

# Amherst Island Beacon



*Issue 464 There's always another boat. DECEMBER 2018*

Note from the Editor

By Judy Bierma

Thanks again for all the submissions to The Beacon. The due date is the last Monday of the month so that will be Dec. 31 next month. Send us stories of your travels, births, deaths, poems, pictures of things that are important to you and announcements. We try to get the Beacon out soon after or on the first of the month. Next May we will need a new editor. Merry Christmas and have a great holiday and visit with family and friends.

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New Arrivals

By David Pickering

On a month which is sadly marking the passing of no less than six islanders, we happily take a moment to first mark the arrival of our newest members, and hopefully future friends. Congratulations to the Minville family and the Brown family, and to all their assorted relations.

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**(above) Carter Andrew Brown  
New Grandson to Joan and Dan Simpson  
Born Nov 25, 2018**



**(left) Isabelle Jeanne Minville was born  
November 15th at 9:15am, weighing 8lbs 1 oz.  
and healthy as can be!  
From Renee Minville and Claude Minville.  
A sister for Marianne.**

**Community Senior's Christmas Dinner**

**Saturday December 1, 2018**

**Arrive at 4:00, dinner at 5:00**

**More information to follow**

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**Carter with his mom Leslie  
Daughter of Joan Simpson**

## Passings

Sadly, a good portion of this issue is also devoted to saying good bye to some dear friends. Some we saw just days ago, two have been off-island for a few years, and two more have been gone so long that only a few remember them. Islanders all – thank you for sharing your lives with us.



### **Don Pepper by Brian Little**

Hugh Jenney, past president of AIMS, writes: Don was “A long serving member of AIMS who decided to stop his chemo and dialysis treatments. A wise decision. We will miss his constant positive support for our Island projects.

His son had his ashes spread in his old stomping grounds near his few remaining sisters in Sarnia. Don was a delight to work with. Everybody who had the privilege of working with him will miss his steadfast dedication to our Island community. I

know I will.”

David Pickering has talked with his son, and it is hoped we can arrange a gathering to hoist a few and say farewell to Don sometime early in the New Year. Timing will be dependent on Mark’s availability. Mark said that, despite the two-year struggle with his illnesses, once his father had made the decision to stop treatment, the end came quickly, painlessly, and with Mark holding his hand. A good passing.

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**Barbara Reid by Zander Dunn**

Barbara H. Reid (nee Robinson)

Peacefully at the Kingston Health Sciences Centre, surrounded by her loving family on Sunday, November 11, 2018, at age 84. Beloved wife of the late Stratton Reid. Loving mom of Jim (Sandra) Reid and cherished grandmother of Brooke and Brandon. Dear sister of Geneva (Arthur) Keyes and Linda (Wayne) Brown. Predeceased by her parents James and Margaret Robinson and by an infant brother. Barb will be greatly missed by her nieces and nephews and their families, her friends from

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and its webmaster Alex Scott

several euchre clubs and by her beloved cat Cindy. Memorial donations to St. Alban’s Anglican Church would be appreciated by the family.

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**Peter Wallace Wemp**

Passed away suddenly and unexpectedly on Wednesday, November 21, 2018 at the age of 68. Cherished husband of Suzanne (nee Kerr) of 40 years. Loving father to Lindsay Larwill (Mackenzie) of Ottawa and Sarah Hyde (Nathan) of Pembroke. Adored grandfather to Carmyn, Ronan, Anna and Isla. Peter will be missed by his sister Ann Wemp-Browne (Bob) of Amherst Island. Loving uncle to Ryan Browne (Nicole), Sam Browne (Leslie), Kate Browne (Neil) Tracey Phin (Jason) and David Phin (Crystal). Peter will be missed by his mother-in-law Madlyn Kerr of Kingston and sister-in-law Brenda Kerr of Newburgh. Peter is predeceased by his parents Wallace and Catherine Wemp, father-in-law John Kerr, and brother-in-law David Kerr. Peter and his family have chosen the selfless act of helping others by organ donation. Friends desiring may contribute by cheque to the Loyalist Township Emergency Services or the Heart and Stroke Foundation.

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**Kenneth Graham Cross**  
**14 Mar 25 – 1 Aug 18**

Kenneth Graham Cross passed away peacefully at the Providence Care Hospital in Kingston, Ontario on August 1, 2018 at the age of 93.

Born in San Francisco he spent his youth in the Bay Area before enlisting in the Navy during the 2nd World War.

He met the love of his life and future wife, Norma Threde, at the USO in Chicago while on leave.

During the war he served on a destroyer, the USS Dortch, one of the first ships to enter Tokyo Bay after the peace treaty was signed, ending the war.

Ken enjoyed a stimulating career working at the Microwave Physics Lab in Palo Alto on the development of laser technology. While working for EIMAC, he contributed to the Operation Moon Bounce project, a radio communications relay technique involving radio waves bouncing off the surface of the Moon and back to an Earth-based receiver.

In June 1964, Ken and his family moved to Ottawa, Ontario where he worked for the Department of National Defence on the DEW Line (Distant Early Warning Line), Canadian Space Agency, and the Department of Communications. He was involved with the Anik B and MSAT satellite projects while working at the David Florida Laboratory on Carling Ave in Ottawa.

Ken's life cannot be described without mentioning his love and passion for Zen Buddhism. Ken first heard about Zen early in his life and devoted himself to reading about and studying Zen for the remainder of his life. He donated his extensive collection of Zen books to Ryokusui-an, a Zendo in Kingston,

Ontario.

Tennis was another passion of his. Towards the end of his work career and well into retirement, he was considered one of the top male doubles players for his age in the Ottawa area. In addition to his lifelong passion for tennis, he quietly developed his talents in sketching & art along with teaching himself to play the guitar & piano. He also dedicated several hours each day with studying & analyzing the stock market while applying his love for mathematics & analytics, he actually became quite tech savvy and produced his own stock market software programming tools into his 80's.

Ken's love of books was remarkable, most often having 3 or 4 books on the go, he even took a speed reading course at one point, the only thing that slowed him down was the turning of another page, with 85% comprehension. He enjoyed reading and had a knack for sharing the stories he treasured – enriching the lives of those close to him.

Ken is predeceased by his sister Leolyn and his beloved wife Norma. He is survived by his three children, Andrea Cross, Deborah Stacey, and Douglas Cross; and grandchildren Noah and Onwyn Stacey, Emily and Matthew Cross, and Carl Bergstrom.



**Edna Miriam Collins**  
 November 17, 1925 -  
 November 14, 2018

Edna Miriam (Kearney) Collins, 92, passed away on Wednesday, Nov. 14, 2018 at her daughter's Albany home, surrounded by her loving family. She was predeceased by her

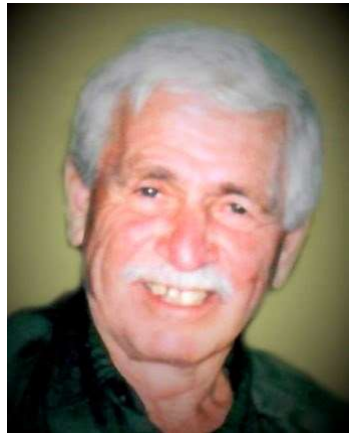
husband, Edward R. Collins, in 2012, after 56 years of marriage.

**Mom was born on Amherst Island, Ontario, Canada on Nov. 17, 1925, the daughter of the late David and Miriam (McGinn) Kearney.** She started her career with Bell Canada in Kingston Ontario in 1943 and retired after 43 yrs of service with NY Telephone Company in Plattsburgh N.Y.

Mom loved spending time with, and cooking for her children and grandchildren, she was a terrific cook. Mom had the quickest wit and best sense of humor. She loved watching hockey, especially her Pittsburgh Penguins.

She is survived by three daughters; Colleen Walker of Dannemora, Debra (Mike) Hartman of Albany, Pamela (Mark) Pospischil of Columbus, NJ; two sons, Edward David (Denise) Collins of Edgewater, Fla. and Wallace Richard (Kari) Collins of Chazy; 12 grandchildren and three great- granddaughters. Mom was predeceased by her 11 siblings John (WWII- Italy), Alice, Arthur, Wallace (WWII-North Africa), Gerald, Mary, Laurine, Jean, Doris, Ruth, and Donnie.

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Donald Frances  
Kearney

June 9, 1935 – August  
3, 2018

Passed away with the  
love of his family  
surrounding him at  
home, where he wanted  
to be. He tried so hard  
to fight this terrible  
disease Alzheimer's  
right to the end.

Devoted loving partner and best friend of Pat Keenan Wry for 26 years. Don was the youngest of 11 children and the son of Miriam and David Kearney (predeceased). Loving father to Donna Kearney (Peter), John Kearney, Gerald Kearney, Ruth Richards (predeceased), and Mike Wry. Cherished Poppa to Kalli, Samantha and Danielle Wry, Erin, Leah, and Kaitie O'Shaughnessy. He will be deeply missed by many nieces, nephews and friends. **The Kearney family settled on Amherst Island Kingston ON where they had a dairy farm.** Don loved to go back every year to see the old homestead and cherish the memories of his life growing up. He was a hard worker and retired after 40 years with Totten Sims Hubicki Associates. Don built many bridges, highways, and roads in Ontario. He loved a good game of cards, walking, dancing, and enjoyed life. Don was an Usher for many years at St. Gregory the Great Roman Catholic Church. His religion was very important to him. A special thank you to Mike (PSW) from St. Elizabeth, Renetta and Debbie from ParaMed, Paula from Central East (LHIN), Rebecca from GAIN Geriatric Clinic, Dr. Callow, and all our friends (you know who you are) for all the love, support, and visits throughout this difficult time. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Alzheimer's Society or

the Lupus Foundation.

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Photo by Donna Brown



Island Euchre with Don Pepper, Hazel De Hann,  
Judy Miller and Barb Reid

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Mute Swan from Wiki

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In the spirit of focusing on someone's life, rather than their passing, we are pleased to re-publish an extensive article on Barbara Reid, written by Zander Dunn, and first published in the December 2014 issue of The Beacon.

**BARBARA REID: An Amherst Island Treasure**  
by Zander of DUNN INN

Barbara Reid, whom I delight to tease, is a loving woman. She confesses to many loves in her life. She loves her family; she loves Amherst Island; she loves work; she loves her church; she loves her priest; she loves Euchre (not necessarily in that order).



**Barbara by Brian Little**

Barbara was born 80 years ago in Switzerville which is four miles south of Newburgh and Camden East. She was born into a family in which she had a sister one year older (now living on Wolfe Island) and a older brother who died at the age of two of a heart attack. Four years after Barbara's birth she gained another sister (now living west of Forest Mills). The first 22 years of Barbara's life were spent on the family farm.

Barbara attended Public School in Switzerville (in a one room school house) from grade one to eight and then she went to Napanee High School which she left early because her mother died, and she was needed to work on the farm. Although she did well in school, she liked recess and lunch time best. She remembers that her first teacher was Edna Glenn from Amherst Island who, at the end of her career, retired on the Island to live in the house where the Schrams now reside on MacDonalds Lane. When Barbara went to High School she had to walk two miles to catch a bus which came from Enterprise and which was already loaded when it reached her.

For relaxation and fun, on Saturday nights, she attended the dances at which Don Johnson's band played in the Town Hall in Napanee. She frequently went with her cousin, Gayle Willard, and was often escorted by Howard Huff and later by George Root from Deseronto. When Gayle started going with Wilbert she persuaded Barbara to go on a blind date with a fellow named Stratton Reid from Amherst Island. After that first date she and Stratton went together for three years until they got married in St. Luke's Anglican Church in Camden East on September 15, 1956.

Before they got married Stratton often took Barbara over to Amherst Island. Stratton was an Orangeman and the Orange Lodge put on the dances in their building. Barbara's first trip to the Island took place in the winter and she and Gayle came over with Wilbert and Stratton on the ice. Nobody told her where they were going because they feared if she knew she wouldn't go. The ice was not thick enough to support a horse, so the men put the two women in a cutter and pushed it the two miles across the ice. They landed at Emerald where they were met by Elmer Willard (Wilbert's brother), who took them by car to the home of Joe and Gertrude Willard (Wilbert's parents) on the Third Concession (near where the Kuti house still stands). They enjoyed a wonderful supper and then played cards before they reversed the process and Wilbert and Stratton pushed the women in the cutter back to the mainland. Barbara says that was not as difficult as it sounds because the glare ice made the trip quick and easy.

After Barbara and Stratton were married they came to live in his grandfather's old house which is where she lives today. Statton had worked for his grandfather, Robert Reid, for seven years before he bought the farm from his grandfather who had moved into Stella to live in the grey house on the corner across from the General Store. Since that time the Reids have improved and expanded the house in many ways - adding a room and changing the heating system from wood to oil to propane inside and incorporating a wood stove outside. Barbara's son, Jim, and her grandson, Brandon, keep the outside wood stove well stoked for her during the winter.

Speaking of winter, Barbara remembers the great winter-time supper parties that she enjoyed on the Island. About 12 to 14 people would gather at her place, share great food and then play euchre or visit.

The parties would move around from house to house and Barbara remembers sharing happy times with the families of Doug Miller, Billy Kilpatrick, Charley Howard, Ross McKee, Avery Brown, Dave Reid (Stratton's uncle) Estel Strain, Bruce Caughey and Garnet MacDonald. Later, when T.V. arrived on the Island those families might also watch a favourite program. Those were pleasant times of sharing and community building.

When Barbara came to Amherst Island she became a member of Christ Church Anglican in Emerald. Her son, Jim, born in 1964, was baptized there. While the minister of Christ Church was also in charge of St. Alban's Church in Stella, Barbara does not remember the two congregations ever getting together for special events.

In those days Amherst Islanders did not travel very much even on the Island. Not only that, the Islanders loyally patronized all their stores - the Kilpatrick store in Emerald, the Glenn and the Neilson stores in Stella. Stratton Reid transported, over the ice during the winter, gas, oil, animal feed and groceries to the Kilpatrick store. Barbara recalls that the best time to travel to the mainland was in the winter, over the ice because one could go at any time. She often crossed the ice to the mainland because all her relatives lived over there.



**Barbara at Market by Brian Little**

In the non-winter months the gas trucks would come over to fill up the many gas tanks and the National Grocers would send trucks over to supply the stores with food goods.

Stratton and Barbara were a team on the farm. They were up early to milk the cows and Barbara separated the milk when Stratton had to catch the 7 a.m. ferry to get to the mainland for various jobs.

Barbara did most of the plowing when Stratton worked for Harold Van Alstein doing carpentry work, especially repairing and expanding barns. Like most farm wives Barbara did the work of a man, but she loved to work. When Stratton died Barbara, who used to do all the baling, was relieved of that job by her daughter-in-law, Sandra, who insisted that Barbara had too much to do.

If farming was not enough to keep her busy, Barbara also drove the school bus from 1976 to 1986. She shared the job with Shirley Miller and when Shirley quit Barbara took over all the routes. There was a time when Barbara drove the high school bus to the ferry as well as the local school bus to the Island school so she did two trips around the island every day. She gave up the school bus driving when she and Stratton gained more cows to milk.

There was a time when the senior class in the public school would go, once a week, to the Bath school - the boys for Shop and the girls for Home Economics. In those days she and Shirley shared that bus trip week about.

The Anglican Church has always been important to Barbara and she has served it well. She was President of the Anglican Church Women on several different occasions, acted as treasurer of the A.C.W. and in 2008 was elected Warden.

When Barbara first came to the Island the Anglican Church Women were running a chicken supper every year. In those days the chickens were cooked at the homes of the women. Barbara built a concrete block pit into which she could put 120 half chickens at a time. When the chickens were cooked they were loaded into coolers where they kept hot for a long time. But not everybody could cook the chickens that well and so the church gave up on chicken suppers. Instead they moved to Turkey and Beef suppers and in all of them Barbara has been extremely active. Today she is scandalized by the cost of beef and cannot understand how anybody can afford to buy it. For all of her 58 years on Amherst Island the Anglican Church Women's suppers have been appreciated by all who enjoyed them. Unfortunately because of the declining membership the Anglicans have had to give up presenting all their suppers this year.

But the Anglican Church continues, in spite of the drop in membership and in spite of the death of one of their great leaders, Elsie Willard, Barbara's best friend. Barbara contends she loves her minister,

Father Don Bailey, and she does whatever she can to support his ministry.

The love Barbara talks about most today is her love of Euchre. She began playing Euchre when she was very small. Always small for her age she was put into a high chair and from there played the game. When she moved to the Island she often went with Emily Tugwell to Euchre games at Bath and Odessa. The game in Odessa closed down but the Bath group continues. Barbara loves to play on the Island also and from September to May (except for December) 16 players get together faithfully. Barbara joins with Hazel deHann, Jim and Sandra Reid, Art and Anna Hitchins, Peter Morgan, Warren Kilpatrick, Cora McGinn, Wayne and Karen Fleming, Leslie Gavlas, John and Tessa Mayman and Kelly and Maureen McGinn.

Talk about Euchre brings back a flood of memories for Barbara. She can remember when 28 tables used to play in the Town Hall and when the Legion, the ACW, the Women's Institute used to host games of Euchre. Every Friday night you could find a Euchre game on the island. And that is not to mention the games in private homes.

One of the ironies of Barbara's life is that Stratton did not play Euchre. On her early days on the Island she would go with Stratton to his home where she teamed up with his father and they went to town to play cards. Stratton stayed at home with his mother and visited there. Many Islanders gathered to play Euchre so Barbara considered the Euchre outings were a good way for her to get to know the people of the Island.

When Stratton died in August of 2001, many people thought Barbara would return to the mainland. She did not do so because she had come to love the Island as her home, she had her farm to work and to enjoy, all her friends were on the Island and she felt the Island was the safest place for her to live.

Barbara often rises at 5 a.m. and goes to work in her garden on the Front Road in the Spring and Summer. She considers that the best time of the day because she loves the quiet and peace that surround her then. She also enjoys the birds who join her in the morning and sing their songs to her. She even enjoys the cars driving down the road outside her house because they indicate the Island is waking up. It is then that Barbara gives herself permission to return to the house for a cup of tea and perhaps a short rest, even a sleep, before she returns to the

demands of the day.



### **In the garden, harvesting for the Market**

Since the market opened at the Centennial park Barbara has been a faithful seller of her own home baking (butter tarts her specialty) and vegetables and fruits when they are in season. Barbara contends that she has been gardening since she got married and figures it must be in her blood.

Although she does not brag about her family she is obviously proud of her son, Jim, his wife, Sandra, and their two children, Brooke and Brandon. She pointed out that Jim, who works on the ferry, is a great help to her and runs the farm efficiently. Her daughter-in-law, Sandra is a great cook and took over the Stella Cafe before it finally closed for this year and did a super job of presenting good, nutritious food. Barbara is pleased that Brooke did so well in becoming a Child Care Specialist and that Brandon, who has a job with Bob Hunter, wants to become a heavy machinery operator.

In 2006 Barbara faced a traumatic medical problem. One day she felt a pain in her ankle and that acute pain did not diminish. The next day her doctor discovered that she had a clot in her leg. A day later the doctor announced that he had to operate to amputate her leg above the knee in order to save her life. While Barbara lamented the loss of her leg, she was grateful that the doctor's quick action had succeeded in preventing her death. Today she will tell you that she is strong in her arms and she considers it was better that she loses a leg than an arm. She rejoices that she can drive her van because her right leg was spared. Moreover, her van is equipped with a lift device to allow her to raise her scooter into the van, so she can be self-sufficient.

Barbara does all her gardening off her scooter which was given to her by Rick and Carol Morgan

when Rick could no longer use it. Barbara continues to be grateful to the Morgans for their gift because without it she would be very limited. With it, she can get around well and produce miracles - or at least, good vegetables for Island consumption, so we all benefit.

Barbara is no stranger to physical problems because she has had two bowel operations and had vein work done on her leg from 2000 to 2006. But as she will tell you she has been O.K. since then. Barbara has no self-pity and when she ever feels down, she simply works on a jigsaw puzzle or plays a game of solitaire.

Barbara Reid is no ordinary woman. Not only is she a woman who loves many things and people, she is an example of the power of hard work, the value of friendship, and the importance of determination and devotion. She is also a modest and humble woman who seeks no praise but rejoices in the loves in her life. She probably would not agree but she is one of the treasures of Amherst Island.

**Photo by Sally Bowen**

From Brooke Reid

Strong. Determined. Stubborn. A force to be reckoned with. Independent. Spirited. Mom. Sister. Aunt. Friend. Proud. These are just a few of the words I would use and I have heard to describe you (along with so many others) but my favourite word of all was Grandma.

You were by far one of the strongest, most determined women in my life - never letting anything get in your way. Any obstacle you faced, you always managed to get past it. Most people would have given up, but not you Grandma, you just kept on going. Your perseverance is something I will always admire, as I'm sure others will as well.

We all miss you dearly, but we know you are right there with us - every step of the way. Until we see each other again



From Jim and Sandra

Well there is not much more we can say that everyone hasn't already said. You were a strong, brave hardworking lady and we are proud to call you our Mom. You were a good role model to anyone who ever knew you to see that you faced many challenges that came your way and came out on top of them.

We miss you terribly and until we meet again may

all the gardens in heaven be blessed by your hands.  
RIP Mom. Love Jim & Sandra. ♡♡



**Tundra Swans by Brian Little**

My Backyard

From Sharen English

I have had as many as 125 Tundra Swans in Sand Bay this last week. They hoot and cluck. I open our sliding glass doors so I can listen to them. It is an exhilarating experience to hear them "hoot and holler". They are beautiful birds, all white with black beaks. I have seen some immature swans, they are white and grey, and smaller and thinner than the mature ones. The swans' bodies form a straight line when they fly. They land a bit clumsily on their legs as they slide onto the water. When they eat, "dabbling", their behinds come up in the air. Bufflehead Ducks hang around them and I have also seen a Loon, as well as some American Black Ducks and Red Breasted Mergansers. When the ducks quack, it sounds just like a "quack," a fine example of onomatopoeia. I feel so happy when the swans visit. I sit on the bedroom carpet and listen to them.

They make a haunting and joyful sound. They constantly "talk" to each other. I hear them all day and night. It is a joy to see them in June and November. I have a couple of Snowy Owls up my way, too. There is an all white one, probably a male, and a large white and black one, probably a female. There are deer here too, of course. I have seen a large rabbit too, of late.

Janet Scott has said that this island looks like a Rembrandt painting every day, and I agree. What a gorgeous place to live in the Autumn, Winter, Spring and Summer. We Islanders are so lucky to live here. Sharen.



**Suzanne and Peter by Brian Little**

G'day! how are ya?

For those of you who don't know me, I am Peter's favourite nephew Sam. Aside from sharing the same middle name as Peter, I also share Peter's charming good looks.

As all of you probably know Peter grew up on beautiful Amherst Island, spending summers working at his Grandparent's coffee shop in the great metropolis of Stella. He ventured far and married a girl from Kerr Bay.

They had two daughters, Lindsay and Sarah; both refer to him as Peter. Peter loved to tell the story of when Lindsay was due to be born, he broke his arm playing hockey that same day. When Sarah was born, they called Peter from the hospital, but he had to finish his spaghetti first.

He also liked to help with child care, proudly having never changed a diaper. He could gut a deer, goose or fish, but wouldn't touch a diaper.

His big thing... He could talk, always talk, must be a Wemp thing. He would go up to the Miller or Venacher hunting camp and there would be lots of silence, which Peter had no trouble filling.

He must have been a little quieter in a boat because he was pretty good at catching fish.

As much as Peter loved to hunt and fish, he also loved to rescue the odd animal or two. He was always bringing stray dogs back from the hunting camp, and who can forget Peter's pussycat, the cat he fondly adopted despite having a sign that says I hate cats.

Peter loved country music, sorry, country music before 1980. He loved it so much he shared it with

the sailboats moored in Kerr Bay every Sunday morning, listening to Sunday in the Country with Jeff Code.

Peter was as handy as a pocket in a shirt. He loved to help, and loved when people called him to help, despite complaining about it. A very dependable person, especially if you have a beer fridge.

He changed jobs a lot, loved to work, quit one job and always had one the next day. It took him until retirement to find a wage he liked, a dollar a minute - cutting grass.

If he set his mind to it, he could accomplish anything . . . like his man shed. He also wasn't afraid to ask for help from his wife, to move an appliance or a fallen tree.

No one forgot Peter. That quick-witted tall guy in the salmon shirt? You couldn't miss him. He could fill a room when he walked in, just with his personality alone. Speaking of Peter's style, he loved to tell people how much he paid for his haircut; a beer and pie, given to him by Auntie Barb when she cut his hair.

Peter loved to joke and tease, and no one was safe. You don't know what hell being a teenager is until you have an uncle questioning your every style choice.

We love ya Peter, the next Jameson is on me.

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Janet's Jottings

November 2018 – by Janet Scott

The Dance of the Short-eared Owls

Once in a long while I get to experience the fantastic sight of Short-eared Owls dancing. On Sunday, November 18 on our way home from the exciting afternoon of seeing and hearing a 100+ Tundra Swans thanks to Sharen English's kind invitation my friend Susan Arsenault and myself reached the Stella Forty-foot and headed south towards home. Susan is getting very adept at spotting hawks and suddenly said there's a Northern Harrier on the left. We pulled to the side to check her bird with binoculars and it was then that I spotted a couple of Shorties hunting in the same field.

Shorties are crepuscular which means they like to hunt the hour before sunset and the hour after dawn. Hunting occurs mostly at night, but this owl is known to be diurnal and crepuscular as well. Its daylight hunting seems to coincide with the high-activity periods of voles, its preferred prey. It tends to fly only feet above the ground in open fields and

grasslands until swooping down upon its prey feet-first. Several owls may hunt over the same open area. Its food consists mainly of rodents, especially voles, but it will eat other small mammals such as mice, ground squirrels, shrews, rats, bats, muskrats and moles and also occasionally smaller birds.



**Short-eared Owl in flight**

These owls do not hoot but we were able to hear their short, sharp barks as they hunted both sides of the road in the fields between the Road's Garage and the church. They are about 15 inches in length with a wingspan of 38 inches so these long narrow wings rise above their shoulders and slowly flap down giving the appearance of a moth flying across the fields. Looking west against the sunset we were able to see about a dozen of these warm, buffy owls with light underwings, dark patches on their wrists and a lighter face. Sometimes you will see short little tufts raised on the top of their heads giving them a rather surprised look.

This dancing behaviour is not a breeding behaviour but more of a hunting pattern but it is so happy and fun to watch you cannot see it without calling it dancing. Richard Lapointe had given me the heads up that the Short-eared Owls were back as he saw them on the Friday and they've been known to roost and hunt near Wendy's and his house on Front Road so I was not surprised to see them dancing there in the same field as a couple of Northern Harriers. In April you can watch the breeding behaviour which is funny as well. Mrs. Short-eared Owl sits on a post or tree in the possible nesting area and Mr. Short-eared flies way up in the air until he's just a speck. Then he drops rapidly to earth showing off to his lady, pulling up in the nick of time. He may clap his wings under his belly to show off and of course yips and barks. Her expression is more of "You've got to be kidding" sort of look.



**Not impressed**

Nesting behaviour thanks to Cornell site: The short-eared owl nests on the ground in prairie, tundra, savanna, or meadow habitats. Nests are concealed by low vegetation, and may be lightly lined by weeds, grass, or feathers. Approximately 4 to 7 white eggs are found in a typical clutch, but clutch size can reach up to a dozen eggs in years when voles are abundant. There is one brood per year. The eggs are incubated mostly by the female for 21–37 days. Offspring fledge at a little over four weeks. This owl is known to lure predators away from its nest by appearing to have a crippled wing.

Hopefully, over the next few months, you too will catch this dancing display!

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AIMS Minutes of Nov. Meeting  
by David McGinn

13 community minded men sat down to a delicious full breakfast provided by ISLE volunteers, Susie Caughey, Jill and Anna Walhout. They are raising money for the 8th grade trip to Niagara Falls. Two teachers joined us to hear Janet Scott's Owl presentation.

Our new president, Dave McGinn, welcomed us all and called on Allen Caughey to introduce our guest speaker which he did calling Janet the Bird Lady of AI. Janet showed us the whole story about our local great white owls, Stella and Emerald. You will enjoy what we experienced by going to [www.projectsnowstorm.org](http://www.projectsnowstorm.org).

Robert MacKenzie asked how high do they fly. Janet said they fly really high to escape the bad weather down below.

Dave called on Bruce Burnett to thank Janet which he did with a presentation of a jar of Dave Meikle's honey.

Dayle Gowan's request for a donation to the Agricultural Society was put over to the December meeting. We require more information re. its use for insurance. Hugh mentioned that when the AI Museum came under Loyalist protection they were covered by their one million dollar insurance plan. He recommended that the Ag Society take advantage of the same plan. In order to do so Loyalist is now demanding that one of its councillors must be a board member of any volunteer group that asks for support. Our new councillor, Nathan Townend, agreed to look into this requirement.

The Ag Society secretary, Bruce Caughey, suggested that the recently appraised at \$88,000 property be sold in order to use the money to support agriculture on AI.

Marc Raymond suggested that we use the Loyalist grant of \$1,000.00 for the Stella flowers be allocated \$700 for flower baskets and \$300 for the AI Museum garden. Dave asked for a show of hands to support the flowers for Stella. All agreed so Dave asked his secretary to record these supports so that we have plenty of volunteers to get them up and watered. Green Thumb Richard Lapointe agreed to head up the Flower Basket Committee. He agreed to ask for the grant before December 1.

Allen Caughey gave us the history of our Americk Fund which we all enjoyed hearing again. Dave gave Marc the contact info at Loyalist. Marc will report his findings at our December 8 meeting. Moved by Harold Reddecop and seconded by Brian Little that we donate \$1,000.00 to the Americk Foundation. Carried.

Moved by Brian Little and seconded by Bruce Burnett that we donate \$130.00 to our school to cover our Jim Whitton award for the best student plus the plaque. Carried unanimously.

AI Community Auction--September 17, 2019

A three-man committee was struck consisting of our auctioneer, Bruce Caughey, Mitch Morgan and Hugh Jenney.

Kirk Corkery volunteered some space in his barn. Bruce said we might be able to use the church drive sheds too. He will ask for permission. Dave said he could accommodate a sideboard too. Brian Little volunteered to write up the mailouts. Things are looking good for our all-hands-on-deck fundraiser next Labour Day.

What's On – December 2018

From Deb Barrett

St. Paul's Webmaster

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Sundays December 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

10:30 am Worship at St. Alban's

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Sunday December 2

11:00 Worship at St. Paul's First Sunday in Advent - Candle of Hope

Rev. Stephen Kendall will be preaching and the Sacrament of Holy Communion will be observed.

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Tuesday December 5 at the home of Liz

6:00 pm Women's Institute Christmas Pot Luck

Guests welcome. Please contact Joyce Haines if you would like to attend.

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Sunday December 9

11:00 am Worship at St. Paul's Second Sunday in Advent - Candle of Peace

Lay Minister – Mr. Nathan Townend

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Sunday December 16

11:00 am Worship at St. Paul's Third Sunday in Advent - Candle of Joy

Lay Minister – Mr. Nathan Townend

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Sunday December 16

7:00 pm Community Carol Service at St. Paul's. All welcome and families with children especially invited

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Sunday December 23

11:00 am Worship at St. Paul's Fourth Sunday in Advent - Candle of Love

Lay Minister – Mr. Nathan Townend

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Monday December 24

7:00 pm Candlelight service at St. Paul's Christmas Eve – The Christ Candle

Lay Minister – Mr. Nathan Townend

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Tuesday December 25

Merry Christmas!

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Sunday December 30

11:00 Worship at St. Paul's



**Rocky by Woody Woodiiss**



**They're Baaaaack**  
**Photo by Brian Little**

Snowies on the Move

<https://www.projectsnowstorm.org/posts/snowies-on-the-move/>

Scott Weidensaul November 8, 2018

It's very early in the season, but there is a lot happening on the snowy owl front already.

Significant numbers of snowies have been showing up as far south as Pennsylvania and New Jersey in the East, and southern Michigan and Wisconsin in the Midwest. Amherst Island in Lake Ontario had as many 10 in recent days, and there are many more along the St. Lawrence/Ottawa river valleys, always a good area for them.

We're gearing up for a new winter of field work; waiting to hear from previously tagged owls moving back into cell range, but first, we have an update from the new project we started with colleagues in Alaska. Here's the latest from SNOWstorm team member Jean-François Therrien at Hawk Mountain Sanctuary in Pennsylvania.

Back in early August, with the help of our colleague Denver Holt from the Owl Research Institute in Montana, we deployed satellite transmitters on three snowy owl chicks on their natal (birth) grounds in

Utqiagvik, Alaska — formerly known as Barrow. One of the main aims of this tracking project is to assess dispersal movements of young snowy owls, while another very important aspect is to determine their survival rate, from the moment they are born through their first year and beyond.

The survival rate is crucial to any population of wild animals, but often overlooked by researchers, especially for younger age classes. However, measuring survival also means learning when and where birds expire, and — especially with species like snowy owls that inhabit remote locations — that is never easy to document. With that in mind, our network of collaborators has engaged in this breakthrough project, hoping to shed light on these critical aspects of snowy owl conservation biology.

The three young snowy owls have been transmitting their locations ever since they were banded in early August. After showing some very limited movements around their respective nest sites, two of the birds have now travelled more than 62 and 137 miles (100 and 220 km) respectively. All three birds are still in Alaska, and the map shows where they were last located. This project has already allowed us to determine an approximate departure date when the young snowies leave their natal grounds.

The coming months are going to be exciting, and we're eager to see where these young owls head and potentially settle for the winter. We will, of course, keep an eye out to see if the transmitters become stationary (a sign that mortality might have occurred), but we're hoping for the best for them.

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Stella (the owl)

This juvenile female was captured by a four-person SNOWstorm team Jan. 15, 2018, on the south shore of Amherst Island, Ontario, at the northeastern end of Lake Ontario. She is part of an ongoing study to determine the extent to which 27 large wind turbines, being installed on Amherst, impact the movements of wintering snowy owls there. She returned south Nov. 15, 2018, checking in from southern Saskatchewan after spending the summer on Victoria Island in the Canadian Arctic. Her transmitter was underwritten with generous donations from the public to Project SNOWstorm.

<https://www.projectsnowstorm.org/snowstorm-owls-winter-2017-18/stella/>

November 12, 2018 Delegation to Council  
From Diane Pearce  
Mayor Lowry and members of Council –  
Thank you for giving me an opportunity to say a few words tonight.  
This meeting, Councillor Ashley's last public meeting, marks the end of an era.  
Councillor Ashley, the last Reeve of the Township of Amherst Island and the only remaining original Councillor for Loyalist Township, has served our community, faithfully, wisely and with great insight for approximately 25 years. The end of such an era must be marked.  
My working history with Duncan goes back more than 25 years when he was a student at Queen's working in his grandfather's law firm. To a large extent, the research he did at that time was responsible for the Township of Amherst Island entering into an agreement that provides partial ownership of a disputed beach property. That was just the first time that he was deeply involved with an effort to achieve a goal that was very important to Amherst Island residents.  
My relationship with Duncan deepened when he was elected as Reeve of the Township of Amherst Island where he did his best to keep me on my toes. Of course, that relationship as one of my 'bosses', continued when we both took up our positions in the newly created Loyalist Township in 1998.  
No one else on the present Loyalist Township Council has firsthand experience or memory of the challenging negotiations that took place during County restructuring in 1996-97 but two senior staff members and Duncan (and I) remember it well. That knowledge of history, how we got to where we are, has always been Duncan's forte. That history will be lost after tonight's meeting.  
Personally, in spite of, or partly because of his sometimes-fiery spirit, I have always known Duncan as an honest, dedicated advocate of what was right for his community – not just Amherst Island but his/our Loyalist Township Community. For that, I thank you, Councillor Ashley. You will be missed.

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Today is a good day  
By Sharen English  
Today is a good day.  
I woke up.  
I ate lunch with my friends and played cards.  
It was fun.  
I love them.  
Today is a good day.  
I woke up and cleaned the house.  
It looks good.  
I have accomplished much today.  
Today is a good day.  
I woke up.  
I played with my cats and dog.  
It was fun and fulfilling.  
I love them.  
Today is a good day.  
I woke up.  
I saw my husband.  
He is kind and generous.  
I love him very much.  
Today is a good day.  
I woke up.  
I visited with some of my friends in the Village of Stella.  
They are fun people and very friendly.  
I love them.  
Today is a good day.  
I woke up.  
I went to Kingston and played cards with The Newcomers' Club.  
I had fun.  
I enjoy their company.  
Today is a good day.  
I woke up.  
I visited Freda Youell.  
She greeted me in a friendly manner, cheered me and taught me to be happy and grateful.  
I love her.  
Today is a good day.  
I woke up.  
I walked in The Village of Stella.  
It really is beautiful.  
I love this island.  
Today is a good day.  
I woke up.  
I saw 2 Snowy Owls and many Tundra Swans here on Amherst Island.  
Today is a good day.  
I woke up.

I arrived home safely from a vacation.  
 I feel grateful today.  
 Today is a good day.  
 I woke up.  
 I visited my family in Toronto and I arrived home safely.  
 I feel grateful.  
 Today is a good day.  
 I woke up.  
 I saw Paul and Jasmine.  
 They are a welcome sight.  
 Today is a good day.  
 I woke up.  
 Angus and Brian Little did a good deed for The Women's Institute of Amherst Island.  
 I am grateful to both of them.  
 Today is a good day.  
 I woke up.  
 I saw Doug Lamb walking the streets of Stella and Amherst Island.  
 His determination to keep going teaches me to do the same.  
 Today is a good day.  
 I woke up.  
 I spoke to Janet Scott.  
 She is a generous angel.  
 I love her.  
 Today is a good day.  
 I woke up.  
 I saw Judy Bierma.  
 She is a ray of sunshine.  
 Giving, loving and honest, always.  
 I love her.  
 Today is a good day.  
 I woke up.  
 I spoke to Sally Bowen.  
 She is cheerful, intelligent, hard working, determined and kind.  
 I love her.  
 Today is a good day.  
 I woke up.  
 I saw Ida Gavlas.  
 I love her to pieces.  
 There are so many people I love on this island. I see them now and then.  
 Thank you Amherst Island. I like you much better than Toronto.  
 I am very grateful to live on Amherst Island.  
 My life is very rich.



**Bob is back – watching the kids at recess.**  
**by Lynn Fleming**

#### Amherst Island Christmas Bird Count

Friday, 4 January at 8 am at AI Public School & Community Centre, Front Road

Coffee and muffins upon arrival and soup and chili when the morning count is finished. Please contact Janet ([jiscott@kos.net](mailto:jiscott@kos.net) or 613-389-4608) or Bonnie Livingstone ([bonnie.livingstone@gmail.com](mailto:bonnie.livingstone@gmail.com) or 613-389-8516) if you'd like to participate in this important citizen science endeavour or if you can contribute soup or chili.

Novice birders encouraged to participate. You will be matched with experienced birders.

#### Thank You

Brian & I want to thank our family & friends for all the work they did organizing the party for our 50th wedding anniversary. Thank you everybody who came out to help us celebrate. Thank you for the nice gifts, beautiful cards, and good wishes. A big thanks to the Rec Committee-Larry, Lynn & Rick for doing the bar. You do so much volunteer work for the community. We are so lucky to have such a great family and so many good friends.

Brian & Marie Ward



### **Remembrance Day by Sharon T Murphy**

Remembrance Day On Amherst Island  
by Nathan Townend

Once again Amherst Island residents came together to remember all those who have died in the service of Canada, and to honour all those who have served, and continue to serve, in our armed forces on deployments around the world.

This year Remembrance Day fell on a Sunday and therefore Amherst Island Public School did not host the observances, as is convention. Therefore, in lieu a special service was offered at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, followed by the standard observance of two minutes silence and wreath laying at the cenotaph on Front Road. Both events were well attended and spoke authoritatively about the robust sense of community that is so intrinsic to Amherst Island.

This year (2018) also marked one hundred years since the end of the First World War. So on this particular occasion the two minutes silence at the eleventh hour possessed a very unique solemnity. Later in the afternoon (sundown), to mark this particular centenary, the bells of St. Paul's were rung one hundred times, to mark one hundred years, and join in solidarity with bells being rung across different part of the world to mark the occasion. A special thank-you to Steve Kennedy for alerting residents to this deeply meaningful ritual, and to

Bruce Burnett, Beth Forester, and William Barrett for their help in facilitating participation, which included a number of the Island's youth; an evocative educational opportunity to be sure.

A deep gratitude must be extended to all those who actively participated in putting together the events for Remembrance Day. In no particular order, a thank-you to the Women's Institute for lending their sound equipment, and to both Bruce Burnett and William Barrett for helping to set up, operate, and tear down. Thank-you also to Mrs. Judith Harrower for preparing and maintaining the grounds of the cenotaph. Many thanks to the congregation of St. Paul's for their hospitality and for a moving service. An additional thanks to Mr. Laird Leeder and the Loyalist Township Fire Department- Amherst Island, for arranging and providing standard bearers, and thank-you to those standard bearers themselves: Mr. Jacob Murray and Mr. Michael Murray. Thanks also to the Amherst Island roads crew for providing traffic control barriers. We are grateful to Captain Chris Reed and the crew of the Frontenac II, for marking our silence with the fog horn. To Rev Fr. Don Bailey we extend a heartfelt appreciation for solemnizing the wreath laying with prayer and invocation.



**Jacob Murray**

And a special thank you to all those who laid wreaths: Councillor Duncan Ashley and Captain Alex Scott (Loyalist Township), Mrs. Joyce Haines and Ms. Judy Greer (Women's Institute), Mr. Kelly McGinn and Mr. Wayne Fleming, Mr. W. Bruce Caughey, Mrs. Beth Forester and Mrs. Carol Glenn (St. Paul's Presbyterian Church), Mr. Mike Walhout, Mrs. Sherry Miller and Mrs. Marie Ward, Mr. David McGinn and Mr. Mitchell Morgan-Bursey (Amherst Island Men's Society), Captain Gary MacDonald and (Acting) Captain Laird Leeder, (Loyalist Township Fire Department- Amherst Island Station). We would like to also thank The Loyalist Family Health Team for providing print materials for the cenotaph event, and its flyer publication. Lastly, a distinct thank-you to our community, for participating in this most essential act of public solemnity.



# New Year's Day Levee

January 1, 2019

1:00 pm to 4:00 pm  
Drop in!

At  
The Lodge  
320 McDonalds Lane

Join Friends and Neighbours  
to welcome the new year!  
And, following the old tradition of  
speaking to Government...meet your new  
Councilor, Nathan Townend.  
Or just visit with the rest of us!

Light snacks and beverages provided

JANUARY 1, 2018



## CJAI AGM Minutes 14 Nov Meeting

Starting Time: 1905

Location: NSMCC

Executive Attending: Eric Tremblay (ET), Bill McKee (BM), Dave Wreggitt (DW), David Pickering (DP), Anthony Gifford (AG), Sue Dodds (SD)

General Membership Attending: Dana Bell (DB), Keith Miller (KM), Ellis Wolfreys (EW), Mary Lou Wolfreys (MW), Catalin Kiss (CK), John McKinney (JM), Michael Potts (MP), Sharen English (SE), Kathy Filson (CF)

### Acceptance of Agenda

Proposed Agenda for November 2018 meeting

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Approval of Previous Minutes
3. President's Report
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Station Manager's Report
6. Promotions Report
7. Induction of Brian Little onto the CJAI Wall of Fame
8. Nominations & Elections of Officials
9. Sponsorship Advertising Report
10. Other Business

After some discussion and minor modification, the above agenda was accepted for this meeting.

Moved by BM. Seconded by KM Approved  
Acceptance of minutes for November 2017 meeting  
(An info package was circulated which contained printouts of the 2017 AGM minutes.)

Moved by BM to accept these as correct.

Seconded by EW Approved

### President's Report

President Tremblay presented his fourth report to the membership. His introductory summary: It's been a fantastic year, and we have challenges. The highlights were as follows:

We are in a growth phase. We just bought a brand-new transmitter. The older one was procured twelve years ago, and it was pre-owned at the time. It has served us well, but the latest transmitter health check was not good. The new transmitter will cost about \$15K, but it can transmit at eight times the power of the current one. This gives us a great deal of expansion room. The approval process is extensive and lengthy but we have started that as well.

A major concern is the potential conflict with the transmitter at KCVI (c/s CKVI), which is only one step below us at 91.9Mhz. It is probable we will have to move frequency before we can increase power. This is being studied by our engineering consultant. After the 'technical assessment' has been met, we will have to present our 'intent' to the CRTC. Why do we exist, and

who do we serve? Ideally, our power level and antenna orientation will be granted to allow us to meet those goals.

In addition to the new transmitter, the IT infrastructure of the studios and back room have recently undergone a significant upgrade. Dayle Gowan, Bruce McCrimmon and Justin Brake were all congratulated on the new changes. Eric acknowledged that without their work, there would not be a CJAI.

At last year's AGM, it was mentioned that one of the biggest challenges was trying to find a new home for the radio station. While the problem is not immediate, it is inevitable, so plans have to be made. While this item has been a constant source of discussion, it has yielded few results thus far. The board has been working on analysis, considering all options and reducing these to those that are most feasible. Regardless of this, all of the options remaining are still costly. Once again it reduces to a problem of money. It is still unclear what our next steps will be. We are committed to keeping the station on the island. Some buildings are potential new homes, but either will require rent or renovation or both.

Next April, we will turn 13 years old. Get prepared for an 'unlucky 13' themed funding drive.

Eric took a few moments to recognize those volunteers who had moved on from the station, and especially those associated with shows. First up were Dayle and Susan, who have ended their long run on the Udder Morning show. Mark and Becky have left their Saturday morning spot due to Mark's posting with the military. Glen, Katy and their boy Braden had "Good Morning Amherst" on Saturday, but they have also moved on due to military commitments. Jack Little had a show, assisted by Terry McGinn for almost a year. Jack's off to university now, and we will miss his voice.

But when a spot opens up, this gives us a chance to get new people, new blood, new enthusiasm to infuse the station. In this case, we welcome Loretta Richardson who has joined us, as has Kat and John, and our newest; Nancy Servenko doing 'That's Life' on Wednesday. Thanks to Mike who has helped her out on the training.

Our 'hours per week of live programming' is now up to 51, at compared to 45 hours at this time last year. We started with only about 20 hours per week and we've grown steadily. All our staff is volunteer, and we need them and we treasure them, regardless of what they do, because it is all essential to keeping the station on the air. Continue to 'talk up' the radio station and encourage the people you meet to get involved. I hope they will find it very rewarding to be part of a diverse group with a wild, eclectic, quirky and wide-ranging appreciation of radio.

Eric talked about the station's sources of revenue.

Income is generated from selling merchandize, selling commercials, donations and grants. Recently

we unlocked a different revenue stream by selling social media. The first contract is with Spearhead Brewing which includes spoken commercials, naming rights for the studio, ongoing mention of that name by broadcasters, and traffic on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram about their brand. The second sponsor is “The Mutt Hut Spa and Pet Centre.” This includes both exclusive sponsorship of the Friday night show and social media traffic. So, everyone, keep the social media traffic going, because it generates real money to keep the station going.

#### Treasurer's Report – David Pickering

(David referred to the diagrams and charts which were part of the meeting info package.)

BLUF (Bottom Line Up Front) – We have approximately \$35K today. Money in/out for all of FY 17/18 and the first two and a half months of 18/19 were presented. The graphs were discussed. Historical expenses were discussed for past few FYs and the current proposed budget (FY 18/19) of \$45K was presented.

The income chart was examined. The downward trend of income was discussed. It is significant and concerning. Our sponsor income was dropping, and we responded with increasing the cost of our packages. Questions were asked about the Spearhead income and Eric explained the payment schedule. That money is not yet reflected as income.

Questions were asked about the possibility of using second-hand transmitters from NASCAR sites, but it was explained we were too far into the purchase cycle.

Distance between studio and transmitter sites were discussed. Such sites do not have to be co-located.

A comparison of proposed budget (\$45K) vs current holding (\$35K) was done. It was pointed out that the spring fundraiser typically will bring in \$12K, and this will be enough to keep us solvent, especially when you consider the additional sponsorship income that is pending. (eg \$2K from Springhead)

It was proposed that the budget be accepted.

Moved by: Ellis Wolfreys    Seconded by: Keith Miller                      Approved.

#### Technical & Station Manager's Report – Bill McKee

Bill discussed the current infestation of fungus flies, which appear to be centred around the chemical toilet. He stated that he was given extensive

recommendations from the company in regard to remedial action. He also has the appropriate insecticide which will be applied.

He's planning a variety of organization initiatives for the station which should improve both appearance and efficiency. Eventually, he hopes to get it repainted as well.

The station printer was discussed. No one was sure if it works, but we do want to integrate it into the network so that research or e-mails can be converted to paper.

#### Promotions Update – Sue Dodds

Sue described the promotions programme, whereby broadcasters could request up to \$100 for promoting their own show during a specific month. She continues to accept requests for allocating the \$1200 assigned for promotions during the coming year. The intent is to provide some benefit to the listener.

#### Induction of Brian Little onto the CJAI Wall of Fame – Eric Tremblay

Unfortunately, due to other commitments, Brian Little was unable to attend the ceremony, but Eric Tremblay recognized his outstanding commitment to the radio station and congratulated him on becoming the third member on our 'Wall of Fame.'

It is a way of our saying, “Thank You” for someone who has provided a stellar service to the radio station, but moreover, to our community as a whole. To quote the plaque, “Amherst Island Radio 2018 Wall of Fame inductee; Brian Little, for long-standing service and dedication to the voice of our community.”

#### Nominations & Elections of Board Members and Officials – Eric Tremblay

Eric proposed that he first reach out to existing Board Members to determine if they would consider remaining in their positions. The following person agreed to remain as Board Members: Anthony Gifford, Judy Bierma, Sue Dodds, David Pickering, Leah Murray, David Wreggitt, Eric Tremblay, Bill McKee. A motion was raised by Keith Miller and seconded by Mike Cox to accept each of these members onto the 2018/19 Board. (Approved) Bill McKee nominated Kathy Filson as a Board Member, and she accepted the nomination. BM moved that she be accepted onto the Board and SD seconded that. (Approved)

Next, the Executive had to be filled. The Executive consists of President, Vice President, Secretary and

Treasurer. The incumbents were polled to determine if they were willing to continue in those positions. President (ET), Secretary (Leah Murray) and Treasurer (DP) indicated that they would stay. The Vice President's position is currently vacant. DW tossed his hat in the ring for the latter and was the only volunteer. All members were acclaimed.

#### Other Business

DW demonstrated an app which is a 'work in progress' for providing information on shows which can be used on websites, Facebook, and for other advertising platforms.

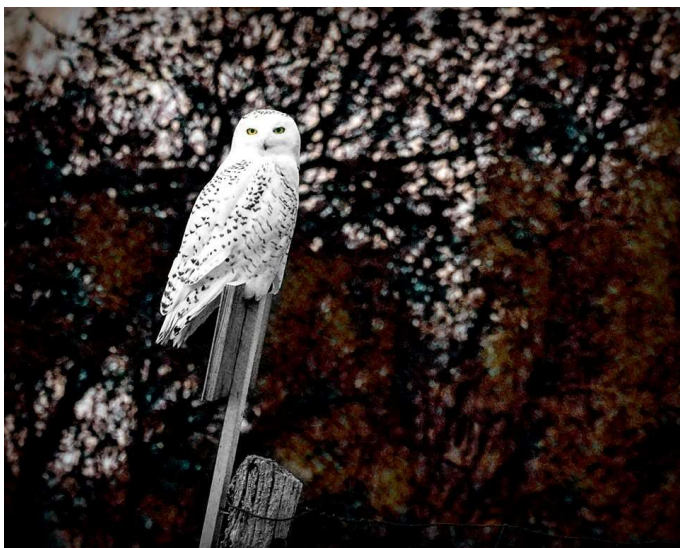
DW also donated a video camera for station use.

SE requested information on the disposition of the framed photograph provided by Woody Woodiwiss during the spring fundraiser. DW (with SE) will work to present a proposal as to how we will use this item.

Discussion followed on how to use the 'listen live' function on the website. Further work must be done to try to simplify this. Eric will discuss with Terry.

Other discussions followed regarding the importance of social media; our presence in Bath's Canada Day parade; and the value of the weather reports provided by Audrey, our computer synthesized voice. The latter was reserved for further discussion at the next meeting due to limited time to make the ferry.

Meeting adjourned: 2050 hrs



**photo by Woody Woodiwiss**

A Terrible Truth

A Terrible Biblical Truth Never Mentioned from the Pulpit

From Anthony Gifford

The so-called 'Fundamentalists' worship the Bible, but often don't know much of the origins and backgrounds of its various writings. 'Modern Progressives' have watered it down and tend to

ignore it, deeming it out-of-date, but nice to hear on Sundays. I'm over simplifying here, I know, but you hear what I'm saying.

Neither group will own up to the fact that the Gospels, all of them, are deeply antisemitic. This fact was hammered in my mind this last week as we heard of yet another massacre at a Synagogue. "Where does this hatred come from?" is what I hear people asking. It's right in our Bible, the New Testament part, written by and for Gentiles, at a time when Jews were the objects of hatred and distrust.

It happened this way: You recall that Jesus of Nazareth was often urged to declare himself as the Messiah. Israel and the rest of the Mediterranean was then under the control of Rome. It was an occupied country, divided up in smaller portions in order to be more easily subdued. But most of the Jews longed for independence and a king (Messiah) to lead them in revolt. Jesus refused.

Some forty years after Jesus, they did revolt and it took a long four years for Rome to re-conquer them, making all Jews in the Empire suspect and in disfavour in all ways.

The writings of the early Christians were mostly written during this time period. All Christians were then Gentiles, for the Jewish followers had been killed in the war.

The Gospels are the main problem. They were not written to teach people mere history, to tell people then (and now?) what once happened. As they themselves say, they are written so that people then might understand and follow Jesus of Nazareth as the Risen Christ.

The writers knew that Jesus wanted no violence. Yet all knew he had been killed for sedition against Rome. Wouldn't a follower of Jesus want to take up a sword against Rome? How could they tell the story of Jesus, leading people to faithfulness? The blame of Jesus' death had to be put elsewhere. Why not just blame the Jews? They had rebelled and had been defeated. God was obviously not 'with them' anymore. Christians were now the real, new and true People of God.

The Gospels put this 'truth' into story form. Just take a quick read. The word Jew is rarely used in a positive way. There are no bad Romans. Caesar is never mentioned.

Imagine this: you read a short novel about occupied Denmark, set it 1943. In it, most Danes are bad. There is no mention of the Gestapo or ill treatment

of the people by Germans. In fact, there are no bad Germans at all! Hitler is never mentioned. Wouldn't you question the historical value of the book?

Yet Sunday after Sunday we hear preaching from the Gospels, with little or no comment of the their background. Week after week for 1700 years we have been told 'false truths' and we have come to believe them. Even if we don't attend church, they're part of our hidden tapes. Did the killer of last week go to church? It doesn't matter.

Churches are responsible. For they are able to respond. If they do not, they are continuing to perpetuate this great sin, however we define the word.

To my Jewish brothers and sisters, I am so sorry. Not only for what Christians have done and continue to do, but that we have warped your understanding of Love into something so very different.

May God have mercy on us.

Anthony Gifford

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#### Volunteers and Artisans Needed for the Weasel and Easel 2019 Season By Judy Greer

The Weasel and Easel is a co-operative shop in the Neilson Museum, operating daily in July and August, and weekends only in the other months between the May long weekend and Thanksgiving. Items are accepted on consignment and a portion of the proceeds are kept by the co-operative to cover costs such as rent, insurance, supplies, and credit card capacity. Volunteers work in the store on rotation and sign on for 7 or 14 three hour shifts during the season. Items for sale include pottery, art, photography, greeting cards, fabric arts (weaving, knitting, sewing, felting), wood arts, musical instruments, soaps, honey and preserves, and jewelry. If interested contact Joyce Haines at [jhaines363@gmail.com](mailto:jhaines363@gmail.com). There will be an organizational meeting in early May. It's a great way to meet new people and participate in the community.

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#### First Across the Finish Line Project SNOWStorm

The first tagged owls of the season have returned after long migrations: Stella and Pettibone.

This is the time of the year when we're on heightened alert for the first signs of snowy owls, both new birds coming south from the Arctic, and the first returning tagged owls from previous

winters. As we noted a week or two ago, this year there has been an unusually early surge of snowies, and we'd gotten a brief transmission back in late September from Pickford, one of our 2017-18 Michigan birds, up on James Bay.

So we were delighted but not entirely surprised to hear from not one, but two of our tagged owls — both of which went farther northwest for the summer than any other snowies we've tracked, and both of which are now within a couple hundred kilometers of each other in southern Saskatchewan.

They are Pettibone, an adult male that Matt Solensky had tagged last winter near Jamestown, North Dakota; and Stella, an immature female tagged by a SNOWstorm team on Amherst Island in Lake Ontario as part of a study into the effects of wind turbines on that island's wintering owls.

Pettibone, more than five years old based on his wing molt, is an almost completely white adult male.

Stella left Amherst April 10 and made her last transmission April 20 near Lake Abitibi on the Ontario/Quebec border. Pettibone, on the other hand, simply disappeared from his small territory of grassland and ag fields in Stutsman and Kidder counties, North Dakota, also on April 10, never checking in on his way north. That was concerning; while some northbound owls make it through southern Canada without connecting with a cell tower along the way, it's unusual, and we couldn't be certain that Pettibone hadn't, say, been hit by a vehicle or met some other mishap that damaged his transmitter.

Instead, we now know that both birds moved north and northwest into the far reaches of the Canadian Arctic Archipelago. In Pettibone's case, he flew about as far northwest as an owl could fly and remain in North America — Banks Island, beyond which is polar waters all the way to Siberia. Stella stopped on immense Victoria Island, not quite as far — but because she started so much farther east, she actually migrated a longer distance, 3,440 km (2,140 miles) versus Pettibone's 3,120 km (1,940 miles). Stella's travels were the biggest east-west displacement we've seen among any of the 70 owls we're tagged, a testament to the nomadic tendencies of these birds.

Their movements revealed other differences that likely reflect their stages in life. Pettibone is more than five years old, a fully mature, almost completely white male; he had business in the

Arctic, moving very quickly north after leaving North Dakota, at one point flying 1,200 km (745 miles) in two and half days to reach Banks Island. Except for a few hundred people in the Inuvialuit community of Sachs Harbour, Banks is uninhabited tundra and rugged coastline, the breeding grounds for nearly half a million lesser snow geese, and home to most of the world's musk-oxen.

Nest or not? Pettibone's summer territory on Banks Island could have held a nest, but it's uncertain.

Pettibone wasted no time; he zeroed in on an area along the upper Bernard River in the middle of the island, and except for one short excursion, for the next two months he remained within a very small, 3.8 km<sup>2</sup>(1.5 mi<sup>2</sup>) area. Unlike some tagged females we've tracked, for whom evidence of nesting is crystal clear because of the length of time they spend incubating and brooding at a central nest site, it's less certain that Pettibone was raising a family. His locations cluster on high points like tundra hummocks and stream bluffs where he would have had good visibility, but there's no one spot where he spent more time than any other. That said, male snowy owls normally don't linger at the nest itself; they deliver prey to the female, who then feeds the chicks, and so even an attentive male might not leave much of a digital footprint at the nest site, compared with his hunting perches and guard posts.

Stella, less than a year old, was far too young to breed this summer, and she loafed her way north, coasting along the western shore of James Bay to southern Hudson Bay by the third week of May, spending several days out on ice in the bay itself. Leaving Cape Churchill she angled northwest across Queen Maude Gulf to Victoria Island, where she spent the summer. She occupied a 4 km<sup>2</sup>(1.5 mi<sup>2</sup>) territory but made several long excursions from it. Pettibone started moving south in mid-September, crossing to west-central Nunavut and spending a month moving slowly around Dubawni Lake on the Nunavut/NWT border. On Nov. 5 Pettibone started migrating quickly south into Saskatchewan, emerging from the boreal forest into farm country near the small town of Melfort, from where he checked in Nov. 8. Stella's meanderings around southeastern Victoria Island are those of a young bird not yet old enough to breed.

Stella again took the long way, beginning Sept. 25 and meandering across the southeastern NWT to Lake Athabasca just inside Alberta, then backtracking at the end of October and arrowing

straight south to near the hamlet of Eyebrow, SK, population 135, about 114 km (71 miles) northwest of Regina, on Nov. 15.

In addition to the simple pleasure of hearing from these two birds again and learning about their summer wanderings, we were thrilled to see how well their transmitters are performing. Over the years we've struggled with the challenges of working with these owls, especially keeping a solar-powered unit charged up when our study subject often remains in dark and gloomy areas like the Arctic in autumn, when daylight is eroding by the moment. Almost all of the owls we've tracked south from the breeding grounds in the past have seen their transmitters go into sleep mode for a few weeks in autumn because of the short days and low solar angle, and CTT (which makes them for us) has been tweaking and updating their designs, software and duty cycles each year to make them ever-more efficient.

It seems to be working, in spades. The data record we downloaded from Pettibone's and Stella's transmitter show they maintained full charges right through the summer and fall — and with strong cell connections in Saskatchewan, were able to upload their entire summer's data backlog of thousands of GPS points in a single chunk.

Pettibone's, Stella's and Pickford's maps have been updated, so you can explore all of their movements in extraordinary detail — while we wait for more tagged birds to return.



JEAN-FRANÇOIS  
THERRIEN  
OF HAWK  
MOUNTAIN  
SANCTUARY  
HOLDS  
STELLA

**ISLE's 3rd Annual**

# **Christmas Tree Extravaganza**



**Order By  
December 1**

- Nova Scotia Balsam Fir Tree: \$45
- Decorated Wreath: \$35
- Plain Wreath: \$25
- Decorative Planter: \$35

The decorative items are made by the K-6 students from Amherst Island Public School. Planters and decorative wreaths are limited in quantity; be sure to order early.

**Pick-Up or Delivery**  
**Saturday, December 8th**  
**10am - 12pm**  
**Amherst Island Public School**

Come join us for some festive treats and hot apple cider while picking out your tree. Free Island delivery available.

Free Island  
delivery  
available

**To order:**  
**Text or call: 613.888.5726**  
**Email: [amherstislandisle@gmail.com](mailto:amherstislandisle@gmail.com)**

ISLE is a group of parents, community members, and school staff that raise money for the school to purchase items (i.e. bus costs for field trips, library books, playground equipment, etc.) not covered by board funds.  
Thank you for your support of our fundraising endeavour.

But for REAL trees:

Tree Sale for The Back Kitchen

From Sarah VanStone

Thanks for your support so far for our community café. Fundraising continues! If you (and David) act really fast you MIGHT get a Christmas bake sale order in by December 1 but it is not too late to order trees. The deadline for tree orders is Feb 1 2019. Order early as supplies of some types are limited.

There are three easy ways to order trees. You can order online (find the link at [www.thebackkitchen.com](http://www.thebackkitchen.com)), or by email to [backkitchenai@gmail.com](mailto:backkitchenai@gmail.com), or if you prefer Canada Post, send a cheque payable to the Amherst Island Community Café, 5660B Front Road, Stella, ON K0H 2S0.

Here is what we are offering:

Apple- Honeycrisp 200 cm bare root tree – \$50.00

Apple – Red Delicious 200 cm bare root tree - \$50.00

Birch – Crimson Frost 175 cm bare root tree – \$55.00

Black Walnut -200 cm whip – \$50.00

Eastern Redbud – 200 cm bare root tree- \$66.00

Hackberry- 250 cm bare root tree – \$65.00

Linden - 250 cm bare root tree – \$60.00

Maple -Princeton Gold 250 cm bare root tree – \$70.00

Maple – Red 250 cm bare root tree – \$70.00

Maple -Silver maple 250 cm bare root tree – \$60.00

Maple -Sugar Maple 250 cm bare root tree – \$75.00

Mountain Ash -250 cm bare root tree – \$60.00

Plum – Newport (ornamental) 250 cm bare root tree – \$65.00

Poplar- 150 cm whip – \$35.00

Red Oak- 250 cm bare root tree – \$70.00

Serviceberry -250 cm bare root tree – \$70.00

Weeping Willow -250 cm bare root tree – \$55.00

Norway Spruce- 80 cm container grown tree – \$35.00

The trees are grown in Southern Ontario at a commercial nursery known for its excellent product. Most of these trees are bare root which means they are easy to move around and to plant. The trees are shaped and root pruned while young and then delivered while still dormant in the spring. Previous orders received from this nursery have been larger than the minimum height listed.

To find out more information and see photos, please visit the website (<https://back-kitchen-trees.myshopify.com>). Did you know, for instance that the Linden is a fast-growing shade tree that will reach 15 metres at maturity? And it has yellow flowers in the summer.

We have a Special! If you order 9 trees you will get a spruce tree free!

The trees will be delivered to the island and you will be able to pick them up at the Back Kitchen. We expect pick up time to be the morning of April 27, 2019.

Trees make great Christmas gifts! Let us know if you need a gift certificate.

Most people will plant the trees themselves, but we will also be looking for some young people who might like to plant trees. (You would pay the tree planters directly.)

For more information about our tree fundraiser or to order trees online please visit <https://back-kitchen-trees.myshopify.com> (or find the link on The Back Kitchen website: <http://www.thebackkitchen.com> )

Tell your friends about the tree sale!

Magazines anyone?  
From Lynn Wyminga

Last year, the ISLE Fall fundraiser involved the sale of magazine subscriptions at fantastic discounts. For those of you who are ready for renewal, or who would like to browse titles, simply go to <https://www.qsp.ca/Login> and enter the code 5013917. They have a ton of magazines, and here are a few (but not all) of their categories:



Housekeeping?

Handy Fairies by Phuong MacNeil

I can't thank enough everyone in this AI community. Because of you, my business has a good start. I now have a stable number of houses to clean on a regular basic on the island, so it is a really good support foundation for me to expand my business and hire more fairies to clean houses on the mainland. I do travel; one of my newest clients is in Sydenham.

Thank you Trudy McGinn and Tagget Bonham-Carter for not only using my services but also recommend me to others as well.

Christmas cleaning: we still have some available timeslot for Christmas cleaning.

For the week of December 10 we have a team of two fairies staying on the island to do a Christmas cleaning, to get more house clean and ready for Christmas.

Handy Fairies: We love to clean

613.438.2233



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COMPUTER REPAIR/UPGRADES, new installs, virus/Malware removal. Island References. Bruce MacCrimmon – 613 453-0505  
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Amherst Island Women's Institute Medical Equipment Loan Cupboard (wheelchairs, walkers, canes, crutches, bath seats, grab rails, commodes, raised toilet seats). Donations of used equipment in good condition also welcome. Call Sharen English (613)384-6535.

Topsy Farms has fall lamb frozen lamb cuts; great raw honey by bees (with help from Dave Meikle and Kyle Murray)

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AMHERST ISLAND CHIROPRACTIC 14005 Front Rd. Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. For appointments call 613 328-8892

For Rent: Room with kitchen privileges. Features include private bath, private TV room, excellent home gym and unlimited Wifi. Call Dave at 613 530 4859.

GODDEN'S WHOLE HOG SAUSAGE Thanks to 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.

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## LOCAL WILTON CHEESE AT FACTORY PRICES FROM ISLE

Each month ISLE offers cheese from Wilton Cheese Factory for sale to Island residents. Cheese is ordered monthly, picked up fresh in the morning and delivered to the school for evening pickup. Look for a flyer this month which will include varieties and prices.

To order or for info, contact us at 613.888.5726 or by email at [amherstislandisle@gmail.com](mailto:amherstislandisle@gmail.com)

## Join us to Ring in the New Year!!



### Amherst Island Community Center

December 31<sup>st</sup> from 7:00 pm to 1:00am

Music by: *Porch Rockers*



Lite Lunch

Cash Bar

Door Prizes

\$ 20 per person

Advance tickets only / Deadline December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018

For Tickets please call: Betty Wemp 613-389-7907  
Linda Welbanks 613-389-4143  
Carol Glenn 613-384-7480