across the ocean, avoiding storms as much as possible and surviving when they came. Other sailors on the Island have assured me that their boat is one of the strongest and best built ones of that size made.

When answering questions afterwards they both said that the long passages, one of nineteen days two hours coming back west, did not thrill them, but Carl said that it was the most amazing year of his life. Next winter though, they may just stay in the Caribbean.

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## LYME DISEASE TESTING

-Sally Bowen

I'm still getting horror stories from folks who find an embedded tick and want to get preventive help.

The recommended procedure is to use a tick lifter – or anything else that can be like a fork to slip under the tick, twist gently and lift. Do NOT squeeze mouth parts with tweezers. Put the tick (possibly still live and kicking) in a clean small container and take it with you.

Go to a clinic or Napanee Hospital emergency. The protocol has been to prescribe a single antibiotic dose for prevention of Lyme disease, within the first 48 hours of the tick digging in. The response from the medical community varies on this and I gather this hospital no longer is consistent with this response.

Please try to insist on the preventive treatment. If not available, monitor your body response carefully.

There is a vast range of possible symptomatic responses. Do NOT accept “Well, we will wait to see if there is a bull’s eye rash”. The rash doesn’t always appear, and if it does, the toxins are already well on their way into your system. Also unacceptable is “We’ll send the tick for testing and will treat you if it is positive.” Dan’s story explains why.

Dan Simpson found an embedded tick last May, about the 20th. He went to emergency in Napanee. They removed the tick for him but did not give him an oral dose of antibiotic. They sent the tick for testing...and it came back POSITIVE in SEPTEMBER.

Fortunately, Dan was lucky, and does not appear to have been infected by the bacteria. However, four months is an outrageous time to wait for results; unacceptable if the tick had in fact transmitted the disease.

The ticks are a fact of life on the Island now. Just keep checking your body when you’ve been outside

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**Keith Miller and Dan Simpson  
(and another tasty friend)**

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## SALLY'S BOOKS

- Sally

Sally's Books on CJAI finally has some new books recorded, and others ready to go. Listen for excerpts from “Fire and Ice”, “The Orenda” and “The First Wives Club”. Coming soon, “River of Stars” and

“Edge of Eternity”.

Sally's Books play on 92.9 FM, CJAI, Radio in a Barn on Saturdays at 8 am, Sundays at 10 am and Monday's at 2 am. Tune in on-line if your receiver can't get the station.

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## MAKING CONNECTIONS

-Andrea Cross

The Dry Stone Walling Association of Canada (Dry Stone Canada) will be holding their annual Dry Stone Festival on Amherst Island this year from September 25 - 27th.

This event will be a collaboration with the Dry Stone Walling Association of Ireland to celebrate and commemorate Canada’s rich Irish cultural heritage. The Association has identified Amherst Island as a nationally significant site, as it has one of Canada’s largest concentration of historic dry stone walls, many are over 150 years old, most built by original settlers from Ireland.

The Dry Stone Walling Association of Ireland is sending over a number of expert Dry Stone Wallers from Ireland who will be featured guests including Patrick McAfee

(<http://homepage.eircom.net/~mcafee/>);

Association Chairman Sunny Wieler and Secretary Ken Curran (check out

<http://dswaireland.ning.com/>).

There will be a 2-day workshop on dry stone wall construction featuring various Irish dry stone wall techniques that will be incorporated into one permanent new wall. The wall will represent walls that originally ran from the Village of Stella to the Village of Emerald on Amherst Island.

All Amherst Islanders will be invited to provide a stone to include in the wall (details will be provided at a later date). The finished wall will include a time capsule installed by the Ambassador to Canada from Ireland.

Two stone carvers are also invited to attend. They will provide one or two short workshops on the art and craft of stone carving and each will be invited to produce a stone that will be incorporated into the new wall that will be built. The carvers are Tracy Mahaffey and Karin Sprague.

Check out their beautiful work at:  
<http://www.tracymahaffey.com/> and  
<http://www.karinsprague.com/>.

During the festival there will be Celtic music and

entertainment, and a children's dry stone workshop. Funds are being raised now to make as much of the festival free to the public as possible.

In addition to the Festival, Dry Stone Canada plans to hold two more dry stone restoration workshops on Amherst Island this year.

If you are interested in helping with any of these events or would like to find out more please contact Andrea Cross by email at: [amherst4615@gmail.com](mailto:amherst4615@gmail.com)

(Note: The Association is currently developing a new website. In the meantime check out their Facebook Page at:

<https://www.facebook.com/DryStoneWallingAssociationOfCanada>)

\*\*\*\*\*



**Stephan McGinn (winner of this month's unofficial fishing derby.)  
Photo by Steve Cole**

## ICE FISHING

- Stephan McGinn with Sally Bowen

Ice fishing is 'addictive' says enthusiastic young fisherman, Stephan McGinn. "It is a real challenge to see whether you can jig just right to attract then hook a fish, then have the skill to reel up the fish and to land it successfully."

Stephan and his dad Nick use a power auger to cut a hole for each fisherman, because "you can't both fish from the same hole - your lines would catch". Where they are fishing now at the end of January, the ice is about 10 inches thick. They also have a 'flasher' a device that shows the lure and whether a fish is approaching. When interviewed, Nick and Stephan were taking a break from building an ice hut, for better comfort. Until now, an upside down pail for a seat was adequate.



**Nick and Stephan McGinn  
(with incoming tasty friend)  
Photo by Steve Cole**

Nick and Stephan take a Coleman stove with them too, with a little flour and butter, and will sometimes fillet, cook and eat a fish right there on the ice. Stephan cleans any fish they take home.

Fishermen are either catching Lake Trout (described by Stephan as "a bit orange on the fins, long and fat") or Walleye, also called Pickerel ("shorter, skinnier, sort of yellowish on the scales"). Groups either fish off the shore of Amherst Island, or cross to Hay Bay.

Steve Cole describes Stephan as a "Fish Whisperer" but the young man denies he's the best. "Others go out every day. I just do really well."

Island ice fishing enthusiasts have included Robert and Mel Eves, Steve Cole, Keith Miller, Dan Simpson, and Alicia and her dad Dan Wolfreys.

(Check for photos in this issue.) Who else is heading out? Any fish stories for us next month?

\*\*\*\*\*

## THANK YOU

Thank you for the cards and expressions of sympathy on the passing of my sister Teresa.

Our family appreciated your kindness.

Helen McCormick

\*\*\*\*\*

## ADVERTISEMENTS

Amherst Island Women's Institute Medical Equipment Loan Cupboard (walkers, canes, bathseats, commodes, raised toilet seats). Donations of used equipment in good condition also welcome. Call Sharen English (613)384-6535.



\*\*\*

## For Sale

Large capacity dryer: Inglis made by Whirlpool, works great. \$100 obo. If not satisfied I'll return your money. Bob Filson 613 389-9222

\*\*\*

Topsy Farms has a new shipment of fresh frozen lamb cuts, just arrived in late January.

\*\*\*

## ISLAND BOOKKEEPING

For simple bookkeeping, payroll, and tax preparation needs at very competitive prices. Call Renée for more information and free quotes at 613 389-0652

\*\*\*

## SHIRLEY MILLER

Paintings, Prints & Art Classes

613-389-2588

\*\*\*

## AMHERST ISLAND CHIROPRACTIC

10650 Front Rd. Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. For appointments call 613 328-8892

\*\*\*

HARTIN'S PUMPING SERVICE: Septic Pumping & Inspection 613-379-5672

\*\*\*

BETTY'S HOME COOKING My Market Goodies are available! Plus if you want a full meal to go... a few days notice and your cooking for company is over. Call Betty 389-7907

\*\*\*

CHILDCARE Looking for a local reliable childcare professional? Recent Early Childhood Education graduate, Brooke Reid is available to look after your children whenever needed. Registered with the College of Early Childhood Education First Aid/ CPR certified. Contact Info: Home: 613-389-4484, Cell: 613-484-9046

\*\*\*

GODDEN'S WHOLE HOG SAUSAGE We would like to thank our faithful sausage customers on Amherst Island for their continued support of our product. Flavours now include: Salt & Pepper; Honey & Garlic; Sundried Tomato & Oregano; Hot Italian; Sweet Chili & Lime; Maple Breakfast; and Salt & Pepper Breakfast. Now selling packages of 4 sausages!! See more at [thewholehogblog@blogspot.com](mailto:thewholehogblog@blogspot.com); Facebook, "Godden's Whole Hog Sausage"; or, follow us on "Twitter @Godden Farms". Please call ahead for large orders, 705-653-5984. With Sincere Thanks, Lori Caughey & Family.

\*\*\*

FOOTFLATS FARM ACCOMMODATION: [www.footflats.com](http://www.footflats.com) (613 634-1212) Goodman House (waterfront) - 4 bedrooms, 3 bath - available year round

\*\*\*

HELP STILL NEEDED for the Lennox and Addington S.P.C.A. Used towels and linens, paper towels and cleaning supplies, pet food, kitty litter, dog and cat toys are always in demand; Canadian Tire coupons and pop cans. Leave items on my porch: put pop cans in large container and other items nearby. Thank you for helping to support our animal shelter. Further information needed? Call Freda Youell - 613 384-4135.

\*\*\*

ISLAND YOGA \*Call Taggett for more information at 613 888-5156

\*\*\*

POPLAR DELL FARM BED & BREAKFAST  
3190 FRONT ROAD, AMHERST ISLAND  
Welcoming guests for over 30 years. Also, Cottage

Rentals and Godden Sausage sales. Call Susie @ 613-389-2012

\*\*\*

TOPSY FARMS WOOL SHED 613 389-3444 Wool and sheepskin products including yarn, blankets, crafts, and individual photos, books and booklets by Don Tubb. Open weekends and most weekday mornings.

\*\*\*

### LOVING SPOONFUL

Food drop off on Thursdays at 5750 Front Road (Jean Tugwell's former home). Please bring any extra fresh produce for delivery Friday morning to folks in need.

\*\*\*

### NEILSON STORE MUSEUM & CULTURAL CENTRE

Summer hours (1 July to 1 September):  
Sunday through Friday – 1 to 4

Fall hours:

Saturday (10 am to 4 pm), Sunday (1 to 4 pm)  
Holiday Mondays (1 to 4 pm)

\*\*\*

### WEASEL AND EASEL ARTS AND CRAFTS GALLERY

Summer hours (1 July to 1 September):  
Sunday through Friday – 1 to 4

Fall hours:

Saturday (10 am to 4 pm), Sunday (1 to 4 pm)  
Holiday Mondays (1 to 4 pm)

\*\*\*

### RAWLEIGH PRODUCTS FOR SALE

Catalogues available. To place an order call Marie Ward at 613 389-5767 or email:

[bandmward@xplornet.ca](mailto:bandmward@xplornet.ca)

\*\*\*\*\*



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613.634.1388  
320 McDonalds Lane, Stella ON K0H 2S0

## FROM THE ARCHIVES:

*AI Beacon: February 15, 1985, Issue 85*

\*\*\*\*\*

### CONTRIBUTIONS...

*Submissions are wanted and needed. The Beacon is only as good as the material put into it. There are a lot of events and happenings in our community that should be mentioned in the Beacon but aren't because nobody took the time to record them. Please remember that, for some people, the Beacon is their only link to the Island. Also, in years to come, our paper may form a part of your own memories.*

*It really helps the staff work load if we can get submissions by the 10th of the month.*

\*\*\*\*\*

### COUNCIL REPORT for Feb. 5, 1985

- Christopher Kennedy

*All members of Council were present. The building inspector, Ed Chadband, presented his annual report. There were three fewer building permits issued last year than in 1983, but the Estimated Capital Investment was almost doubled, at \$288,815. There were 2 residences, 5 garages, 4 additions, 8 for siding, and miscellaneous others including a Twp privy and an in-ground swimming pool.*

*Council had a report on the increased costs to the Miller Drain due to the delay from July 1982 to August 1985 (projected completion). Interest was \$22,506.14, and legal costs, \$5,188.*

*Council tabled until the next meeting the revised (and much simplified) building by-law.*

*The Reeve reported on this month's activities. He attended five meetings on behalf of the Township, and four County meetings. The County Councillors also raised their salaries and expense allowances for meetings.*

*Stuart Miller, the road superintendent, discussed the roads with council. The grader and dump truck are getting older. He says they work well, but may become unreliable and need expensive repairs sometime soon. Council discussed briefly the road over Charlie Howard's hill where the recent accident took place. The plans for the replacement of the bridge on the third concession have been completed. We won't hear if money is available from the province until April or May.*

*The surveyors have not yet finished work on the dump. Three tenders were requested for the work on the Municipal Building. Only one was received - from Turvy General Contracting - so they were awarded the job, and have already started work.*

*The Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation Course is coming up again on March 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>. Council is willing to pay for fire crew members to attend.*

*The new stage in the school is finished. Council passed a vote of thanks to Rick Bedford, Jack Forester and others for a very fine job.*

*There will be a budget meeting February 31<sup>st</sup> was suggested as a date. It was fixed for February 25<sup>th</sup>.*

*Council then discussed briefly, and then passed, a bylaw to correct the Drainage By-law. Diane noticed a short time ago that the figures for assessment in the Drainage By-law had not been changed after the Court of Revision corrections, though they had been changed in the Appendix A attached to the original by-law. The new by-law corrects this oversight. The contract for the drain has been signed with Morven Construction. Council decided they did not need a drainage superintendent.*

*Council has received a letter from the Township solicitor recommending that the revised assessments be reviewed by all parties involved (with an engineer from Graham Engineering present) to ensure there are no gross errors. He also said that the completion of the drain and the review of the figures for assessment are two independent items. Council therefore is requesting from Graham Engineering a cost estimate for reviewing the assessment figures.*

*Council discussed increasing the parking lot at the school for community functions. They will investigate the problem.*

*Council will meet to discuss the Procedural By-law, which will cover matters to be included in the minutes, delegations and availability of information.*

*Council is to meet with the Ministry of the Environment to discuss improvements to private water and sewage systems in the village.*

*Then Council dealt with various pieces of correspondence, and adjourned.*

\*\*\*\*\*

### THE NEIGHBOURHOOD

- Annette & Staff

*The Island community was saddened by the death of our friend and neighbour, Harry Fleming, on*

February 8th. Our sympathy to Syke, his children, grandchildren, parents and sisters.

The Legion spring dance was a success again this year. Visitors attending from off-Island included Mimi Regimbal, Mike Martel, Jim Rollo, all of Coppercliff.

Debbie Bedford & family are moving to Odessa on April 1.

Brian & Roberta Riel are moving back into their house.

The Wilfred Miller family was together this Christmas for the first time since they left home: Tom, Keith, Rosemary, Claire and Harold.

Congratulations to Karen McGinn and Bob Seeley who are to be married Saturday, February 23rd.

Welcome to the Island, Sarah Matthews. Congratulations to Marnie and Geoff and to sister Grace.

Next week is reading week for university students. If anyone is inclined to observe what a real preppie does on holidays, they might like to watch Maureen pumping gas at Bert's Shell in Bath. She's a real pro.

\*\*\*\*\*

Notice: A new permanent resident on the Island, Steve Spence, can obtain safety films. Any Island groups and organizations wishing to view safety films on such topics as Industrial, Recreational, Winter/Snowmobile should contact Steve at 389-6555.

\*\*\*

#### NOTICE

Anyone interested in the Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation course to be given on March 30th and 31st should contact Rick Tait at 389-3444 before March 15th.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### 1985 KIDS SOFTBALL

- Brian Ward

I know that February is early to be thinking of softball but to get organized we must start now. As you will see from the following lists of kids that could participate we may end up with four teams this year:

Peewee Ages 13 & 14 (Mixed)

Squirt Ages 11 & 12 (Mixed)

Mite Ages 9 & 10 (Mixed)

#### Grasshopper Ages 5 to 8 (Mixed)

This year I am only going to coach one team probably the Peewee or the Squirt team. Rick Bedford may coach one team so we are going to need coaches for the other two teams. If anyone is interested please give me a call and sometime in March I feel that we should all get together and have a meeting.

You will notice that some of the kids listed are younger than the required ages for the Division where they are listed. This is due to the fact that I was trying to balance the numbers on the teams. At our meeting in March we could discuss alternative ways of doing this if we feel that these lists won't work.

Kids! if your name is on the list and you are not going to play please call me and let me know. If you want to play and your name is not on the list please call me. Phone 389-5767.

If we do go with the above four teams we are going to require new sweaters, probably for the Peewee team. We could use our blue sweaters for the Mite team and our black sweaters for the Squirt team. In that case, we will need more financial help than other years to help buy these sweaters. Any organization who is willing to help sponsor our kids softball would be greatly appreciated.

I hope we can get some coaching help for these teams or the kids will not be able to play this year. Also we must know as soon as possible what kids are planning to play or we cannot make any further plans.

#### Peewee Team

Steve Ward, Rick Welbanks, Donnie Miller, Kirk Collins, Julie Forester, Nicky McGinn, Trudy Strain, Jamie Miller, Jim Belsmith, Sandra Wilson, Jake Lewis, Tessa Fabian, David Cunningham, Penny Thornhill, Laurie Trausdale, Teddy Bienais

#### Squirt Team

Hugh Filson, Mike Strain, Jeff deHaan, Jeff Forester, Sherry Ward, Laura Wemp, Reg Hitchins, Peter Horth, Mike Horth, Richard Dodds, Jamie Thornhill, Jamie Scott, Karen Studstrud, Mite Team, Chad Miller, Jessie Yull, Amy Caughey, Tracy Hitchins, Jason Silver, Jamie Silver, Gordon Trausdale, Lori Caughey, Sarah Scott, Ricky Bedford, Gordon Thornhill, Ruth Scott, Sarah deHaan



### Grasshopper Team

Kevin McCormick, Jason Fleming, Crystal Bedford, Heidi Hitchins, Angela Fleming, Jason Hitchins, Douglas Gavlas, Jessica Gavlas, Adam Studstrud, Sarah deHaan, Billy Cunningham, Jill Caughey, Tyler Hutchings

\*\*\*\*\*

### AMHERST ISLAND WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

- Diane Gavlas

Thank you for the support on the Heart Fund. A total of \$230 was collected.

The 4H (Cooking club) had their first meeting with 5 members joining. Still time for more to join, if you wish, boys included.

The January meeting was Family Nite at Caroline Yull's during the snowstorm. Some people were able to make it there but not all got home after.

The February meeting is February 20th at Mrs. Jean McIntyre's. Program is World Affairs. Roll Call - Name a world leader and his or her country. Bring a news clipping pertinent to world affairs. A valentine exchange also.

Please note the March meeting is March 13th one week early at Mrs. Phyllis Strain's. Program will be the Tweedsmuir Book. Bring a small antique and its story. A nice bit of Green Lunch also. A Chinese Auction for Pennies for Friendship.

New members are still wanted and welcome.

\*\*\*\*\*

### LIBRARY NEWS

- Diane Gavlas

To all my regular overdues: Checking up on you the other day I looked up a number in my black book. Lo and behold it was your very own librarian.

\*\*\*\*\*

### THANK YOU LETTERS

I wish to thank everyone who sent "get well cards" and those who inquired about me, also those who visited me.

A special thank you to our children who did so much for me.

I'd like to express my appreciation to Dr. Scott for his consideration and care the day I came home from the hospital and promptly got laid up again. We are fortunate to have a doctor on the Island.

I expect I never tell Bill often enough how much I appreciate his devotion and care. He cheerfully went

about his housewifely duties as he called them until I was able to do so.

Helen Bulch

\*\*\*

I would like to thank my relatives, friends and neighbours for cards, gifts, phone calls and visits in hospital and since coming home.

Special thanks to all those who helped the night of my accident and during my convalescence.

An extra special thank-you to Anne and Garry Hitchins for all their efforts that night and to Aunt Elsie for waiting at hospital to bring me home.

Again I say thank you to anyone that helped me or Mom and Dad in any way.

Jim Reid

\*\*\*

We wish to thank our relatives, friends and neighbours for the lovely cards and gifts for our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

A Special thanks to Bruce Caughey Sr. and Bruce Caughey Jr and Doug Wilson and the ladies of P.C.W. Thanks to Helen and Bruce for the lovely supper we had on our anniversary.

Thanks to each and everyone. Vaughan & Margaret McMullen

\*\*\*

I would like to thank all friends and relatives for flowers, cards and visits received while I was a patient at Hotel Dieu Hospital.

Special thanks to Kirk Collins, Jim Reid, Garry Hitchins and Phil Silver, to Margaret and Vaughan McMullen. Your kindness will always be remembered.

Susan McGinn

\*\*\*

We wish to thank the residents of Amherst Island who kindly donated clothing etc. to our family after our recent loss of possessions in a house fire.

Raymond and Jean Kay

\*\*\*

Mr. Rick Bedford

Mr. Jack Forester

Dear Rick and Jack,

Council has asked me to express their thanks for the excellent job you did in the construction of the permanent stage for the community centre/gymnasium.

All of us who attend various functions at the school can appreciate the need for a proper stage and I'm sure your efforts will assist in many years of enjoyment for the community.

Please extend Council's thanks to anyone else who helped you with this project.

Yours very truly, Diane Pearce  
Clerk-treasurer

\*\*\*

[The Beacon Staff Apologizes for Losing this Letter for 2 Issues. If anyone notices that we've missed something or made a mistake, please let us know.]

I would like to thank my relatives, friends and neighbours for the many cards, gifts, flowers and the many phone calls received while I was in hospital and after I returned home.

Many thanks to the ladies who brought me "goodies" after I returned home. "Bob also appreciated them."

Thanks again to you all.

Emily Tugwell

\*\*\*\*\*

#### LOST

Wednesday, January 31 between Glenn's Store and the 9 am boat: a baby comforter covered in blue-patterned cotton material. Fell off sleigh in mad dash for boat. Please call Caroline Yull 384-4071 or drop off at house - (used to be Fred Neilson's).

Thanks.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### I.S.L.E. COMMITTEE

- Annette

The I.S.L.E. Committee wishes to extend a sincere thank-you to the many Islanders who have helped us out over the past couple of months.

First, to the local service groups for their financial support in building a new coat rack. Doug Wilson and Ed Chadband did a wonderful job at building and installing it at the school.

Our Ham Dinner was a success again this year and many thanks to all those who took time to help out: Thelma Howard, Irene Glenn, Steven Viau, Susie Caughey, Lyn Fleming and the volleyball teams.

We are looking for donations of used cups, dishes and cutlery to aid us in our hot lunch program for

the students. Many mothers have been kind enough to prepare and serve the lunches each Wednesday.

Thanks to Pam McCormick, Marie Ward, Deb Bedford, Steven Viau, Anne-Marie Hitchins, Diane Gavlas and Hazel deHaan. Thanks also to Irene Glenn for providing food at a reasonable cost.

I.S.L.E. has a portable stage for sale, 16 feet by 8 feet. We will take best offer. Call Bob at 389-2916.

\*\*\*\*\*

from The Building Inspector's Annual Report  
Year Estimated Capital Investment

1979 \$209, 000

1980 \$302, 755

1981 \$185,740

1982 \$232,300

1983 \$155,350

1984 \$288,815

\*\*\*\*\*

#### DEFINITIONS

- Ambrose Bierce

Aborigines, n. Persons of little worth found cumbering the soil of a newly discovered country. They soon cease to cumber; they fertilize.

Acquaintance, n. A person whom we know well enough to borrow from, but not well enough to lend to. A degree of friendship called slight when its object is poor or obscure, and intimate when he is rich and famous.

Bore, n. A person who talks when you wish him to listen.

\*\*\*\*\*

AI Beacon: February 15, 1995, Issue 205

\*\*\*\*\*

#### COUNCIL REPORT FEBRUARY 7, 1994

- Chris Kennedy

Jim Whitton was still in Australia and Duncan Ashley, the Reeve, was away still recovering from his recent mishap with his car. In his absence Alex Scott chaired the meeting.

Stuart Miller reported on the roads. The snow ploughing budget for this January was low, and the Roads Crew has been doing some brush cutting along the roadsides. The survey work along the Front Road near Ken Albertan's was reported almost finished. This is work that might better have been done when the road was first moved ten years or so ago. The new road actually runs on about 2 1/2 acres of the Shantz family's land.

*It was decided that there will be no passengers allowed on the ferry trips designated as fuel trips. At present this is the first boat from the mainland on Wednesday mornings. There was considerable discussion about Fire fighters not being available for work on the ferry when called to a fire. It was decided to discuss the whole matter at a meeting of the Emergency Planning Committee due shortly. The Coast Guard is raising the berthage fees for the ferry by 25% this year. This, they say, is part of a more business like approach and will contribute to the deficit reduction initiatives of the government.*

*There is a site capacity study being done on the dump. The results will be presented to Council later this month. Council is finding out the details of how to get the Kingston Area Recycling Committee's mobile household hazardous waste collection unit to the island.*

*This will take old paint, used motor oil, propane cylinders and car batteries. Sounds like a good idea to me.*

*Council and the Fire department are working on getting the safety checks completed on the fire trucks. This involves getting a piece of paper to say that a qualified mechanic can use the Fire Hall to inspect the vehicles, and then getting the inspections done. In January, the Building Inspector issued a permit to Ken Albertan for renovations, and to Robert and Judith MacKenzie for occupancy. In 1994, the Inspector issued twenty-one permits in all, including two permits for new houses, three new garages, three additions and six demolition permits.*

*Syke Fleming has donated to the Township four prints of the past and present Amherst Island ferries, in memory of Harry E. Fleming, a former Reeve. Council received the gift with great appreciation, and I look forward to seeing them in the Council Chamber soon.*

*Council then went into closed session to discuss a personnel matter.*

\*\*\*\*\*

## **THE NEIGHBOURHOOD**

- Annette

*Best wishes to those who have been sick and/or in hospital this month: Vaughan McMullen; Marg Blenkinsop; Thelma Howard; Phyllis Henderson; Doug Gavlas; Faye Wemp; and, Tom Phillips. Best wishes also to our Reeve, Duncan Ashley who took a bad smack on the head in a car accident this month.*

*Our sympathy to Dennis McGinn on the loss of his brother, Vincent McGinn, and to Garnet McDonald on the loss of his brother, Roger McDonald. Former Island resident Lois Bongard also passed away this month.*

*On the up side, our local celebrity, Jeff Pearce and his band, Moist, has been nominated for two Juno Awards. Congratulations and the very best of luck.*

\*\*\*\*\*

## **AMHERST ISLAND WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**

- Jean E.S. McIntyre

*The Women's Institute met at the home of Mrs. Irene Glenn on Wed., Jan. 18th at 1:30 p.m. The meeting opened with the Ode, Collect and O Canada.*

*Our speaker for the afternoon was Mrs. Leslie Gavlas who spoke on the changes to the Income Tax Laws pertaining to the Capital Gains Tax. Leslie also took us through the steps for filling out an Income Tax Form. It was a very interesting and useful programme.*

*The Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario have compiled a collection of Environmentally Friendly Hints for use in the home, and have put them into a book, a copy of which is to be put in the Amherst Island Library. Hints such as using Tomato Ketchup to clean brass. I tried it and it works! If you would like to own a copy they are, or will be, available at Glenn's store at a cost of \$8.00.*

*March Meeting: Wednesday, March 15th at 1:30 p.m. at the home of Mrs. Leslie Gavlas. Topic: Rural Beautification of the Island*

*Speaker: Mrs. Pam McCormick*

\*\*\*\*\*

## **It's An I.S.L.E. HAM LUNCHEON**

*Where: Amherst Island Community Centre*

*When: Friday, February 24, 1995*

*Time: 12:00 Noon - 1:30 p.m.*

*Cost: Adults.... \$6.00*

*Jk To Gr 8.... \$2.00*

*Preschool.... free*

*For Tickets Please Call:*

*Ann Albertan... 389-2662*

*Karen J. Fleming... 389-9869*

*Susan Caughey... 389-2012*

*Leslie McDonald... 384-1456*

*Dave Willard... 389-1656*

*Karen Fleming... 389-0210*

Jim Baker... 389-2404  
Before Tues., Feb. 21/95  
Everyone Welcome!!

\*\*\*\*\*

### LETTERS TO THE BEACON

[Staff: We received the following letter... perhaps remembrance is a better description from Vic Ellis this month. Coming on the heels of Caroline Ackerman's piece last month, we can only hope that this sort of submission will become a regular feature.]

*"Life is not rich in comedy, one has to cherish what there is of it and savour it during the bad days." This from Graham Greene in 'Ways Of Escape' made me think of two long time residents of Amherst Island who are no longer with us but are well remembered by many. Both had a quick, delightful sense of humour, a great fund of jokes, and a pleasure to be with.*

*Bill Coulson, a neighbour who lived along the road from us would drop in; often when the sun was just over the yardarm. Once after being handed a libation, Bill said to me 'Do you mind if I pasteurize this?' Me puzzled, 'Of course not Bill' whereupon he raised his glass to the top of my head, brought it down past my face, saying 'Past your eyes! Gotcha!'*

*Our garden corn patch suffered greatly from the depredations by blackbirds and raccoons which I thought I might prevent by installing a radio in the midst of the patch. One day when I was busy tuning the radio to the raucous noise of a Kingston station, Les Glenn came up behind me, tapped me on the shoulder and said "You should be playing 'Bye Bye Blackbird'".*

*Both of these fine gentlemen were army veterans.*

*Les was with the RCASC in WWII and was wounded at Iffs, just south of Caen during the invasion of Normandy in 1944.*

*Bill was wounded in France during WWI but I don't know the details.*

*\* It doesn't work. The raccoons wait until the corn is ready and to their liking. Then one night they have a party. I can picture them dancing around to the rock and roll music and having a go at the cobs. The result: complete and utter devastation - not a cob left intact. Suggest an electric fence.*

\*\*\*

[Staff: Another letter and poem was received second-hand from Alena and John Schram in Accra, Ghana through Peggie Coulter from which we quote liberally - actually completely.]

*Here is our painful Christmas doggerel adopted as a temporary measure when time ran out this year. I hadn't even managed to get Change of Address notices out by the time the festive season arrived.*

*We think of you often, daily in fact. Peggie's painting of our beloved Greywood has pride of place in our study (the only room on the main floor which we are officially permitted to decorate) and is the first item friends encounter when they enter our inner sanctum. It never fails to attract (flattering) attention and provides us with the delightful opportunity of describing life on wonderful Amherst Island to a new audience.*

*We're enjoying Ghana as much as we'd hoped. John has managed to unearth quite a number of his old cronies -- now wealthy capitalists -- which gave us a good grounding for our debut. Now our social life has gathered such momentum we wish it would all slow down. For a while before Christmas I began to feel I was living in the foyer of the Hilton. The Residence is quite lovely and large and we want to make the most use of it as a showplace for Canadian interests but there were evenings when I came down the stairs to find roomfuls of strangers making themselves at home in what is, at the same time, our living room. My loyalties to the Motherland and to my own privacy became sharply divided. I've sorted all that out in my own mind now.*

*We've had several trips to the north and spent a night in the conflict zone where recent tribal fighting has had tragic results (the first diplomats to do so) and visited a couple of hereditary paramount chiefs, one of whom asked for the hand of one of our daughters. In my haste to marry her off, I inadvertently forgot to negotiate a bride price. She's quite a catch and should therefore fetch a goodly number of cows.*

*But I'll spare you any further details until we see you. We're hoping to spend the month of July on the Island and hope you'll be in situ and not off visiting assorted grandbabies. Meanwhile, our fond regards to you both. Have a healthy and prosperous new year.*

\*\*\*\*\*

## SCHRAM'S CHRISTMAS TIDINGS

-Alena Schram

(with apologies to Hallmark)

We landed here in Ghana, end of August '94,  
It was a grand homecoming and we couldn't hope for more;  
Our twenty years of dreaming had now climaxed in a wish,  
We had returned, and quell surprise, John was the High  
Commish!  
I quickly started teaching school, to eight through ten year  
olds,  
The rudiments of writing and the saving of their souls;\*  
I published two short articles to stress Canadian aid,  
Both met with great approval and for me were tailor made;  
And one hot day I woke upon the siren of the cock  
To drag my jaded body through a hobbling twelve mile walk.  
But recently I've taken on a scholarly pursuit,  
To learn the local language which I hope will bear some fruit  
While John continues to unearth his pals from Legon\*\*  
days  
Who, just like him, have settled down and mended errant ways;  
His girl friends now have given my old jealousies no cause,  
For most of them are manifesting age from menopause.  
John's often on the television, radio, in type,  
His message given prominence, his presence given hype,  
But luckily he's modest, unpretentious, and discreet,  
For humbleness in HOM's\*\*\* can be no facile feat;  
He makes a case for Canada, for business and for trade,  
And makes it clear that otherwise our nation's interests fade.  
And so we have been journeying through Ghana's northern  
zones,  
Admiring CIDA\*\*\*\* projects in warm, hushed and hallowed  
tones,  
Encouraging Ghanaians and supporting where they lag,  
And giving widespread coverage to our dear Canadian flag.  
But later on this month we'll have a little gap because  
We'll be the host and hostess to much more than Santa Claus.  
Our family will be coming here to spend their holidays  
In Ghana's hot and humid climes (could there be better ways?)  
Elizabeth's bringing Grady, her new husband of one year,  
While Katherine's bringing Andrew, just to keep him nice and  
near;  
Our Peter, on the other hand, is coming by himself,  
Expecting, on some sultry beach to find some torrid elf.  
So John and I will think of you and then will raise a glass,  
Recalling fervent friendships, that can stand the test, and last,  
We'll wish you every happiness, good health, good luck, good  
cheer,  
And all life's richest blessings, throughout this the coming  
year.

\* I teach 180 children Creative Writing and Values  
& Ethics at the Ghana International School.

\*\* John was at the University of Ghana, Legon, from  
'65 - '67.

\*\*\* Head Of Mission

\*\*\*\* Canadian International Development Agency  
\*\*\*\*\*

## THANK YOU NOTES

Jean and Earle Tugwell and Helen Miller wish to  
express their appreciation for the concern and  
loving support shown by friends during Elaine  
Tooke's illness. Sincere thanks to friends and  
relatives for all their acts of kindness and the  
delicious food brought to our door.

A special thanks to nieces and great-nieces for  
helping to organize and serve lunch following the  
committal.

Also many thanks to the W.I., the A.C.W., Branch  
539 Legion, friends and relatives who called, sent  
cards and delivered treats to Earle following his  
visit to KGH.

Jean, Earle and Helen

\*\*\*\*\*

## BEACON AWARDS

To Logitech we offer the Product Of The Month  
Award in recognition of a job well done on their  
scanner. Not only is their scanner a piece of cake to  
use, the tutorials were simply written and effective in  
what they taught. And, their software was excellent.  
This converts imaged text to characters so you can  
deal with the passage in your word processor. I  
didn't even have much trouble getting items from  
Windows to WordPerfect.

\*\*\*

An award for Excellence In Satire is issued this  
month to the makers and performers of This Hour  
Has 22 Minutes. The quality of the satire is so good  
that it's difficult to tell when the show stops and the  
commercials begin particularly when the ads are  
Government of Canada ones. Good work folks.

NB. It is interesting to note that the writers listen to  
CBC Radio and shamelessly steal the good bits they  
hear. Even with my limited listening time, they stole  
a song title from Heather Bishop and several lines  
from a group interview on Morningside. While  
we're on the subject of Morningside, I will digress to  
mention that there really are budgets at the CBC  
because Peter wanted to play the theme to CBC's

*Hockey Night In Canada (someone thought that this was 'the' definitive Canadian song) and he couldn't because it would cost too much.*

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **CONGRATULATIONS**

*To Moist we offer hearty congratulations on getting such high exposure for one of their songs. It was played as the feature song on Due South - you know the show about the Mountie in Chicago... or is it Detroit? Well anyway... nice job guys. Needless to say, you folks must have already noted that Moist has been nominated for two Juno Award: Best Single; and, Best New Group.*

*Is there any end to their accomplishments – the*

*next thing you know they will be appearing on the Letterman show or hired to keep the crowd entertained between fights at the Frontenac's home games – the sky's the limit!*

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **A LETTER HOME**

*-Don Tubb*

*Winter's here.... winter's not here.... not bad, eh?*

*My kind of winter especially with the snow to cover the fields again. The ferry crew isn't throwing the rope uphill so far these days which means the lake is rising. Seems early to me but I guess all that warm weather must have allowed the watershed to drain. And, last weekend, the boat had trouble with a large section of ice which kept drifting into the channel. . .*



**Carl and Leah's little Pot of Gold, Arioso, which was home for a year.**