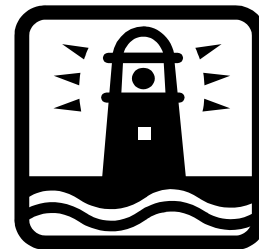


Amherst Island Beacon



Issue 442 *BONA LIBENTER, TRISTIA MAESTITER, MALA NUMQUAM* **May 2015**

The Amherst Island BEACON Issue 442, May 2015

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Editorial

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NEIGHBOURHOOD

- Lynn Fleming

Get Well wishes to Stanley Burke, Ross Haines, Bernadette Filson.

Congratulation to Garry and Anne-Marie Hitchins, who recently celebrated their 45th Wedding Anniversary.

Special congratulations to Garry, who also celebrated his retirement from the ferry after 44 years of service.

Garry and Susan Filson spent a month in Florida visiting friends and family and actually returned to (short lived) spring weather here on the Island.

Happy 80th Birthday to Bob Filson.

Island snow birds are slowly returning from points south, although I think some are delaying their return due to the cold spring we are having.

The Amherst Island Public School Osprey returned to the nest on April 9th.

This winter's only Pub night was held at the Lodge, the last weekend in March. A good time was had by those that attended.

It snowed this morning – April 24th!!!

Dan Simpson hosted another very successful “open mic” at the Legion in Millhaven at the end of March.

Happy Birthday to CJAI who celebrated 9 years on air – 24/7 - on the first of April.

Congratulations to Sherry Jensen, who won the book of ferry tickets by accurately guessing when the ice would be gone from the channel (sponsored by the CJAI Friday Morning Show).

.... And here begins my rant – my personal opinion.

The Quinte Loyalist arrived April 8th amid rumours and misinformation and with less than 24 hours notice, and once again was broken down within a few hours of its arrival. Of course, the ferry was then off schedule for parts of several days, as the thicker than usual ice started to move - surprise!

It's time that “the powers that be” – and the media - realize that there is a ferry route between Kingston and Adolphustown, that is greatly impacted – more so than the rest – every time we get this smaller ferry. Yes, ferry users elsewhere along the line are dealing with longer wait times and line-ups. While this is an inconvenience, we can and do deal with it



as well.

We get the Quinte Loyalist, with reduced size and weight limits, during peak construction and farming season. This is not just an inconvenience for us, it affects Amherst Islander's livelihoods and safety. Commuters and students compete for the few seats in a small passenger lounge. The Millhaven dock becomes a dangerous place, with less than adequate parking, & blocked views when trying to pull out in traffic – oh! and hopefully, if you do get a parking place it doesn't rain, because then you have to walk through ankle deep water to get to your vehicle – an ongoing problem for years.

Kudos to Amherst Island ferry crews! For months they work in less than favourable conditions, with crew quarters the size of a closet, an outhouse, front and centre, on the deck of the ferry, nowhere to get away from the complaints and comments from (justified) disgruntled passengers and some wild rides when the wind blows.

I truly believe the Quinte Loyalist is an issue all Islanders could agree on. Fighting for the same cause would go a long way to uniting our community once again. It's time for Amherst Islanders to speak out, write letters and make our voices heard – enough is enough.

(above) Garry and Anne-Marie Hitchins and family, celebrating retirement.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

- Mary Kay Steel

Thirteen members and two guests gathered on the evening of April 15th for our regular monthly meeting and our annual general meeting. It was held at the home of long-time and treasured member Leslie Gavlas, with Liz Harrison in the chair. We heard from our various committee heads, with a very interesting update from Andrea Cross regarding the exciting Irish-Canadian Dry Stone Festival to take place here on the island September 25-27. We did some planning for our summer bake sales and other seasonal activities. The first bake sale of the year will be held on Friday, May 15, at 3:45 in front of the Post Office.

Our branch is looking into hosting author Sandra Joyce, for a session open to the public, in the near future. Author of The Street Arab and Belonging, her writing highlights the experiences of the British "Home Children" who left Britain to work on farms abroad during the First World War. There were several home children who came to Amherst Island. We will let you know when this is arranged.

We then closed our regular meeting and opened our annual meeting, with Jackie Sylvester in the chair. A new slate of officers was voted in and various year-end reports received. Members are pleased that Joyce Haines has agreed to take on the presidency for another year. This was followed by a pleasant social hour accompanied by a delicious lunch.

Our next meeting will take place at St. Paul's church hall, on May 20th, beginning at 7pm. Member Judy Bierma will share her knowledge of cheese making on the island; as always, guests are welcome.

JANET'S JOTTINGS

- Janet Scott



White-throated Sparrow

Photo by Sherri Jensen

I Can See A Rainbow

When Geoffrey McDonald was in Kindergarten, his favourite song was "I Can Sing a Rainbow". I usually got the colours mixed up and he would have to sort me out. Every time I sing this song with one children's group or another I think about Geoffrey so congratulations on growing up to be such a fine young man and here's to you Geoff!

I Can Sing A Rainbow

Red and yellow and pink and green,
Purple and orange and blue.
I can sing a rainbow,
Sing a rainbow,
You can sing one too!

Listen with your eyes,
Listen with your eyes,
And sing everything you see.
You can sing a rainbow,
Sing a rainbow,
Sing along with me.

Well I don't sing rainbows as often as I did but I do see rainbows and from my chair in the big room I know that May is the time to see all the colours of the spectrum in our tiny feathered friends as they flit around the Blue Spruce seeking early morning gnats and frolicking flies. The tiny Kinglets are only about 4 inches (10cm.) and are slender-billed, plain olive coloured insect eaters with roly-poly bodies but fantastically coloured crowns. The Golden-crowned Kinglets have bright yellow to a stunning burnt orange outlined in black and accented by a white-eyebrow stripe. The tiny Ruby-crowned Kinglet keeps his gem hidden unless he gets angry or wishes to attract a mate. When that happens this deep-ruby spot appears and glows like a crown jewel on the very top of his head.

The tiny Goldfinch calling "wheep wheep" as it flits back and forth to the feeder uses the big Blue Spruce as a staging area for short take-offs and landings. All winter long he was dull olive brown but now has breeding plumage that is bright lemon yellow and has topped off his ensemble with a jaunty black cap and black sleeves trimmed with white.

Yellow is certainly in this season as the Yellow-rumped Warbler, which may be labeled Myrtle Warbler in an older field guide, is definitely showy with his blue-gray and white tuxedo, black ascot and yellow epaulets. He too has chosen a lemon yellow beret and added a showy yellow rump patch and has arrived from the south to happily feast on the gnats caught in the sticky spruce buds.

The resident Blue Jays, more gray than blue, harvest the sunflower seeds that our little Black-capped Chickadees have diligently hidden in the bark and needles of the Spruce. Tonight as it grows dark I will hear the "chip, chip" of the scarlet robed Cardinal as it feeds at the same feeder looking for the dropped sunflower seeds on the ground.

To add a flash of colour that one doesn't see often on birds but more often on tourists is the hot pink bib that the Rose-breasted Grosbeak wears to add colour to his black and white suit. He sings like a Robin that has taken Opera lessons and happily devours sunflower seeds to replenish the stored fat used up in that long migration trip north. The Common Grackles turn to catch the rays and exhibit an iridescent peacock-blue head and bib against their shiny black feathers and Oka-reeing Red-winged Blackbirds flash their scarlet epaulettes to warn other Blackbirds away and even the quiet Brown-headed Cowbird male glows with a russet head as he chases

after his mousy coloured mate.

All this I can see from my chair and there will be more rainbow colours arriving daily as migrant warblers and orioles return. Yes, I can see and hear a rainbow! Can you?

THE CHEESE MAKER'S DAUGHTER

- Judy Bierma

Tidbits from Carol Glenn

We had a great day at the Lodge today hosting the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario Group. The Museum Board did the catering and Anthony and I were lucky enough to be involved too. It's Thursday, April 29. I got a chance to visit with Carol Glenn and she started talking about when she used to hang around what is called the Lodge now, when she was a little girl in the 40's.



The Lodge when acquired by Molly
Photo courtesy of Victoria Cuyler

Fred and Nellie Neilson ran the building and the cottages as a summer resort in the 40's. Rod (Fred's brother) and his wife Ada were living in the house where Leslie Gavlas lives now. Their daughter Ann would hang out with Fred and Nellie's daughters Kaye and Mary and they would let Carol who was ten years younger tag along.

Nellie cooked in the Lodge and fed the people that were staying in the rooms in the Lodge and the cottages. The cottages didn't have any kitchen facilities. It might have been open only in the summer, maybe only July and August. Carol is going to ask Jimmy Neilson, Fred and Nellie's son, the next time she is talking to him.

Mary, Kaye and Ann were old enough to do the housekeeping duties. Carol would just tag along and play while they did the cleaning. After lunch and when everything was cleaned up to Nellie's

standards everyone would get to swim in the afternoon in the harbour. The girls spoiled Carol rotten because she was much younger than them.

Carol was born in 1943 and the girls were ten years older. Carol was living on the Third Concession on the Miller Farm, where Donald and Judy Miller live now.

Kathleen Wemp was Carol's grandma and was a sister to Fred and Rod Neilson. Her Grandma was widowed and spent the rest of her days going from place to place, spending many weeks at one child's place then moving on to another child's place and she would stay on the Miller Farm and spend a lot of time with her granddaughter Carol.

Carol said she didn't have vivid memories but she did remember the girls sleeping in the back room at the Lodge, up the back stairs and Carol got to sleep there too sometimes.

The windowed room hadn't been added on yet so the kitchen was a very small area where Nellie cooked. Frohlich's built the windowed addition onto the Lodge. For many years after Nellie and Fred had sold it to Frohlich's it was a private home. Some of the cottages might have been rented out.

We need to talk to Aunt Vera Hogeboom. She'll remember. The building was not called The Lodge when Fred and Nellie had it; Carol just referred to it as Stella Point. More to come after we visit with Jimmy Neilson and Vera Hogeboom.



The Lodge
Photo by Shirley Miller

CAROL FINLAY RECEIVES AWARD

- Sally Bowen

Kingston Whig Standard (Friday April 17th) announced that Carol has received a national award from Correctional Service, Canada. It is the highest

volunteer honour they bestow. The honour is for her founding and continuing work with Book Clubs for Inmates. In six years she and a group of volunteers have created 17 clubs in 14 institutions and 2 residential houses. She intends to open another six before the fall. Many clubs have long waiting lists for an inmate to join.

They have been well received by staff and inmates alike.

AIMS Meeting, April 11

- Anders Bennick

Chair: David Pickering

Attendance: 15 members

Breakfast: A big thank you to Julie Forester, Laird Leeder and crew for an excellent hot breakfast.

Agenda

1. Presentation

David Pickering introduced the speaker, Judy Bierma, who talked about cheese making on Amherst Island.

As a child, Judy spent seven years on Amherst Island while her parents were the cheese makers so she has first hand insights into cheese making as well as many memories growing up as 'the cheese maker's daughter'.

Because of limited transportation available to haul off fresh milk, many small cheese factories were started in Ontario in the 19th century.

The first cheese factory on Amherst Island opened in Stella in 1864 and in 1895 a second cheese factory was built in Emerald. At one stage 120,000 pounds of cheese were produced each year. It was of high quality and some of it exported to England. The factory in Emerald closed in 1951, partly because of difficulty in finding capable workers. Over the years, many new regulations concerning cheese making were brought in by the Milk Marketing Board and, by 1975, it was no longer profitable to run the small cheese factory in Stella so, as a result, it was closed.

For cheese making, farmers brought in milk in the morning and picked up whey before returning to their farms. Processing of the milk took all day. Following bacterial fermentation of milk lactose to lactic acid, rennet was added to coagulate the milk casein into cheese curds. Once the curds were drained, thus removing the whey, they were pressed and in time giving rise to cheese. To illustrate

cheese making, Judy brought samples of curds and cheeses in various stages of ripening from the Wilton Cheese Factory.

In 1922, there were 92 dairy farms on the island. Today there is only one with about 48 cows. However, the yield of milk per cow has greatly increased over the years.

Judy has many memories of her childhood in the cheese factory. Their house had no indoor plumbing and bathing was in done in a holding vat for warm water in a rear room of the factory. Using this was scary, since only an undraped window separated her from the farmers waiting for whey.

Cheese boxes were great to play with and she also helped with the cheese making, pressing the cheese and, on one occasion, falling into the cheese vat. Her brother and sister caught trouble for using a borer to sneak plugs out of the cheese, eating the inner part of the plug, and then putting it back into the cheese so that nothing would look amiss. She also helped in spreading the leftover whey on the roads to keep down the dust; but this was difficult since her feet didn't reach the pedals of the truck. Good thing she had a sister to help her with that. She sold cheese in between swimming in the lake and occasionally had a forbidden smoke in the curing room.

David Pickering thanked Judy for a wonderful and informative talk on an important part of Island history which was enlivened by vivid childhood memories.

2. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the March meeting were approved as circulated.

3. Treasurer's report

The treasurer reported a healthy bank balance. There are no outstanding expenditures.

4. Transportation Report

There have been several requests for transportation in the past month. These have been handled by David Pickering and Don Pepper. Thanks were given to the members who might be handling other runs on their own.

5. Other business

a) Annual Auction. Brian Little is due to be down for some medical work, and Marc Raymond stated he will be asking for additional assistance. It was confirmed that the auction will be held on September 15. Volunteers are needed and items to

be auctioned off are currently being accepted.

b) A motion was tabled last meeting by Allen Caughey to increase the cost of breakfast to \$10. This was passed unanimously.

c) A motion was tabled at the last meeting by Allen Caughey to change the order of the monthly meeting so that the invited speakers' presentation would follow the business part of the meeting. This was withdrawn after discussion. It was agreed that we would try to schedule the meeting/speakers better.

Breakfast will start at 8, with the speaker welcome to join (at no cost) if they wish. Presentation will start at 8:30, with the intended length to be 30-45 minutes. This way, speakers don't have to sit through AIMS meetings waiting for their turn.

6. New business

a) Road clean up. Bruce Burnett urged members to sign up for the annual spring-cleaning of the island roads.

b) Market wagon. Marc Raymond reported that volunteers are needed to man the AIMS wagon at the weekly market during the summer. He urged members to sign up.

c) Annual flu vaccination. Bruce Burnett proposed that AIMS sponsor an annual fall flu vaccination on the Island. He will report back at the next

meeting on the feasibility of such a clinic.

d) Flower baskets in Stella and Neilson Store flowerbed. Dayle Gowan reported that money had been granted by the Township to cover the cost of the flower baskets and plants for the Neilson Store flowerbed. Several members volunteered to help with these tasks.

e) The steering committee was urged to insure that the agenda for the monthly meeting together with an announcement of the speaker be circulated before the meeting.

7. For information

a) Retirement Suites update. Don Pepper reported that the Ryerson University students will present their proposed designs for island retirement suites at the community centre on Saturday April 18th. (More coverage on this later in the this issue.) It was pointed out by Peter Large that AIMS should make it clear that it is supporting but not sponsoring this project.

b) CJAi fundraising. Larry Jensen reminded members of the annual CJAi fundraising and the concert to be held on May 16th.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30am



Loaves and Fishes Lunch at St. Pauls

LOAVES & FISHES

-Judy Bierma

This was the first year of Loaves and Fishes at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church.

Janet Scott had talked to her niece in the States about the possibility of a soup and sandwich lunch at the church for people that don't get out much in the winter and then for everyone on the Island.

They met 13 times between the end of January and the end of April. Today was our last lunch.

The attendance ranged from 5 to 20. We were very pleased with the attendance, the visiting and the generous people who donated soup, sandwiches, desserts, money and their time.

It was a great time to sit down with a hot bowl of homemade soup and visit with a friend or neighbour you might not have seen recently.

Many thanks to all the people that came to eat and all of the people that helped. We had one day that was intergenerational. We had great grandmothers and their great grandchildren on the Wed. that the Church Camp was on at the same time. We had 36 for lunch that day.

I helped Janet out as well and Anthony drove and picked up Joanne Watts and sometimes Doug. Thanks very much to everyone. We had fun.

TICKS

- Sally Bowen



It is tick season, folks. The cold winter apparently didn't make any difference - if anything the snow cover provided insulation for the eggs.

The 'deer ticks' or black-legged ticks carry the Lyme bacteria. They can overwinter or travel on migrating birds, or animals or on the pets of Snow Birds returning from the U.S.

Walking in the woods or long grass increases the chance that one will hitch a ride on you. They'll wander about on your body for a bit, before deciding

to dig in.

One home preventive that has been recommended is to spray your clothes - at least your pant legs - with vinegar. Apparently ticks don't like the smell. Deet is one of the commercial preventatives on the market. Putting your pant legs inside socks, wearing a hat and long sleeves help somewhat too.

Check your body if you possibly can when you come in from an outing. Try to catch them before they penetrate your skin. If you find one, lift it out gently with a tick lifter - or anything that resembles a tiny fork. Slide it under the body and lift and twist gently. Don't use tweezers if possible, as that squeezes the mouth parts.

Go to emergency services, with the tick in a clean container. Ask for the tick to be tested and for you to receive the results. (It might take months). Urgently request a single oral antibiotic preventive dose. Within 48 hours that is deemed a sufficient preventative.

Do not accept the suggestion that you wait for the 'bull's eye rash' that can result some days later. It is not a guaranteed diagnostic tool and waiting simply allows the bacteria to spread in your body.

Recent reports have suggested that the Black-Legged Tick may also be carrying the "Powassan virus. It's a rare condition that produces symptoms similar to Lyme disease, but more severe, and there's no cure.

The disease can lead to encephalitis and meningitis, and give you permanent neurological issues afterward. And it can act much more quickly than Lyme disease, giving you symptoms within hours of being bitten by a tick." (Country Life)

Don't panic. Not all ticks are black-legged ticks, and not all black-legs carry the virus. But take prevention seriously and take action if you find one embedded in your loved ones.

[Editor: despite continuing misinformation, a bull's eye rash does not always appear when a tick infects a human with Lyme-causing bacteria. Sally, for example, developed a high fever but no bull's eye rash.]

Descendants of Kathleen Downey Neilson

- 1 Kathleen Downey Neilson 1893 - 1996
+Arnold Edward Wemp 1884 - 1936
- 2 John Neilson Wemp 1917 -
+Jean Kerr - 2002
- 2 Helen Frances Wemp 1918 -
+Donald Earle Miller 1915 - 1958
- 3 **Carol Frances Miller** 1943 -
+Paul Howard Glenn 1941 -
- 4 Sandra Annette Glenn 1960 -
+Bill Philips
- 5 Shawna Philips 1983 -
- 5 Tory Philips
- 4 Cheryl Frances Glenn 1963 -
- 4 John Paul Glenn 1964 -
- 3 Sandra Miller 1947 -
+Glenn H. Filson 1946 -
- 4 Todd Harris Filson 1966 -
- 4 Kimberly Filson
+David Redden
- 3 **Donald Paul Miller** 1950 -
+Judy
- 4 [2] **Donald Miller**
+[1] Sherri Ward 1973 -
- 4 Chad Miller
- *2nd Husband of Helen Frances Wemp:
+Harold Wilfred Miller 1901 - 1970
- 2 Marjorie Kathleen Wemp 1923 -
+Thomas Tooke
- 2 Ralph Arnold Wemp 1920 -
+Beatrice Maud Reid 1926 -
- 3 **Ann "Marie" Wemp** 1948 -
+Brian Ward 1947 -
- 4 Steven Ward 1971 -
- 4 [1] Sherri Ward 1973 -
+[2] Donald Miller
- 3 **David Arnold Wemp** 1949 -
+Elizabeth "Betty" Ward 1952 -
- 4 **Laura Anne Wemp** 1974 -
+Richard Jason Welbanks 1971 -
- 5 **Alec Welbanks** 1998 -
- 5 **Jacob Welbanks**
- 3 Beatrice "Joyce" Wemp 1955 -
+Grant Titley
- 3 **Kathleen Edna Wemp** 1957 -
+Stewart Henry Dunlop Reed
- 4 **Christopher David Reed** 1987 -
- 4 **William Robert Reed** 1989 -
- 3 Maureen Jean Wemp 1958 -
+Richard Andrew Renwick Tasker
- 4 Jennifer Kathleen Tasker 1987 -
- 4 Heather Christine Tasker 1988 -
- 4 Geoffrey Robert Owen Tasker 1990 -
- 2 Jean Muriel Wemp 1925 -
+David Earle Tugwell 1917 -

[Editor: Kathleen's descendants still living on the Island are shown in **bold**. Please let me know of errors or omissions.]

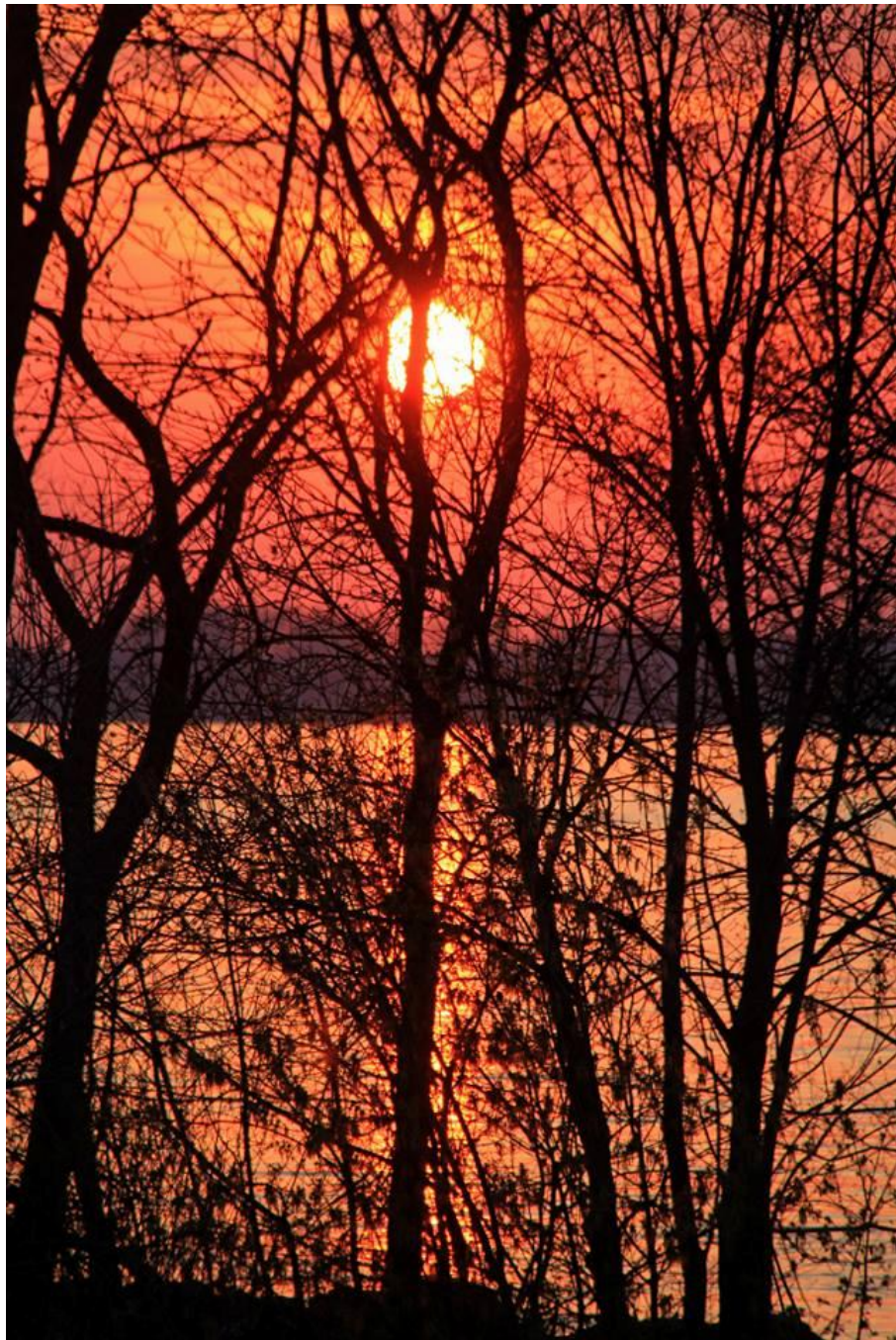


Photo by Brian Little

DRY STONE FESTIVAL

- Andrea Cross

The Dry Stone Walling Associations of Canada and Ireland are planning a joint Irish-Canadian Dry Stone Festival on Amherst Island from Sept 25-27th.

People are traveling from far and wide to participant and celebrate.

Amherst Island's dry stone heritage - including three wallers from Ireland, the Ambassador of Ireland and his wife, Canadian author Jane Urquhart, and even the dry stone waller responsible for the

walls on the Queen's Balmoral Estate in Scotland. Except for a workshop lead by world-renowned Patrick McAfee, all other events are free to the public - including children's workshops, Irish Celtic music, dance & storytelling, stone carving demos, and a display area showcasing dry stone craft & art.

You will be able to see examples in the AIPS Gym where a series of displays will be set up. One example is this "Tree of Life" was built by Eric Landman in memory of his wife Kerry-Lynn who passed away from breast cancer. As the structure

was being built people who were visiting their own family plots walking past and were touched by the process. These people asked Eric for permission to include a stone in memory of their own loved one - of course Eric welcomed their contribution as well. The tree grew and grew - built from a place of love.



Tree of Life

Created by Eric Landman and family

Photo by Eric Landman

LES & IRENE

-Lynn Fleming

Thanks so much to Paul Glenn for the article about his parents, Les and Irene Glenn. Les and Irene were two of the first people I met when I moved to the Island. I grew to love them dearly.

They were true Islanders, and always there when anyone needed them.

I spent a couple of late nights drinking tea with Irene while the men were fighting fires several nights in a row.

My kids loved to go to the store to see them and they were always happy to see the kids.

As a neighbor, more than once I called Irene or took one of the kids to her for advice or help when they were sick or hurt. Her daughter, Anne, told me they jokingly called her "Dr. Glenn".

Summer evenings we would sit with them and other neighbours, all in a row, visiting and watching Irene's evening primrose flowers open at dusk.

I'm not going to lie - I got teary when I saw Shirley's picture of them!

Also in April Beacon, seeing the pictures of Alice Compeau and Dave Willard and their homes at the ferry dock brought back memories too. So much

history gone with these people. :(

Thanks to Shirley Miller for capturing so much "people" history and memories on film over the years. We have a few pictures of Irene and Les at the end of this issue.



Glenn's Store

Drawing and photo by Shirley Miller

RETIREMENT HOME

- David Pickering

On Saturday April 18th, 2015, nine students and their professor returned to Amherst Island. After weeks of work, Annick Mitchell's 4th year interior design class was ready to present their results to an eager audience of Islanders who came to look and listen at the community centre.

The breadth of ideas was astonishing, which is exactly what the retirement committee was hoping for. These were not developer's plans, supported by business case analysis, budgets and project time lines. These were 'schematic plans' which showed concepts. While many of them could never see fruition on our small island, they all provided new and fresh images which will be considered.

The guidelines given to the students were to showcase sustainable housing supporting at least 12 mixed units with a potential for expansion into additional units or progressive levels of support for the occupants.

They worked hard to define the relationship between the 'housers' and Island community; as demonstrated by the names of the individual projects. Examples were "Retirement as Gathering" or "Retirement as Connection."

While only nine students returned to present their work, about twice that number actually prepared

submissions. Their work was on display in the Community Centre before and after the formal briefings given by the students who came.



Annick Mitchell monitors students' presentations.

While I would like to reproduce their packages here, the format of the Beacon does not lend itself to 3' by 6' sheets. Any attempt to reproduce them would result in a illegible smear. For those interested in reviewing the submissions, I recommend contacting the members of the retirement committee.



Carley Berko was first up, with her presentation on "Retirement as Congruence."

She described retirement as integration back into the community after work life. Her vision consisted of a variety of prefab units based on 10' by 20' modules, each widely customizable in layout, materials and trim. This allows for ease of transport and reduced construction costs. Her designs included module clusters for people who like to entertain, people who prefer 'couples life' and those who are more independent.



Lina Mohareb talked about "Retirement as Gathering."

She presented her proposal to combat isolation by integrating the retirement site close to the public school. A large track for walking was the centre theme of her settlement. This included a

library and learning centre, which also supported the school, communal café / games area / theatre and an outdoor performance space. The track passed, and sometimes went through, these shared spaces. Each of her five residential units had two living apartments, one at 1145 ft² and the other at 745 ft².



Zeina Nahas presented "Retirement as Wealth."

Her facility, suggested for the fairground space, incorporated a massive greenhouse, galleries, a music facility, library, laundry and reflection gallery. Large amounts of glass were incorporated, and there was a large covered parking facility. There were 8 units, four single bedroom and four double.



Carmen Huynh presented "Retirement as Memories"

Her submission, which was proposed to be near the school, included 5 clusters of 2 or 3 units plus additional shared spaces. Again, it was integrated with the school, with a joint library and a very large 2nd floor observation space which would look north over Kerr Bay. The units would be either 75m² or 100m². This would equate to 800ft² and 1075 ft² respectively.



Andrea Cipriano talked about "Retirement as Connection."

Her collection of well-laid-out units looked like brightly coloured blocks near the school and included a wide variety of possible floor plans. Included was rental space, studio space, and lots of potential for growth. She was a confident speaker who provided handouts of possible floor plans.



Jenna Bader also dealt with Memories in her design of the Amherst Villa, a large building to be situated on the fairgrounds.

This building would be a large central concourse with ten units directly

connected on the east, south and west sides. (The north side would be the main entrance to the complex.) Each of these units would be 800 ft² or 1200 ft². A circumferential walkway would allow external entrance to each of the apartments, as well as through the hub building.



Teresa Lu considered “Retirement as Harmony” with her submission.

She proposed a three-building facility in the Fairground space.

The central building would include patio, pool, saunas, a gallery and plenty of green space.

There would be facility for performance of music and a shared kitchen and library.

The residences would be in two outbuildings, to the east and west, each containing six apartments.

Again, a large greenhouse is included in the plan.



Anastassia Poddoubnaia produced a very impressive and ambitious submission with her “Mending Wall, Retirement as Unity.”

Her facility, proposed for the fairground property, would be a transgenerational, multipurpose development which is part shopping mall,

part farmers’ market, part movie theatre, part hotel. There would be space for the post office, the community office, studios, guests and common faculties. Children would frequently be about, and when all rooms are full – up to 60 people could be housed. Floor spaces for the main residences would be two each of 650 ft², 1050 ft² and 1250 ft² in each of 3 outlying buildings, for a total of 18 units.



Finally, Emily Wunder presented her “Retirement as Legacy,” an homage to some of the historic aspects of Amherst Island.

Using the site of the current café, she proposed the building of a large stone edifice with an inn which would be at home equally on

Amherst Island, Northern Ireland, or the town of

Bree (for LOTR fans.) While feeling rustic and homey, her proposal also included a 10 slot covered car park and all the conveniences. Four big residential units were included with a total of 16 bedrooms.

The ten to fifteen minutes of speaking that each student did could only scratch the surface of the amount of work they put into the designs they created. I could only regret that the other ten or so submissions were not equally treated. I left deeply appreciative of the work they had done, and wanting more.

I’m sure that the committee members will have plenty ideas to examine, and consider, as they go forward with their attempts to provide a safe, comfortable, affordable and LOCAL option for our aging neighbours. I know that I would happily retire into a few of these.

Again, thank you so much to Professor Mitchell and all her talented students.



Velda Stanley with Sharen English

She liked artifacts about Egypt and the colour purple.

She liked angels and cross stitching.

She loved and cared immensely for her children.

She loved her husband.

She was positive as she battled cancer for 5 years.

She underwent treatments such as aggressive radiation, chemotherapy, procedures, needles and drugs.

She was my dear friend.

We visited twice a month, without fail.

We gave each other gifts.

She loved me and I her.

She loved hearing about my life, activities, family and my travels.

I loved listening to details about her life and family.

She loved daffodils.

Ah, Velda, such a positive and brave lady.

You had a sense of fun.

You are gone and I miss you every day.
When I see a beautiful thing in nature I think of you.
We saw each other near the end and we told each other
that we cared for each other so deeply.
With your fighting attitude and positive spirit, I can not
believe you are not on the earth any more.
I wish I believed in angels. You are one.

THANK YOU NOTES

Garry & I would like to thank everyone for the fantastic wedding anniversary open house that was thrown for us. Forty five years of marriage is certainly a reason to celebrate!!

We had a wonderful afternoon catching up with all of our family and friends. We were thrilled that so many people could enjoy that time with us. Thank you again to everyone.

Garry & Anne-Marie Hitchins

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone that helped make my retirement party so special to me. I would like to give a special thank-you to my crew for all of their hard work in putting it all together. Thank you to all of the people who provided the food for the luncheon and for taking the time out of their day to spend it at my retirement party.

Thank you everyone for the gifts and cards. I appreciate all of you.

Garry Hitchins

NEILSON STORE MUSEUM AND CULTURAL CENTRE – SUMMER NEWS

-Bonnie Livingstone

This Year's Exhibit

This summer's exhibit promises to bring Islanders and visitors an opportunity to learn about our past, our families and important moments of Island history. Watch for "Written in Stone" – opening on Saturday, 16 May.

Spring and Fall hours:

Saturday (10 am to 4 pm)

Sunday (1 to 4 pm)

Summer hours (1 July to 1 September):

Sunday through Friday – 1 to 4 pm

Saturday – 10 am to 4 pm

**

FANTASTIC ISLAND FIESTA – Sat, 11 July

Due to the success of last summer's Fantastic Island Fiesta fundraiser, the Board of Directors of

the Neilson Store Museum have decided to repeat this fun family event. On Saturday, 11 July, we're organizing opportunities for Amherst Island families to partake in workshops, presented by many willing and talented islanders who have volunteered to help with this venture. You'll get the chance to learn new skills, brush up on talents you haven't used for a while or simply join your neighbours and friends in just doing something fun on a summer morning and/or afternoon.

Details to follow in May.

BRITISH HOME CHILDREN

On June 28 the Amherst Island Women's Institute is hosting a presentation at the Lodge by journalist and author Sandra Joyce on the British Home Children. These were the 100,000 youngsters sent out from the UK to Canada to work as servants or farm labourers, in the years between 1869-1948. The idea was to offer them a future better than the poverty of their lives in the UK, but that was frequently not the case.

The AIWI would like to hear from people related to these children (10% of Canadians are their descendants) and from anyone on Amherst Island with information on the BHC youngsters who came here to work.

Please contact Anne at 613-541-8367 or

blueheron777@gmail.com

Amherst Island Sand Beach Advisory Committee Appointments

Council will receive applications to serve on the above mentioned committee, without remuneration. The committee's function will help guide the future management and development of this property for the benefit of Loyalist Township residents and environmental conservation.

Individuals interested in serving on this committee are invited to submit an expression of interest and relevant experience in 200 words or less to the undersigned by Friday, May 22, 2015.

Further information may be obtained by contacting Murray Beckel at the Loyalist Township Offices at 613-386-7351, ext. 130.

Paul Snider

Director of Administrative Services/Clerk

The Corporation of Loyalist Township

Box 70, 263 Main Street

Odessa, K0H 2H0

STELLA'S CAFÉ is opening under new management. Sandra Reid, family and friends will leap into action on Thursday May 14, 9 am.

Hours:

- Thurs. 9 - 6
- Fri. and Sat. 9 - 7
- Sunday 9 - 6
- Holiday Mondays 9 - 6

Come in and enjoy burgers and fries and homemade pies and much, much more.

ALLEN FARM, owned and operated by Laird Leeder and family, is open for business.

Their brochure says: "We are committed to providing fresh, local food using sustainable methods and organic models. We grow vegetables for our CSA veggie share program, and raise veal and chicken (for meat and eggs), using ecologically sustainable methods." They also have maple syrup for sale.

The brochure continues: "Edward Allen came to Amherst Island from Ireland in 1832 and the family began working the land that, at that time, encompassed a large part of the village of Stella. In the small house that still remains by our barn, the Allens raised 8 children. One of these children was Sarah, who was Julie's great, great, great aunt. Aunt Sarah lived on the Island in the house that our family currently lives in. We feel a sense of pride knowing that we are carrying on a centuries-old tradition of farming the land that the Allens once did."

The Allen family then sold to the Tugwells, and their place is also known on the Island as the Tugwell Farm.



Krystal (de Haan) Schonauer

Taken on her wedding day, when she married John

Congratulations are extended to Tom de Hann on the occasion of the recent marriage of his niece Krystal to Mr John Schonauer.

ADVERTISEMENTS

NEILSON STORE MUSEUM & CULTURAL CENTRE will reopen May 16th.

Spring and Fall hours Saturday (10 am to 4 pm), Sunday (1 to 4 pm) Holiday Mondays (1 to 4 pm)

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

WEASEL AND EASEL ARTS AND CRAFTS GALLERY will reopen May 16th.

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)

STELLA'S CAFÉ will reopen May 14th.

Thurs. 9 - 6

Fri. and Sat. 9 - 7

Sunday 9 - 6

Holiday Mondays 9 - 6

To the left we see the Old Tugwell House; previously the Allen Farm
Photo by Shirley Miller



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

ISLAND GARDENERS Could you please "Grow a Row" for Loving Spoonfuls, the group that distributes fresh food to shelters, pantries and food programs around Kingston? Mary White and I will make delivery easy. Any questions, please call Sally at 613-389-3444

WANTED: To purchase kids used bikes (for ages 4 – 9). We need 4 for grandkids. Please call David Pike at 613-389-4325

BEE SWARMS

June is the season when bees swarm. If you see a swarm and would like it taken care of please call David Meikle 613-328-8892

Topsy Farms has a shipment of fresh frozen lamb cuts, arrived mid-March.

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; 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 (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. new: wool and yarn nesting materials for birds for sale in convenient suet cages.

RAWLEIGH PRODUCTS FOR SALE

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

bandmward@xplornet.ca

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Amherst Island Beacon: May 15, 1985 - Vol 4 Issue 88

POEM

- Shirley Miller

*As winter wears out his welcome,
earth awaits the arrival of spring.
As the sun melts the last snow drift,
the robins return to sing.*

*The winds become balmy breezes
that herald the new season begun.*

*All life is filled with new meaning
in the warmth from the beckoning sun.*

*Tulips and daffodils crouch 'neath the ground
awaiting their cue to spring through.*

*The shepherd is watching his flock with great care
to welcome each life that is new.*

Seeds will be planted to beat the spring rains

Lovers will walk hand in hand.

Old hearts will be filled with new purpose.

Thank God for spring and this wonderful land.

COUNCIL REPORT for May 7

- Christopher Kennedy

The first hour of the meeting was taken up by Ron Heaney from the accountants, Thorne Riddell, reviewing the financial statements for 1984. The complete statement is open for inspection at the Township office. The Township came in \$2,864 under budget for 1984. Also included was a six year financial review and the Glenwood-Pentland Cemetery Committee financial statement. The Road budget was high because three year's gravel was purchased.

Stuart Miller reported that the road crew is preparing the roads for the calcium, and they hope for suitable weather. He said the road crew could do the necessary work to enlarge the parking lot at the school, if this is approved by the Board of Education.

The Building Inspector made his report. He attended a workshop at Centreville last month. It appears that the term "By-law Enforcement Officer" is now obsolete, and that "Provincial Offences Officer" is now correct, and, according to the Provincial Law, he is expected to be a type of part-time policeman. Ed Chadband was very

doubtful that this was what either he, the Council or anyone else on the Island wanted.

There was a discussion about dogs running at large in the village, and complaints about barking at night. Council urged people to be considerate of others when keeping dogs. The police are the only people who can act on complaints.

M.T.C. sent the Council a long document discussing various problems about future transportation to the Island. Council decided that the Reeve should represent the Township in future discussions.

Phyllis Strain and Jackie Sylvester came to Council asking for money for the 4 H programme. The County Council has cut out all grants to all organizations. The matter was referred by Council to the Recreation Committee for attention.

The Ministry of Transportation and Communications has said it will pay one half of the \$48,000 costs for the bridge on the 3rd. The Roads Committee will meet to discuss if, and from where, Council can get the other half.

Council wishes to remind people that dead animals may not be taken to the dump.

The lawyers are preparing the quit claim deeds so the ownership of the dump will finally be settled.

The Reeve and Clerk are to proceed with the holding tanks for the Township offices.

The County Librarian is to be billed for the library share of the heat and light (\$78.25 this year). Council discussed giving to the library the desk in the Council chamber being used by the Beacon reporter, but this idea was wisely dropped.

The Firefighters' annual street dance in aid of the Fire Department is on July 13. The street will be cleared from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Council considered the working budget for 1985. The Lennox and Addington School Board has exercised some restraint. Full details are available at the township office. There will be a 3.9% increase in the residential mill rate and a 4.1% increase in the commercial this year.

Council finally passed the new Building By-law.

The hydrologic assessment sheets that Geoff Matthews had presented to Council for the drainage assessments had been sent to Graham Engineering. Graham Engineering returned them as not being suitable for outlining the assessment calculations. Excavation is due to start again in mid-May.

The Township has received the usual notice from the county weed inspector about the destruction of noxious weeds.

Council then adjourned.

SCHOOL NEWS

- Steve Ward, Penni Thornhill

The Student Council and Mrs. Forester are planning a Flea Market for Saturday, June 8. Several events are being planned such as: a school bake table, and hopefully several other people in the community will rent tables and sell their rummage. We are hoping for a big turnout, so come out and join the fun.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE AMHERST ISLAND COMMUNITY SUNDAY SCHOOL?

- Susan Caughey

On Sunday May 5, the Senior Sunday School Class and helpers of the Sunday School traveled to Napanee to visit folks at Lenadco and Senior Citizens Apts.

Some of "the Islanders" that we visited included; Mrs. Kathleen Wemp, Herb & Jean Wires, Bertha Beaubien and Evelyne Coulson - and also talked to many, many others throughout our visit.

THE NEIGHBOURHOOD

- Annette

Adam Miller had his appendix out on the weekend, and is now recovering well.

Sandra Clarke had a baby boy last night. He was born in the hospital in Napanee. He was a healthy 12 lbs 9 oz! Welcome.

I am going on holidays to Welland for two weeks.

THANK YOU LETTERS

We would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation to our neighbours, friends and relatives for their kindness and support during the sudden loss of a dear father, grandfather and great grandfather, Claude Willard.

A very special thanks for the food, beautiful cards, floral tributes and donations to the Heart Fund. Your thoughtfulness will always be remembered.

Eldon & Elsie Willard & Family

Heartfelt thanks to Island friends for cards and expressions of sympathy received at the time of my father's death in Edmonton, at Easter-time.

Georgie Allison

Welton

Thanks to all her island friends and old neighbours for their caring, letters, flowers and gifts over the past 3 years, it had meant so much to her keeping in touch, her heart was always on Amherst Island.

I would like to extend my personal thanks for cards, flowers and generous donations made at the time of her passing away.

Special thanks to ... ALL.

Love, Sharon and family

Amherst Island Beacon: May 15, 1995 - Vol 4 Issue 208

COUNCIL REPORT May 2, 1995

- Chris Kennedy

Council will request the OPP to keep a record of the number of police visits made to the island, and that Council be informed each month of the total, if any.

The Township has received a \$62,900 supplementary grant for paving the Front Road west of the school. The road crew has to do a lot of repair work to the drainage and the ditches during the summer before the paving can be done. Stuart hopes to have this done before the work starts on the ferry dock.

Insurance rates are up over 25%, as many people are suing municipalities as they usually have good insurance and deep pockets. The Lennox and Addington Board of Education is requesting a 1.55% increase in taxes for 1995, and the Separate School Board a 14.83% increase.

Council then adjourned, for once, before the 11:00 pm curfew.

Laura Anne and Richard Jason together with their parents Mr. & Mrs. David Wemp and Mr. & Mrs. Ted Welbanks invite you all to share in the joy of celebrating their wedding at our open Dance on Saturday, May 20th, 1995 8:00 p.m. - 12:00 midnight.

Come and have fun.

Pathfinder Car Wash

Sat., May 29th, 1995

9:00 am to 1:00 pm

At the Gavlas Residence

\$5.00 - Car Wash

\$2.00 - Vacuuming

EMERGENCY FIRST RESPONSE TEAM

- Annette Phillips

The First Response Team would like to thank all the businesses that have supported our telephone directory.

Special thanks to Diane Pollock /Island Designs and Peter Morgan /P&P Typesetting for assistance. The new phone book will be available at Glenn's Store on or about June 1.

Our thanks to all those who have made private donations to the defib campaign - to date we have received approximately \$1200.

Thanks! Jack Sylvester; Lance and Tamara Pope; St. Albans ACW; Bill & Helen Bulch; Art & Caroline Ackerman; Glenn & Jane Miller; Jan Snee; Syke Fleming; Charlie Dopking; Guido & Dan Visintin.

THE NEIGHBOURHOOD

- Annette

Best wishes to Susie Caughey still in bed after being kicked in both legs by a cow last month. Susie spent a few days in hospital undergoing treatment for blood clots in her legs. She is at home but relatively immobile for an indefinite period of time.

Marshall Glenn is still in hospital, also being treated for a blood clot in his leg -the result of flying debris from a lawnmower.

Speedy recovery to both Marshall and Susie.

The remarkably resilient Mark McCormick is back on his feet after his bike met head-on with a hydro pole last week. No permanent damage to Mark, but the bike was a write off.

Lucille Brown is again in hospital, probably for a long-term stay this time.

Bruce Caughey (Sr.) is having the second of two cataract surgeries this week.

AMHERST ISLAND WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

- Jean E.S. McIntyre

On April 19th the monthly meeting, followed by the Annual meeting and the election of Officers was held at the home of Mrs. Jean Baker.

During the monthly meeting arrangements were made for the only fundraising event the W.I. has each year - the Mother's Day Ham Dinner. Plans were also made for the "Island Clean Up" which is to be a joint effort with the school children and many thanks to the volunteer drivers from the Royal Canadian Legion and I.S.L.E. for their help with his project.

The Annual meeting then proceeded with the following members being elected for the coming year.

President - Jackie Sylvester

1st Vice President - Helen Miller

Secretary -Marion Glenn

Treasurer - Irene Glenn

P.R. Officer - Freda Youell

Appreciation was expressed to the outgoing Officers for their services and at the conclusion of the evening's business the hostess served some great refreshments which were enjoyed by all and was, I suspect, the downfall of more than one diet that day.

In April the W.I. canvassed for the Canadian Cancer Campaign and would like to thank all the people that supported this worthy cause.

The next meeting is to be held on May 24th at 8 p.m. at the home of Mrs. Helen Lamb and anyone that would like to attend, either as a new member or as a visitor, would be most welcome.

HOTEL DIEU FOOD BANK BLITZ

Wed, May 31st, 1995

You may leave donations at Glenn's Store.

The Brownies, Girl Guides and Pathfinders will be going door to door on Wednesday, May 31st between 3:30 and 5:30 p.m.

We need your help!

If you can drive a route or help sort would you please report to Karen Fleming at the Store Corner.

Amherst Island is always generous with its donations to this worthwhile project.

Thank-you, Janet Scott & Karen Fleming

PITCH-IN May 2, 1995

- Jean Baker

The children of Amherst Island Public School pitched in. Their teacher really pitched in. Grandmothers made cookies and eleven adults drove cars, walked the ditches with the children and had fun.

Cookies and juice at the school.

We used plastic bags provided by the Pitch In Organization - underwritten by our sponsors the Ont. Min. of Environment, McDonalds etc. We all wore plastic gloves provided by Keitha Smith.

The Public Works Dep't picked up 1/2 ton truck loads of debris for disposal - all retrieved from Stella Dock, Stella, and roads radiating out from Stella for about 1 km.

Participating organizations were the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 539, ISLE, and the Amherst Island Women's Institute.

Debbie Fleming and Alex Scott invite our friends and neighbours to attend an Open Dance to share in the celebration of our marriage Saturday, June 24, 1995.

8:15 pm - 12:30 am

Amherst Island Community Centre

Best Wishes Only

ISLAND GARDENS

- Sally Bowen

There's a raging debate on the Island about how soon is too soon to plant most of the garden. I'm typing this May 14, and there is a cold windy gale blowing - not the ideal condition for vulnerable transplants.

The May 24th long weekend is the traditional time.

Patrick Grey (the Old Fowler House co-owner) has most of his garden planted except for such sensitive souls as peppers, tomatoes and eggplant. Some people get an early start using plastic or ground covers to warm the soil. Garnet McDonald says he never feels he's much ahead if he plants a garden early. He figures nothing thrives until the soil is warmer. At least it has been dry enough to work the soil and get it ready. It is important to try to till before the first crop of weeds ripens and spreads seeds.

Anyone who has started plants indoors needs to "harden off" the seedlings (help them adjust to outdoor conditions). Gradual is better. I sunburnt some tomatoes.

Raymond Wemp said that he and Ted plant everything at once on the 24th weekend in their big gardens. They have a mechanical planter for potatoes. They can only get water to one of their gardens and he emphasized the importance of watering enough. I asked why he plants so much, and he said "I always have – I love gardening".

Jean Baker has a beautiful perennial spring flower garden, much of it in semi-shade or under old trees. She gave me lots of plants this week. This is the perfect time to transplant perennials from your generous neighbours. Jean has significantly improved her garden soil with worm castings. She has used "red wiggler" composting worms to consume her kitchen garbage for the past few years, and is very pleased with effectiveness of the composting as well as the health of both indoor and outdoor plants. She'd be glad to give advice to anyone wanting to consider this technique.

I asked Barb Reid's advice about trimming raspberry canes. I've noticed several Islanders plant them in the middle of their gardens, where they can till around them. Smart. I put mine near a fence, and the field has grown through and happily taken over.

Anytime after the canes start to leaf out, she cuts off everything that is dead. A pick-your-own operator advised me to really thin them out, to one every 6 or 8 inches, with the row about a foot across.

Mary McCollam, a weekend visitor and ex-Islander, has offered masses of chive plants to give away. Anyone interested, call me.

I still have too many Johnny Jump-ups. I was so glad Lynn Fleming accepted my offer of poppy seeds and other stuff. I know someone is reading this! I still have lots more. Lynn tells me that Lloyd Wolfreys has absolutely gorgeous irises and they should be out later this month. I hope to see them. He and Shirley Miller order their irises from Cruickshanks in Toronto.

Please remember the Food Bank when planting vegetables, and the request of the Waterside Summer Festival for extra flowers.

FIRE CALL

- Ian Murray

When my pager went off around 7 p.m. a week ago Sunday, I jumped as always. I quickly relaxed as it was announced that we were being called to a fire at the land fill site. Any call that doesn't involve an ambulance or a burning house or large grass fires can't be too bad.

Well it may not be bad but it can sure be a hassle. The fire had got in under the clay pad that the Public Works crew had placed over the garbage. Garry Filson, called from his supper after a week-end working at the Back Kitchen, spent maybe 3 hours meticulously pulling apart months of our accumulated garbage with the back hoe so that every bit of garbage could be soaked with almost 20,000 gallons of water. It was fairly unpleasant work for all involved. Perhaps it was more unpleasant for Ron Miller and Garry who had spent considerable time placing the garbage into a very neat pile the previous week.

By the time the equipment was put properly away - trucks and pumps re-fueled and the hoses hung to dry - it was past 11 p.m.

Neither Fire Chief Silver nor Public Works Superintendent Miller knows what caused the fire. This was the first fire since the dump became a land fill site.

All involved hope it's the last.

"PLEASE HELP"

When Garry and I celebrated our 25th anniversary party someone gave us four beautiful anniversary glasses and unfortunately the card fell off or something, so if that person would please call us so we know who they are from. The glasses were bought at Mayhews in Napanee.

Thanks, Garry and Anne-Marie

LETTERS TO THE BEACON

This month being M.S. month and since I have multiple sclerosis, Sally has asked me to do a short story on what it's like living with this disease.

M.S. attacks the central nervous system and affects each person differently. I have trouble with my left leg, my memory, fatigue and a lot of pain. Since a cure hasn't been found as of yet, people try many different techniques to cope. I like to take vitamins, follow a sensible diet and exercise and when things are going good I reward myself with one of my father-in-law's cold beers or my mother-in-law's great pies.

Two years ago I walked with a cane and when the doctor suggested a brace might help my leg I got scared. I started walking short distances to improve the strength in my legs. Now I walk 7 1/2 kms every day (except Sunday) and do one hour of aerobics a day (except

Sunday). I no longer use a cane and don't require a brace.

I guess if I sat around and worried about having M.S. things might be different, but my wife won't let me do that. I get a lot of support from my wife Diane and my daughters Sara and Samantha and for that I'm grateful.

Four of us were diagnosed with this disease at the same time in 1989. Larry died four years ago, Norma and Joel both need wheel chairs to get around and I'm still fighting. I may not win this fight, but at least I'll go down swinging.

Thank you, John Pollock

THANK YOU NOTES

Special thanks to my family and friends for all their love and support while I was in hospital, and since returning home.

Debbie Fleming

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Amherst Island Legion, and especially Audrey Miller and her committee for the generous meals-on-wheels that they get ready every third Monday in the Month. I find them very tasty especially the large piece of pie, or dish of pudding that goes with it for \$3.00. I don't know where you could get as good anywhere. I find that it's one evening that I don't have to look in the fridge and think what am I going to have for supper tonight.

A satisfied customer

Ernest Fleming

A great big Thank You to my neighbours and friends for the goodies, phone calls, and cards, and a special thank you to my good neighbours and friends Doug Lamb for taking me to the emergency and Helen Lamb for all her visits while I was laid up with my back.

Tena Tugwell

We would like to thank everybody who was involved in aiding Mark at the time of his "annual" mishap.

A special thank you to the First Response Team for their care, comfort and professionalism. To Nate, who called for help so quickly, we extend our appreciation, as well as to the rest of Mark's friends who stayed with him until the ambulance arrived.

Thank you to those who called and visited after the accident. It is very comforting to be a part of such a close and caring community.

The McCormick Family

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped us celebrate our 25th wedding anniversary and for the lovely gifts, cards and phone calls.

Thank-you to the A.C.W. for the lovely supper and an extra thank-you to Elsie Willard for the beautiful cake. Also, thank-you very much to Susie and Jill Caughey, Debbie Miller and Fern Willard for setting out the luncheon and to the ladies who supplied the veggies, dip and dessert trays.

Thanks to the people who stayed & helped us clean up after the party.

A big thank-you to our children for all their help and support.

Yours truly, Garry & Anne-Marie Hitchins

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my friends and family for all the visits, cards, calls and lovely flowers I received while I was in the hospital.

Also thank-you to the P.C.W. and A.C.W. for the goodies and visit.

Thank-you, Anne-Marie Hitchins

PHONE COMMUNICATIONS

- Alan Kidd

[Staff: We asked Alan whose title is Senior Satellite Systems Engineer at TELESAT to write a brief article related to his work in satellites.]

This month the MSAT communications satellite was finally launched. A second satellite will be launched later this year. They will provide high priced mobile communication all over North America for mainly corporate clients. The satellites were mostly built in Canada.

However, the real change in phone communication will be coming in about 5 years. By the end of the century, two or three world wide communication systems are scheduled to be in operation. This will mean that any phone in the world can be reached by any other phone. Eventually prices will come down as they have with hand-held calculators, computers, and so on.

Ms KIA

[Ms Know-It-All, aka Ms KIA, has returned from her working sabbatical. For the past several years, Ms KIA has, among other activities, worked as a pollster for one of the world's largest opinion sampling companies.]

What Do You Do On The Ferry?

Following are the results of a poll commissioned by the Beacon and carried out during April 1995.

519 people were extensively interviewed and the results have been cross-contabulated and massaged by multiple

regression/digression analyses and further cross-checked against similar polls conducted on the

ferries to Wolfe and Staten Islands.

Activity %

Dozing... 29.6

Talking/visiting... 23.7

Fantasizing... 22.3

Reading... 18.6

Working... 3.5

Studying... 0.2

Other... 2.3

(Note: results may not equal 100.0% due to cross winds.)

TREE PLANTING

Extensive study of aerial photographs, both from aeroplane and satellite, supplemented by unauthorized helicopter reconnaissance, has revealed the following:

- Trees planted on A. I. between June 17, 1977, and Sept 19, 1994: 227,388.

- Surviving planted trees as of Sept 19, 1994: 1,892.

Meadow voles, drought, poor soil, and farm machinery have taken a heavy toll.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

An extensive survey of the Kingston Area conducted by 236 Queens' political science graduates on May 7 revealed the following temporary signs on private property:

Vote Tory... 97

Vote Liberal... 108

Vote NDP... 66

Destroy Your Ballot... 13

For Sale... 1,892

FARM REPORT

-Ian Murray

Many people have the impression that farming is dying on the Island. I believe that it is still a significant activity, as can be seen below. Farming is, however, changing. High input costs - hired labour, interest, parts, fuel, medical, and so on - and relatively low returns, will continue to affect everyone in agriculture.

Most farmers are making changes to reduce costs and adapting to changing markets and will continue to farm.

The following people both actively farm and live on Amherst Island:

Avery Brown

Grace Eves Family

Miller Family

Caughey Family

Fleming Family

Clinton Kilpatrick

Geoff Mathews

Russell McGinn Family

Brian Reil

Garnet McDonald

Reid Family

Mark Ritchie and Cherry Allen

Dave Willard Family

Bill & Beryl Stoker

David Wemp Family

Garry Hitchins Family

Dennis McGinn

Kelly & Maureen McGinn

Allan & Cathy Glenn

Topsy Farms.

Among the farmers from the main land who bring livestock to graze on the Island are: Bob Hanna, Paul Burns, Mr Mangan, and Clarke Simpson. And then there is Quinte Pasture which pastures a large part of the 2nd Concession.

The above amounts to at least 40 people earning a large proportion of their income from farming. And, this doesn't count the many people hired to help out on a job by job or seasonal basis. Farming is far from being dead or irrelevant on this Island.

Please let me know if I have missed anyone from the above list.

A LETTER HOME

-Chris Kennedy

Spring seems to be slow coming this year. We've had lots of sun, and enough rain to bring on the grass, but the wind off the lake is still cold. Good weather for the lambing though, with little white dots appearing all over the fields at both ends of the island. We have copied Mark and Cherry this year and are lambing some of the ewes on pasture.

A couple of people have commented on the large funny looking sheep in the pasture at Emerald. This is actually our guard dog, a Komondor, who is meant to keep wily coyote at bay. We will have to see how he does, but he certainly loves to be with the sheep, even if the feeling is not always mutual. He is cautious of strangers, and is likely to warn them off if he is disturbed.

The Millers have their new Big Green Machine, and Adam gave me a guided tour of the latest in tractor technology, from the top of its front end loader to the bottom of its radial tyres, with a short stop at the small refrigerator for his lunch on the way. They are giving it a good work out now that spring seeding is on.

About ten of us spent a very unfunny evening last Sunday putting out the fire at the dump, where about three years of accumulated Amherst Island garbage was burning. It smells no better after a couple of years of rotting. There are many better ways to spend a fine spring evening.

Now we can look forward to the summer. There are weddings coming up, warm weather and swimming, and, we hope, one of the biggest bonuses of all in the summer, the Big Ferry.

Amherst Island Public Radio
Stella, Ontario
(613) 384-8282 www.cjai.ca



CJAI is Your community radio station dedicated to serving Loyalist Township and surrounding communities by promoting local businesses, events and local talent.

Our annual, one week Fund Drive is planned for Monday May 18th – Friday May 22nd.

We will have special guests, and free coffee and goodies.
We offer daily prizes, auction items, and end of the week draws for all the donors.

Call in or drop by to make pledge and join in the fun!

We will be live on-air 7:00 am to Noon and 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm every day with an extended show Friday evening to wrap up.
Check the website, www.cjai.ca, for details and prizes.

If you could help us with the donation of products, promotional items or gift certificates, we would be most grateful.

All donors of such items are actively acknowledged on-air during the week and on our website.

If you would like to help, please contact:

Dayle Gowan - 613-634-3815

Susan Filson - 613-384-7866

OUR OWN AWARD SHOW

- David Pickering

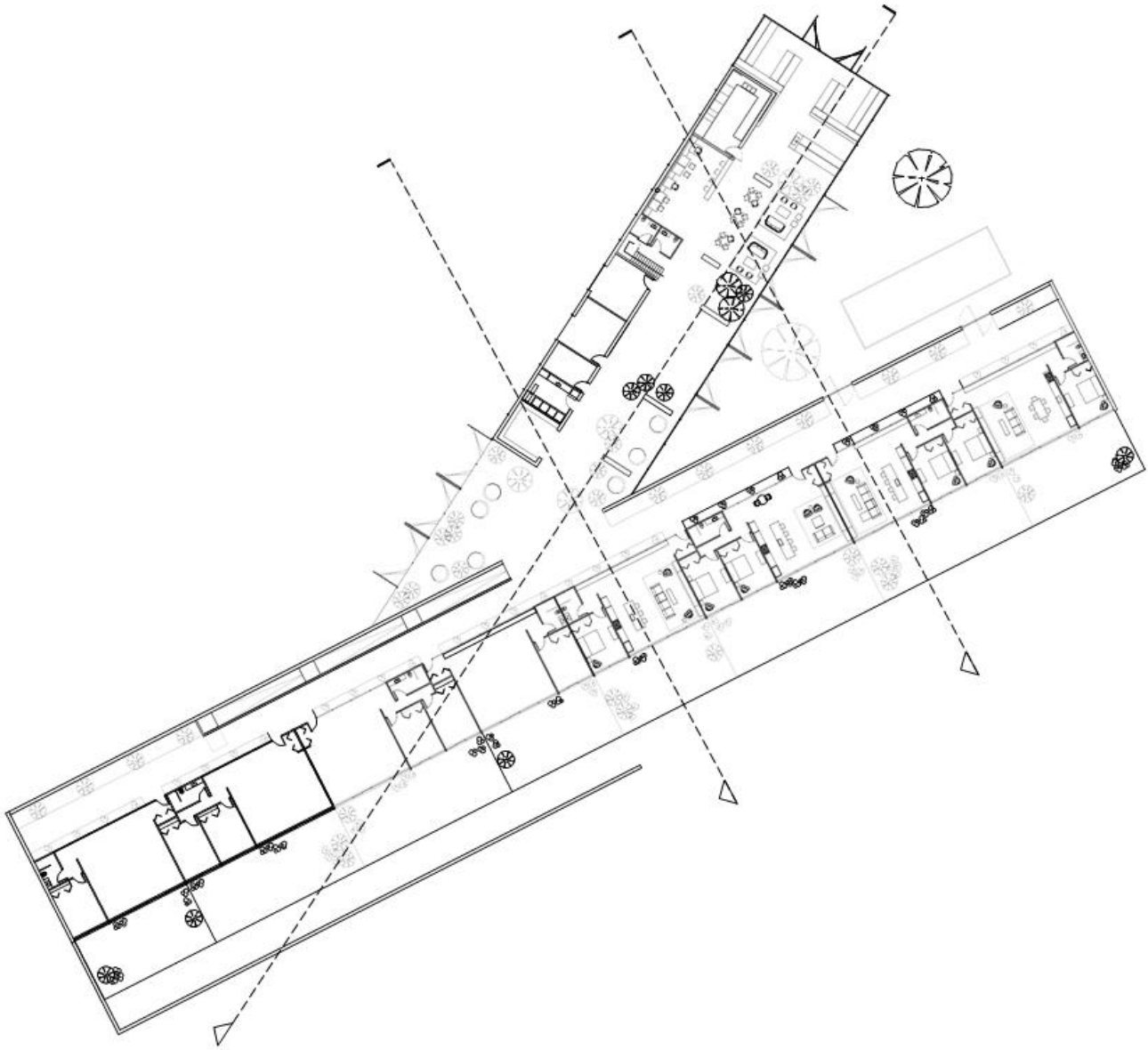
A little while after I wrote the article about the student presentations of their Island Retirement Residence projects, I found out that the work of one of the students who visited us won an award. The poster created and presented by Zeina Nahas took Best of Show at Ryerson's annual year end show. We congratulate Ms Nahas. The e-mail which announced the award contained a pdf of her poster, but as mentioned earlier, it would not be possible to reproduce it in this small format. Instead, I have extracted a few elements from the poster to allow us to see some of her impressive work.



Ms Nahas proposed a large structure on the fairground site. Above we see an elevation view, as would be seen if we were standing below (south) of the site map below (looking north). Notice the large covered carport. The red roofed block on the south would be largely residences, and could be extended eastward if additional units are required. The extension to the north east is the common area, included an extensive greenhouse component which also covers the restaurant, retail space, exhibition space and a shared concourse. Shared kitchen, laundry and library would also be in this area.

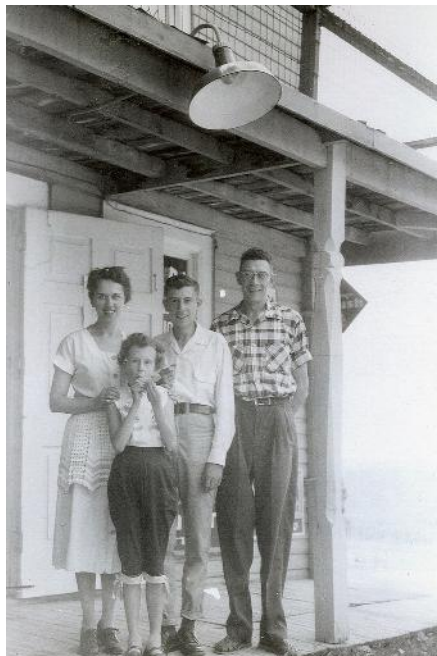
On the following page, we see a floor plan with three dotted lines through it. Each line relates to one of the images below the floor plan. These are perspectives of how the building would appear if it were sliced open along that line, giving us a view of the interior from that point onward.

Once again, congratulations to Ms Nahas. It's a beautiful piece of work and is hopefully indicative of a glowing future in design.





Canadian – eh?
Bobby Rock, Norma-Lynn Cole’s nephew, fishing off Amherst Island
Photo courtesy of Norma Lynn



Left: Irene Glenn. Middle: Irene, Leslie Anne, Paul and Les. Right: Les and Irene.
All pictures were courtesy of Paul Glenn.