

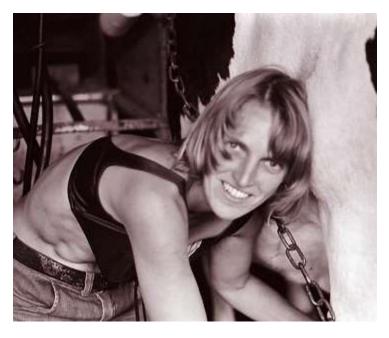
Amherst Island

Beacon



Issue 466 There's always another boat. FEBRUARY 2019

Obituary of Cherry Roberta Allen



As the sun came out in the afternoon on Friday, January 4, 2019, Cherry died peacefully, surrounded by her beloved family at Foot Flats Farm on Amherst Island, Ontario.

Cherry was born in London, England on May 24th, 1943, the eldest daughter of Dr. Albert Allen (former Principal/Dean of Arts and Science at University of Toronto) and Alexandra Hogg.

Her family immigrated to Canada when Cherry was a teenager where they lived in Lively, Port Colborne and Toronto. Cherry graduated from the University of Toronto with an Honours degree in Biology. Cherry met her first husband Graeme Bonham-Carter through the Alpine Club of Canada where they were both keen rock climbers. Graeme's academic career took them to California and New York State. Cherry embraced family life, making a home for five children; Adam, Rupert, James, Gavin and Tagget. As the ultimate earth mother, Cherry pursued her hobbies of home renovations, gardening, keeping chickens, canning preserves,

weaving and knitting, baking bread and sewing. In every community Cherry lived in, she made lifelong friends and was a mentor to many.

In 1973, the family moved to Halsdown Farm in West Somerset, England, where they started a new career as dairy farmers, which Cherry quickly came to love. In 1978, the family decided to move back to Canada and continued to dairy farm at Willow Farm, Huyck's Point Road, Wellington, in Prince Edward County. When Graeme went to work in Ottawa through the week, Cherry ran the farm, milking forty cows and raising the children.

In 1983, Cherry and Graeme split up and the farm was sold. At 40 years old, Cherry took the challenge head on and entered the competitive workforce. She and the children moved to a home in Bloomfield, Ontario. Cherry worked in fisheries research and adult education before becoming a dairy inspector for a large area of Eastern Ontario, working for the Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

In 1989, Cherry began a new chapter when she married Mark Ritchie. Together, they bought Foot Flats Farm on Amherst Island and began sheep farming. Their strong partnership helped establish one of the most successful and admired commercial sheep operations in Ontario. Cherry loved the island and the farm quickly became the family's focal point with Cherry (and Mark) at the helm. The kitchen was a burst of smells: coffee, fresh bread and wood burning fire and most of all, any number of kids, visitors from abroad, people dropping by and workers stopping for meals. Alice may have had a restaurant, but Cherry had a large kitchen table and an ever open door. The only requirements were to pitch in with the work, enjoy the food, drink, good company and lively discussions at the end of each

Despite her ordeal with cancer in the last few years, Cherry continued to be a huge part of the farm. She built a substantial seasonal rental business as her "retirement" project, kept up her large vegetable and flower gardens, loved learning the Feldenkrais method, took up watercolour painting with great results and ran a two-year acoustic survey of the bat population on the island. Cherry remained interested and engaged in all aspects of her life, right up until the end.

Cherry gave birth to five children and has thirteen grandchildren, but many more adopted her as their mother and grandmother for her unconditional love, wise counsel, and humour. As a leader and mentor, she gave us all permission to be ourselves. To thine own self be true was one of her guiding principles. Cherry is survived by her husband Mark Ritchie, her children (Adam, Rupert, James, Gavin and Tagget) her siblings (Tim, James and Debbie) and her thirteen grandchildren (David, Chris, Gayla, Tasha, Aaron, Becca, Noa, Lucie, Poppy, Finbar, Grace, Disa and Harry).

Cherry's presence will always be with those who knew her.

The family will hold a celebration of Cherry's life at 1200 Front Rd on Amherst Island on Saturday, May 25, 2019. All are welcome.

Donations in Cherry's memory can be made to the Amherst Island Public School, ISLE Committee (Island School Liaison Enthusiasts). Cheques can be mailed to AIPS, 5955 Front Road, Stella, Ontario K0H 2S0. Tel: (613) 389-4582.



Mark would like to add a few words himself and on behalf of the family.

When Cherry and I moved here on the 1st July 1992 we received a friendly welcome and a background of support and encouragement that helped us to become the Agricultural Operation of the year for Lennox and Addington County in 2008.

We were successful in building a family farm together, but weren't prepared for the rocky road of the last five and a half years. We want to thank everyone that helped us along this part of our journey. I won't even start to name anyone, I don't really even know who all our supporters were. After a day at the hospital we would come home to find supper in the kitchen, books in the mailbox, flowers would turn up in the back kitchen and our woodpile in the driveway would be topped up.

Cherry was not religious in the conventional sense but had a strong spiritual belief in the natural world's cycle of birth, life and death with all its emotional highs and lows. She had a karmic belief in "what goes around comes around." As a family we hope that in the future we can give back either directly or indirectly for the help you have given us.

Personally I have been blessed. Cherry loved me for over thirty years, encouraged me whenever I faltered and left me with a rich gift of memories and stories and a strong and loving family and the fulfillment of my childhood dream of becoming a farmer.

Thank you all for being a part of our journey.

We invite you all to a celebration of her life at 1200 Front Road on May 25th.





Above, Cherry with her kids.



Words from the Editor

We are using The Beacon as a journal or newsletter of what is happening and what has happened and what will happen on the Island. It is for anyone interested in Island Happenings and what the people related to or living on the Island are doing and want to share with friends and family It is only as good as what people submit so please feel free to send pictures and articles about what you are doing, events on the Island, people pictures, landscape pictures, poems, thankyous, ads, etc. If you miss the deadline don't worry send it anyway and it'll get in the next months. I try to send the submissions to David Pickering on the last Monday of the month and he puts it together and sends it out electronically. Please feel free to print it for your family and friends. Joan prints it for mom. I found a place to print them for 5.00 each. If you want a printed copy let me know and I'll ask Dave and Linda at the General Store if they will keep them there for you to pick up.

My mom is the main reason I am doing this. She loves the Beacon. Every time I visited her she would ask when the next Beacon was coming out. Everyone in Adair Residence, where she lives, waits to read i... soooooo I started it up again. Please tell other people that it is on amherstisland.on.ca and that David has downloaded all the archived Beacons from the beginning of The Beacon there too, so you can go back through time. I am hoping to have someone take over for me in May. That will be a year that I have done it. Let's share the fun of keeping The Beacon going. I would like some children from the school to send in submissions. I don't get any news from the school and would very much like some. Thanks to all the organizations that send submissions and the people who send articles and pictures.

Can you think of anything else you would like to see

covered in The Beacon? I do take pics and text off Facebook with the Facebook submitter's permission. If you want to be on an email list for the Beacon

If you want to be on an email list for the Beacon send me your email. We also notify people on Amherst Island Facebook Page. I have had two people ask me about the email notification. Give me some feedback. My email is

<u>judybierma@gmail.com</u>. The submissions deadline is the last Monday of the month.

Many thanks to David Pickering for putting The Beacon on line.

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The entire family



Cherry with the grandkids



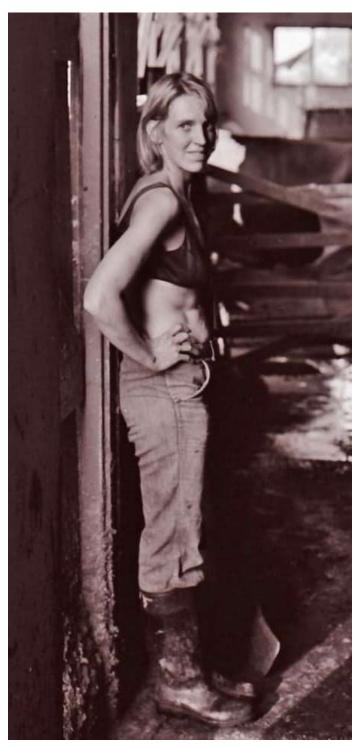
Farewell

From Michele Le Lay

To my determined and wise accomplice, my beautiful, strong, inspiring and gregarious friend <u>Cherry Allen</u>.

I am grateful to have had you in my life and treasure our friendship.

You left us way too soon and although I will deeply miss you in my life, your spirit will live on.



Cherry Allen

By Sarah Loten

Cherry Allen, shepherdess at Footflats Farm, mentor to many in the sheep and dairy industry, wonderful mother and grandmother, loved partner of Mark, passed on this past Friday, Jan 4th. She will be missed tremendously by all her 2-legged and 4-legged friends and family. I'm sure she is up in shepherding heaven, where the grass is always green, exactly 4-8 inches in length, the sun is shining, with a bit of rain and all dogs, sheep, people in her life are being shepherded just as she always wanted!



I just happened to find an old photo of Mark and Cherry's home as it used to be when (in Keith's memory) Sherden and Molly Patterson and then Moutry and Elsie Wemp lived there.

Amherst Island Christmas Bird Count 2018By Janet and Bonnie

Dear Friends of the Amherst Island Christmas Bird Count,

Thank-you for coming across once again to help us with our annual count. Thank-you too, to all the Island residents who showed up as well to make it such a great day. Mother Nature co-operated with warm temperatures, no precipitation and only brisk northwest winds to chill you a bit. No minus twenty temperatures or sea fog to contend with this year. I truly appreciate the generosity of your time, food and understanding that you contributed to this scientific endeavour in my unplanned absence. I am sorry that I missed this wonderful day. I passed you all coming off the ferry as I headed with my son to the Emergency. Department. in Napanee. I don't have far to fall, but I did manage to break my wrist just before heading to the count. I left you in very good hands and I thank my incomparable buddy Bonnie for seeing it through with all your help.

Have a great Birding year in 2019 and I hope that you will return next CBC. I intend to!

Janet

(...and from Bonnie) My thanks to everyone for your help on Friday. We missed Janet, but we had so many who volunteered to help with set-up, clean-up, etc. Plus all the great leaders of our tours - many thanks for organizing your section and for completing the paperwork so quickly!

<u>Please note:</u> for those who did Concession #2 and Concession #3, there are some numbers that have

been changed - thanks to Andrew Keaveney who submitted further data at the end of the day.

Happy birding everyone and we look forward to seeing you at the end of the year!



Annette and Bonnie



Susan Arsenault

Amherst Island BEACON Issue 466, February 2019

Published monthly, the Beacon is provided free through the work of dedicated volunteers.

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Submission Deadline 25th of mth

Provided via:

Amherstisland.on.ca/Beacon and its webmaster Alex Scott

What's Happening at Topsy Farms

From Sally Bowen

Scavenger Hunt

The Scavenger Hunt is as reported, now on-line for reservations

at https://topsyfarmsontario.myshopify.com/product s/scavenger-hunt

Sunday, February 17, 2019

1 - 3:30pm, \$35/family

Catch the 12:30 ferry from Millhaven (please arrive early, the boat can be busy). The cost is \$9 round trip/car. Meet at Topsy Farms, 14775 Front Rd.

Spend a few hours exploring the farm, meet some animals, and challenge yourself to find unusual items and complete a Herculean task! This activity is for children ages 4-12 (must be accompanied). Please dress appropriately for being outdoors in cold weather. Snacks and drinks will be available for purchase.

Winter Foraging Workshop,

Saturday, February 23, 2019

1-4:30 pm, \$40

Tour leader – Ruthie Cummings

Walking on trails in our woods, learn to identify, collect, and process winter edibles such as Birch, Chaga, and frozen greens/berries. We'll forage for pine needles to make an indigenous cough syrup with Topsy honey.

We will clean, boil and process the needles in the Yurt and learn more about preservation, and preparation while warming up.

Bring appropriate warm clothing, winter gloves, and mitts. Also bring collection basket, mesh bags, paper bags, scissors etc. and mason jars with lids.

If snow is heavy, bring your own cross-country skis or snowshoes if possible or ask us.

Dyeing Yarn Naturally

Saturday June 15th, 2019

9 a.m. – 1 p.m. \$45/person, including yarn Leader - Christopher Walker aka @cabinboyknits on Instagram

Learn to forage for early summer plants on our land to make natural dyebaths. We will wash and prepare hanks of Topsy Farms yarn then will dye them over an open fire. Christopher will teach the basics of natural dyeing and their stages. Students will explore the environment for additional possible dyes and where their plants may be sourced. Each person will take their dyed hanks once dried.

As the hanks dry, there will be time to use the coals to cook a lamb sausage or food you bring and to visit the Wool Shed.

Planting for Bees and Butterflies



Sunday, April 14, 2019 9-11:30am, \$35 Leader - Sally Bowen

Participants will learn the needs of our common pollinators, their nutrient requirements, the optimal structure of flowers for them to feed, and which local flowers meet those needs.

Please bring several small envelopes and a pen for seed giveaway and exchange. If possible, bring some seeds of your own to share.

Each seed type needs specific planting and growing conditions. These will be discussed, with demonstrations in our garden.

Paul Juniper's dog, Jasmine, died of cancer in the middle of January. We are sorry for your loss Paul. Dogs can be amazing companions; treasured when they are here and missed after they pass on.



Thank you

From Bill and Diane Pollack

Bill and I would like to thank the people that came to the rescue today when one of the horses (Coke) got her leg caught in the hay feeder. The birders who went to Barb Miller to get help, Barb for calling me and letting me know. Hugh Filson for his assistance and Mike Walhout and Rick Welbanks for coming out to check on her. Coke has two little scuffs on her back legs and blue paint from the feeder on one hoof, we don't know exactly what happened but hope she learned her lesson. Thank you everyone, it's nice to know when we are at work, someone is looking out for us.

There was a 911 call placed on this, the police called Bill at work, he assured them we were headed home, they offered to send an officer to help, Bill declined the offer but it was nice of them to offer.

From Stephen Street

On behalf of the New Year's dance committee Laura and I would like to thank all who participated. A special thanks to Carol & Paul Glenn, Betty & David Wemp, Judy & Don Miller, Joan & Dan Simpson and also Barb Laing for their hard work

which made it all happen. Thanks to the Porch Rockers for the excellent music & Leonard Watson & son, our bartenders. Also, thanks to the rec committee for setting up lights & stage and also for their donation.

Another special thanks to our donors of the door prizes. Tom Dehann, Keith Miller, Topsy Farms, Amherst Roofing, Loyalist Township, Carrie Pereira, Dave & Linda McGinn, Dave Meikle & Barb Laing. Thanks to all who helped to bring in The New Year. All the best in the new year.

P.S. Laura and I are stepping down and would like someone else to take over. Thankyou.

Amherst Island Radio

Minutes of the CJAI Executive Meeting dated 12 December 2018 at 7 PM in the Back Room of the Neilson Store.

Attending: Eric Tremblay (President), Leah Murray (Secretary), David Pickering (Treasurer), Dave Wreggit (Vice President), Bill McKee (Station Manager)

The Agenda was accepted, as were the Minutes of the previous meeting.

Technical & Station Manager's Report

The new transmitter is scheduled to be installed this Friday. Eric Heidenhall, who did the health check on old transmitter, is in charge of the install. FM broadcast will go down during changeover, and Eric H will work hard to minimize the time that occurs (we'll still broadcast online). David and hopefully Dayle will be there when Eric H arrives to make sure he has everything he needs.

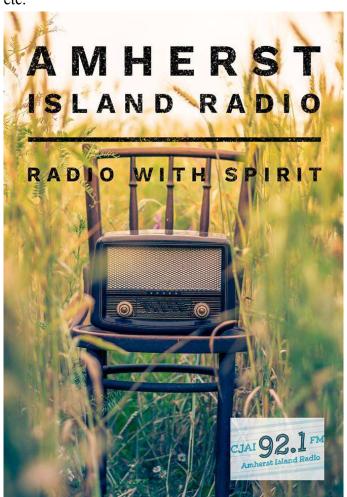
We need a wire running between the transmitter and the station so the new orband optimod (which controls modulation of signal) can work. They will try to use the existing cable, but if it doesn't work it will delay transmitter operation. David P has a spool of the cable we need and will donate/sell to station if necessary.

One other potential glitch – the coax cable between the ground box and transmitter needs to be completely replaced. It has been ordered, but if it hasn't arrived by Friday we may have to delay the installation. Eric T is very confident in Eric H.

We have hired Stuart Hahn (who did the engineering consultation for KCVI radio). Eric has asked him to do a technical analysis re broadcast range and see what next steps are in increasing our transmitter power. We will have to change the frequency

(looking at 95.1 as the best option) and get a new antenna. The board will receive and examine the report and decide how to proceed. Then we need to cost out the antenna, tower, and CRTC fees. Once transmitter is in place, all the bureaucracy (CRTC and tech side) takes some time but the launch will be easy from a broadcast perspective. When we should pitch it to the CRTC, we need to emphasize expansion in Loyalist Township rather than Kingston. To achieve that coverage, we would need a special antenna 27' long to broadcast in an oval shape. We also need to get the tower specs to an electrical company to see if antenna will fit on the tower we were gifted, and if not cost that out too. Stuart's proposal will be based on tower being on the ridge by the roads shed.

There are a number of small ongoing technical projects happening in the station. A separate internet access box is being installed in studio 1 so broadcasters can access internet from a machine other than Sam, in order to protect Sam from viruses etc.



Station Relocation Planning

Eric & David are still trying to pin down Mark

Raymond to discuss how he can help. David asked about Bernice Gould, and possibly looking at Victoria Hall as a future location.

Website & Social Media Report – Eric Tremblay We recently passed 98.9 The Drive on Twitter which is a huge achievement! We're now 3rd in eastern Ontario.

Treasurer's Report - David Pickering

\$22700 in bank currently. The transmitter payment went out in mid-November, but will be another bill for labour when he does the installation. We still haven't disconnected Bell phone line so have spent 90% of phone budget b/c was supposed to be cut off. Dayle needs to wire the voip phone up properly before we can get rid of Bell.

Sponsorship & Advertising Report –

Eric has been signing a number of new deals with various companies. He has made a contra deal with the Kingston Canadian Film Festival (we had a deal with them 2 years ago). We will get a huge amount of press as a sponsor and our logo will be all over their marketing material.

Volunteer Recruitment Update

David Knowles is starting a new show on Sunday. Eric reminded us all to keep beating the bushes for any volunteers, not just broadcasters. Newish broadcaster John McInney has asked to join the tech team.

Other Business

Health and Safety – Josh (from the Geek Positive show) has joined Eric on the committee. Everything required is set up at the station already, so we're covered. David pointed out that when we're doing something out of the ordinary like the transmitter installation, we need to be mindful of the safety aspect.

Dave Wreggitt has a film in the Kingston festival, which features the radio station at the beginning.

Audrey (automated weather report voice) has been asking for listeners to email her at the station if they still want her to do the weather. She hasn't gotten much feedback, so we concluded that it's not a valued service. David wants to use her do community announcements, which he will change up every week. This will reduce the his labour of changing the weather every day.

A proposal was made to make a special plaque or something for Earl Clancy as Most Valued Listener. We agreed his loyalty should be recognized, and that it's good community building to give back to listeners in that way.

Dave Wreggitt is moving his show from Thursday night to Tuesday afternoon 2-4 in January. We'll revisit all the time slots in January.

We discussed micrologging, which is how CRTC needs to get our spoken word content hours. They don't show up in Sam's logs as spoken word, so we reviewed how to track it manually using the timer and writing down hours in the log book.

Adjourned at 8:47 PM

Radio With Spirit

Crab and Moon invite everyone to listen to their radio show on Thursdays from 9-11PM.

Just 'hanging out', talking about Spirit, and playing hits from the 60s, 70s, 80s and 90s.

Call or message for a reading.



At the bird count by Judy Bierma

Upcoming events

From St Paul's Webmaster Sundays February 3, 10, 17, 24 10:30 am Worship at St. Alban's 11:00 am Worship at St. Paul's

Tuesdays February 5, 12, 19, 26 9:00 am to Noon Internet Cafe at the Museum David Pickering invites you to bring your computer, iPad, tablet, PC, and connectivity challenges to the Internet Café. Learn how to set up and use the toys you got for Christmas. You decide what problem you would like to solve. Please donate a toonie to the Museum. Wednesdays February 6, 20 27 at the home of Janet Scott, 275 Third Concession 12:00 pm Loaves and Fishes Luncheon Enjoy hot soup, sandwiches and convivial company. All welcome!

Sunday, February 17, 2019 (Family Day weekend) 1:00 - 3:30 pm Scavenger Hunt at Topsy Farms \$35 per family

Wednesday February 20 at the home of Norma-Lynn 3:00 pm Women's Institute Movie Afternoon, with dinner to follow.

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

Friday February 22 at the Neilson Store Museum 7:00 Back Room Talk

Terry McGinn has been a gardener since childhood and has been starting flowers and vegetables from seed for more than 15 years. With a collection of more than 300 varieties, including many that are saved from year to year, Terry has a great deal to offer aspiring seed-starters, plant growers, and gardeners for the upcoming 2019 season.

Light refreshments after the talk.



Saturday, February 23, 2019 at Topsy Farms 1:00 - 4:30 pm Winter Foraging Workshop Tour leader – Ruthie Cummings, \$40 per person

Sunday, April 14, 2019 at Topsy Farms 9:00 -11:30 am Planting for Bees and Butterflies Leader - Sally Bowen \$35 per person

9:00 am – 1:00 pm Dyeing Yarn Naturally \$45/person, including yarn Leader - Christopher Walker aka @cabinboyknits on Instagram.

Waterside Series - time to invite your friends and family

Thursday, July 4 At St. Paul's

7:15 PM Waterside

Charles Richard-Hamelin Tickets \$37

Saturday, July 13 at St. Paul's

4:15 PM Waterside

True North Brass

Thursday, July 18 at St. Paul's

7:15 PM Waterside

Brazilian Guitar Quartet

Saturday, August 10 at St. Paul's

4:15 PM Waterside

Gryphon Trio

Thursday, August 15 at St. Paul's

4:15 PM Waterside

Ensemble Made in Canada

Check with Lynn Wyminga about volleyball and Isle Orders for Wilton Cheese! Pickleball is ongoing!

Check for updates here:

http://stpaulsamherstisland.com/calendar/

Knitters anyone?



Topsy Farms is seeking another knitter. Must be someone who uses no fabric softener or scented detergent. Someone who 'has to keep her hands busy'. Access to Kingston for drop off and pickup is useful. A sense of humour a great asset. Info@topsyfarms.com



Red 24
From David Willard

The oldest sheep on the Island died Sat. January 12 in the afternoon. Red 24 was 3 months short of her 18th birthday. Her picture was in June 2018 Ontario Sheep News because of her age. In the picture she is with her latest daughter Destiny. Destiny's name came from the fact she was destined to be born. Destiny was a healthy female lamb born to Red 24 in her 17th year. Usually sheep are culled at the age of 10. Red 24 was an outstanding looking sheep. She gave birth to many female lambs and she was a good mother. She gave birth to twin girls in 2017. Four of her daughters were near her when she died. Red 24 could have been the oldest sheep in Ontario.

(Right) My Granddogs taking us for a walk in the woods late this afternoon. The little one is kitted out in a very bourgeois piece of all-weather wear.

By Alena Schram



These two. One is blind, one is deaf. Bff's since day one from Tara Kennedy



Someone is happy from Sarah Vanstone





We say goodbye to Trixie from Sally Bowen

The Big Bang Theory

Fm Bob Browne's Facebook Page

"Anyone on the island hear or feel what seemed to be a minor explosion of some kind around 1:40?" Stewart D. Reed: Yes the mainland Bays & Lakes are whooping loudly recently with this cold snap.

Frost Quakes

As temperatures begin dropping with the approach of the cold weather months, in many parts of the world a rare, natural phenomenon may begin to occur. Characterized by sudden, loud rumbling or "booms" accompanied by ground shaking, it often leaves those who have experienced it confused, or even badly frightened.

"Frost quakes," also known as cryoseisms, are a natural phenomenon that occurs when extremely cold temperatures lead to sudden deep freezing of the ground, after it has been saturated with water. The Vermont Geological Survey defines a cryoseism as, "a major frost cracking of the top few feet of the ground, occurring during sub-zero cold snaps, which generates localized ground shaking and is often mistaken for an earthquake." Expansion that results during the process of freezing can lead to the buildup of explosive stress, which may result in fractures within the earth. Small cracks may be visible on the surface near where a cryoseism has occurred, and in some cases, shaking vibrations may also be felt within the vicinity of the frost quake, along with loud booms that sound similar to gunfire.

History

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association reported that the winter of 2013-2014 ranked among

the coldest on record, particularly in parts of the American midwest. The following year, more record cold temperatures began to occur in November of 2014, as a result of early-season arctic air and snow. These recent temperature drops coincided with an increase in reports of loud noises of unexplained origin, as well as what some believed to be small earthquakes, which were being reported across the country.

Often described as loud booms similar to the sound of an explosion nearby, reports of these "mystery booms" were frequently shared and discussed through social media sites. Numerous media outlets featured the stories as well, which helped spur interest in the potential causes of the phenomena.

Despite the new attention this phenomenon has received, cryoseisms have been recognized as a geological phenomenon for many years, and significant data about their occurrences and underlying causes has existed for a number of decades. Some sources suggest that among the variety of causes for tremors, geocryological causes were suspected by as early as 1818. However, the record cold temperatures associated with the winters since 2013 have led to significant interest in the subject, leading some to speculate that a correlation may exist between reports of loud "booms", frost quakes, and climate change. Previous scientific data has already suggested that reports concerning a related phenomenon may be increasing along with rising temperatures around the world.

Sudden movements or shifts in glacial formations are linked to another variety of cryoseism, which have been called "ice quakes". These similar, but very distinct phenomena were first revealed through the detection of low-frequency seismic signals, appearing mostly during summer months, which geophysicists traced to the movement of glaciers in Greenland.

Sounds associated with frost quakes

It has been suggested that at least a fair majority of "mystery booms" reported in cold weather months are the likely result of cryoseisms, though in some cases, other explanations have included sounds produced by aircraft, military weapons tests, and even recreational use of fireworks. Alternatives such as these remain prevalent in various media appearing online, due to continued reports of unexplained noises that linger beyond the cold weather months in various locations.

Rescue from the Ice



Late in January, the Loyalist Fire Department responded to an alarm that a fisherman was trapped on an ice flow which had detached from the west end of Amherst Island. One man was able to jump to shore, but the other was trapped and had to be rescued by the Trenton rescue helicopter.

No one was injured, but this year had wildly swinging temperatures and the ice should not be considered safe. Use common sense.

Bridge Any One?

From Bev Harris

The AI ladies bridge club is looking for new members. If you know the basics of the game or are an expert and are free to play on Tuesday afternoons, please contact Bev Harris at 613-384-2407 or bbharris@kos.net.



Both pictures by Will Adam



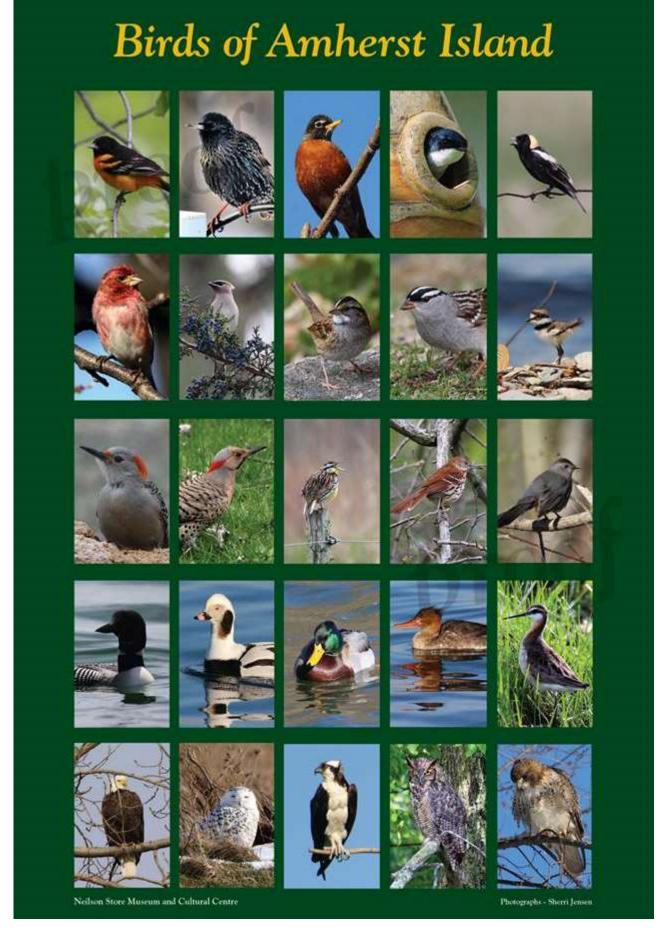
Join us for volleyball Wednesday night in the school gym.



It wasn't me!!

Bob wants to pass on that the person who required the helicopter ice rescue described on the previous page was not him. As he says, "This is a photo from 5 years ago that they reused in a new article. It was [then] about 20 degrees out and I was only [in] knee deep [water and just] 15 feet from shore.Ahhh, social media. ... Think and get facts before you speak.

Ed note: This photo actually appeared in a previous version of The Beacon. Does anyone remember which issue?



Talk to any member of the museum executive to get a copy of this beautiful poster. Cost is just \$10, going to support the Neilson Store Museum and Cultural Centre.

Than you Sherri Jensen.

Travel Notes



Vicki Keith and John Munroe from Costa Rica.





Mindy Burnside (Fleming) in Amsterdam



Paul and Victoria in Victoria.



Above - Crescent Beach from Andrea Cross



Shells, pebbles and prints in the sand By Andrea Cross



Mindy in Amsterdam

AIMS Minutes

12 Jan 2019 at St Paul's Church Hall

A total of 12 members braved -13C, but sunny weather to attend today's meeting.

President Dave McGinn thanked the ISLE team of Beth Forester, Judy Leader and J.P. Leader for preparing an excellent breakfast for the members and our speakers.

He then introduced our guests for the morning, Kaitlin Kiss and John McKenney, recent arrivals on the island, to talk about their experiences.

John and Kaitlin then told the members about their lives and how they came to the island. Highlights included:

- Arrived on the island last summer
- They are both musicians by background (Kaitlin for vocals and John on bass though any similar stringed instrument will do)
- Used to be part of a house band in a Kitchener/Waterloo bar for about 10 years until '92
- The bar folded with the advent of No Smoking legislation
- They then moved to Elora in '92 while continuing their music careers
- Later they set up the first micro-brewery in Glenora/Picton
- Upon selling the brewery they then set up a recording studio, Tar Pit Sound, to augment their work
- John grew up in Napanee and his father frequently hunted on the island so he was familiar with the area. He spent a couple of summers working here
- When the opportunity arose to come here they found a rental and are enjoying the lifestyle.
- Both still travel for work several times a month but are happy to call AI home
- They have a show on CJAI on Tues 1-3pm
- Their studio is available for projects; contact them directly to discuss.

President Dave thanked them on behalf of the members for a very interesting presentation. The formal meeting was called to order at 0920.

Treasurer's Report – Dave Pickering advised that we have about \$1500 in assets and all invoices have been paid. He commented that from a cash flow perspective, despite it being January, we were in the positive for the meeting today because of the annual dues that had been paid in addition to the normal

meeting fee. Overall we are in good financial health and should continue to be so at least until the auction in the fall.

Minutes – were distributed by email and are posted in the Beacon. Minutes were accepted on motion of Dayle Gowan/Hubert Groot.

Celebration for Don Pepper – Don was a long-time island resident, a long-time member of AIMS and of the AIMS executive. He moved to Oshawa last year at the behest of his son to get better support and needed cancer treatment. Unfortunately he passed away in November. The group agreed to the proposal from Dave Pickering to hold a celebration about Don at the Lodge with his son Mark present in the near future. The event will be open to all, not just AIMS members, on some evening to be arranged with Mark. There was almost unanimous expression of intent by the members present to attend.

Flowers – Richard LaPointe completed the application for the grant and this was delivered to the Township by David Pickering. To date there has been no response. Nathan volunteered to look into the matter.

Insurance – Nathan Townend, our newly elected Councillor, had been asked to look into whether the town's insurance required that a Councillor be on the board of any committee/organization which was what was believed to be the case. He advised that this was not necessary however the organization/Committee must be an officially sanctioned committee of the Township to be covered. The members discussed concerns regarding the lack of insurance coverage for the Saturday market which many people view as being an AIMS run event. No resolution was forthcoming and the item was agreed to be deferred indefinitely.

Vice President – President Dave asked whether the group felt a Vice President should be appointed. The group agreed that it was not a requirement at this time with one member pointing out that if Trump hadn't been impeached by this point in time that Dave should not be worried.

Rec Committee – President Dave identified that the island Rec Committee had shut down primarily due to the insurance issues. A notice to that effect had been previously circulated on the island. The question was posed as to whether AIMS should take up the mantle. One member advised that the Community Alliance group was hoping to take over

this function in the near future. Several members also identified that AIMS struggled to get sufficient volunteers for all its activities now and that taking over the Rec committee would be too much of a stretch for our resources. No further action on this matter is contemplated at this time.

Phone Network – after discussion the group agreed that use of current technology, specifically email, was the best way to notify people of meetings and special happenings on the island. As not all members are on or frequently monitor Facebook, if special items of interest are posted there a general note will be sent out via email to the members (for example the notice about the passing of Cherry Allen and the celebration held at the Lodge this past Sunday – if you were not on Facebook you might not have been aware of the event)

Adjournment – there being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 1000 on motion of Dayle Gowan/Nathan Townend.

Birthday Wishes



Happy Birthday to Caiden, Carol and Paul Glenn's grand daughter from Torri Phillips



Happy Birthday Chris Filson



Happy Birthday Cora McGinn Picture of my mother and her great grandchildren celebrating her birthday from Eric McGinn



Happy Birthday Cora McGinn surrounded by her best fans, great grandchildren.



Happy Birthday Norma Lynn Cole



Happy Birthday Jacob Welbanks



Happy Birthday Mayo Underwood Happy Birthday Cathy Christmas



Happy Birthday Brent Wolfreys



Happy Birthday Danielle Wolfreys



Happy Birthday Craig from Laura Anne

J&J Taxes 613 539 5849 judyhineman@gmail.com jkhudacin@gmail.com

We are the two J's in the company name and are both long time Bath residents who run a local income tax business in the area.

We offer over 25 years combined experience, very reasonable prices and better service than the big companies.

Happy to travel to the island to take care of you. And, believe it or not, we DO enjoy doing taxes.



My darling sister Leah reached a great milestone with the Topsy Farms' book work. Yay Numbers from Jacob Murray

Advertisements

New Business From Barb McLeod

I am so excited to announce that I am launching my new business with Norwex. I will be helping create safe havens with amazing products that allow you to clean your home with just water, saving you time and money while keeping your family safe from harmful chemicals! Check out my facebook page to see all that we have to offer including, my favourite, the Microfiber Pillow Cases.

Business Handy Fairies From Phuong McNeil

Look for the Handy Fairies to arrive at your house with this new company car. If you are looking for an extra hand with to do a good clean after the holiday call us. We offer a special rate for a first time visit. We can clean your entire house cost from 56\$ to 84\$ for an average family house. Spotless cleaned house guaranteed, or we redo it for free.



Waiting to serve you From Phuong McNeil

Eric's Carpet Cleaning

Eric Beauchamp is a Bath resident who does onisland mobile carpet cleaning. Personal service using eco-friendly products. Fast drying, odor controled, anti-allergenic carpet protection. (613) 328 8300

COMPUTER REPAIR/UPGRADES, new installs, virus/Malware removal. Island References. Bruce MacCrimmon – 613 453-0505

bruce.maccrimmon@hotmail.com

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

SHIRLEY MILLER Paintings, Prints & Art Classes 613-389-2588

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; 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

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 by Don Tubb. Open seven days a week.

RAWLEIGH PRODUCTS Serving your family with pride since 1889. Catalogues available. To place an order call Marie Ward at 613 389-5767 or email: bandmward@xplornet.ca

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

Island People



Greetings from the Sudds family



Ian's therapy during intense budgeting and year end work - sorting a mess of nails & screws for reuse.

Recognize our former Ice House, candle-making shop, tractor repair shop, Kyle's group's music room,

Wool Shed #1? It is now the office.



From Ryan McGinn







UL - Tia Fleming from Ange and Jason Fleming, Larry and Lynns family
UR - The two month mark for Isabelle Minvielle from Renee Minville
ML - Alex McGinn from Alicia
MR - Jacob Murray and Will Adams in - 20 temperatures from Jacob Murray
L - Jack and Daniel Little. Daniel's last night home. They could pass as twins from Eva Little

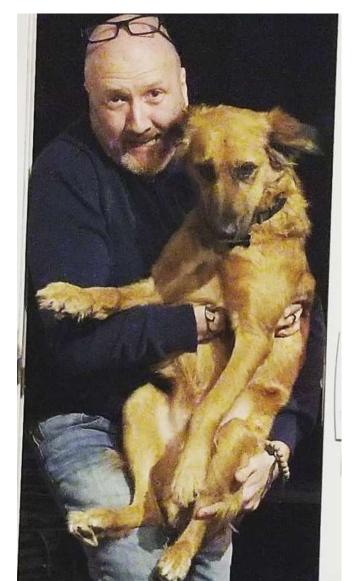






Left – Bonnie Bakers family. Four generations taken in 2014

Lower Left -Jon Nye and his dog Humphrey Bogart. Someone hasn't figured out inside yet. We will get there. From Cara Daley Nye.



Our History

What was your favourite Christmas? From Shirley Miller

We have watched a lot of Christmas movies on the Woman's channel. No violence, nothing to cause bad dreams or worries except the commercials. They are worry some in that it could make you feel bad if your tree wasn't piled high with gifts. It could make you feel even worse if you bought all those presents and couldn't afford them.

Guess where all the stuff from last Christmas ends up?

What was your favorite Christmas? Mine was when I was 4 or 5. I remember my Dad making and painting wooden blocks and Mom was making crepe paper flowers and knitting socks. They were having so much fun.

Christmas morning there were parcels, the first that I remember. It seemed forever until the meal was over (goose) and the table cleared then the parcels could be opened. My brother Bob got the blocks, Uncle Percy got socks, Aunt Effie got the crepe paper flowers and I got a wetums doll. After a few times filling the bottle with water and seeing ti run out the dolls bottom the excitement wore off. But I still remember how much fun my folks had making their gifts. I think that played a big part in my enjoyment of making things, like antlers for Annie.

From the Dec/78 Beacon:

From Ian Murray

Amherst Island Recreation Committee

Howard Pearce

Most readers of this article are aware that the major accomplishment of this committee to date has been the construction of our new community hall attached to the public school. Since the hall was completed just over a year ago, it has hosted many programs and events providing island residents with recreational and social programs. Night school classes, men's basketball, ladies's physical fitness, community dances, concerts and church suppers have all been held, verifying that the design of the hall lends itself to practically any community event.

The financing of our hall was a truly remarkable feat for a community the size of Amherst Island. Grants from the provincial government of \$135,000. Through Wintario and the Community Centres Act, a grant from the Lennox and Addington County Board of Education of \$22,500. and a very successful fund-raising campaign by the island that brought in another \$22,500. provided the \$180,000. required to build the hall.

However, the committee's work has continued beyond the hall project. Although it has not been actively engaged in organizing programs lately, it has applied for additional grants for floodlighting the ball diamond and recently the committee made a \$300.00 donation to the I.S.L.E. Committee's creative playground project.

Council Achievements

W. Bruce Caughey

The past four years on council have proven to be a constant battle against inflation. This inflationary trend is evident in the increases in salaries of the ferry crew, of some 50% including reduction of working hours from 44 hrs./week to 35 hrs./week. Also, the salary of the clerk-treasurer has increased approximately 200% in the same time span.

The road committee which I have sat on for all of my four years on council, including two years as chairman, certainly has been no exception to the trend. Heavy snowfall the past two winters has resulted in large expenditures for snow removal. Therefore leaving little money with which to construct and upgrade our township road system. The cost of pavement which we only enjoy 1.7 miles

of, has risen by 55% and the temporary tar and chip surface treatment has also doubled in price.

Feeling the need for improved roads, council petitioned the Ontario government for a section of Provincial highway and this councillor met with the Deputy Minister of Transportation & Communications and his executive secretary in Toronto. After referring the request to the local district office for their recommendations, council were informed that due to

maintenance costs of putting a crew of men on the island, the cost would be prohibitive. It was also pointed out, that by policy, to have a provincial highway joining a provincial highway by our ferry crossing, would put our ferry under the direct control of the Province as it is at Wolfe Island. The Minister did however encourage council to apply for a development highway. Development highway is a construction project subsidized 80% by the Provincial government.

During this past summer council past a bylaw to apply to the Province for a development road at 100% subsidization. Recognition of this application has been received and it is hoped a favorable decision will soon be in the hands of the incoming council. If considered over bridges so much in need of replacement would qualify under the development road grant on the proposed route.

The 1975-76 council term saw many ferry improvements for the commuting worker. The pass system, the additional crew and promise for updating the bubble system are a few. The school-community hall project became a walloping success due to the generosity of those who gave of their money and their time. A new snow plow-dump truck was purchased by means of a supplementary grant from M.T.O.

During the 1977-78 council term equipment for the fire department including a replacement auxiliary vehicle were purchased. Improvements to the line-up problem at Millhaven were also initiated.

This has been an interesting, challenging, and often exasperating experience for me living part of your Township council. I thank you for your support.



Revisiting Special Moments A Retrospective with Shirley Miller February 19th at 7:00pm 97 Thomas Street East, Napanee

It's a special edition of 'Tuesday Night at the Museum' at the Lennox & Addington County Museum & Archives in Napanee! On February 19th at 7pm, artist Shirley Miller will present her new exhibit entitled Revisiting Special Moments: A Retrospective.

Shirley is a long-time resident of Amherst Island, many of her art pieces reflect the life of the island, friends, and family. Over 20 pieces of her work will be displayed at the museum from February 4 – April 6, 2019.

Admission is only \$3 and tickets are available at the door. 'Tuesday Night at the Museum' is a monthly feature at the L&A County Museum & Archives, located at 97 Thomas Street East in Napanee. For more information about a wide array of programming at the Museum & Archives, please visit www.CountyMuseum.ca or call 613-354-3027.

From Shirley Miller

Many years of school bus driving taught me that every day ordinary places that I had passed morning and night for many years could suddenly be spectacular because of the sun, a storm or the season. Special moments can happen anywhere and a camera let me take them home. If I got excited enough, a painting would happen and sometimes a poem as well. I often say "if you aren't excited how can you expect your viewer to be excited".

"I could always draw. David Wick came to the Island in the early 1970s with a night school class in watercolours, it is there I learned about real paint and paper and brushes. I have been painting ever since and had my first show in 1979. I started teaching friends about painting but I think I have learned the most."

Shirley Miller says:

"We moved from Bath to Adolphustown where Bob and I went to the one room school. In later years we learned that Keith's sister Jean had taught school there until the year that we started.

This is a picture of her and the cast of "You Can't Always Sometimes Tell". She has her hands in front holding something. The cast from left to right are Frankie Christie, Pat Dalzell, James Smith, Jean Miller, Bob Dickson, Gerry Smith, Helen Smith, Mary and Albert Steers.

Milldred Roblin, one of the best teachers ever, was one of the few people who encouraged me to paint and draw even after I managed to break her son's arm on the first day of school. Another surprise was inspector H.H. Langford who showed me ways to make the poster of "Smoky the Fire Prevention Bear" more noticeable.

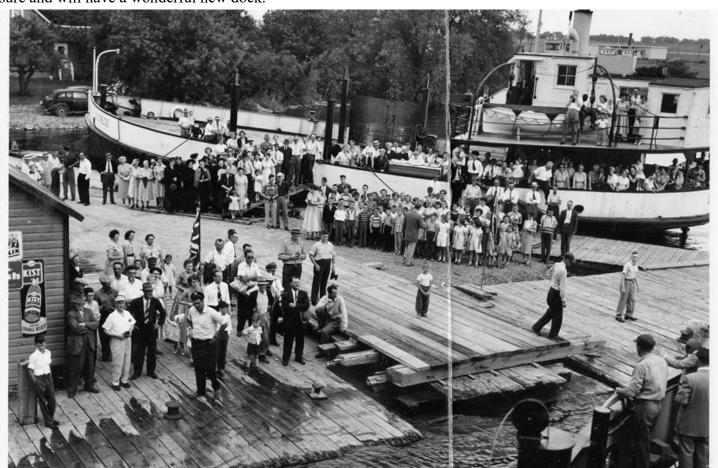




Previous page 1950 Schoolhouse

The cast of "You Can't Always Sometimes Tell". The cast from left to right are Frankie Christie, Pat Dalzell, James Smith, Jean Miller, Bob Dickson, Gerry Smith, Helen Smith, Mary and Albert Steers.

What will the new ferry look like? Keith is the young lad on the far right waiting for the Amherst Island Ferry to arrive in 1955. The old dock looks a bit shakey. The new ferry to arrive in 2020 will cause some excitement for sure and will have a wonderful new dock.



The New Amherst Island was welcomed by many Islanders. Keith is the little boy on the dock.



FERRY FROM MINOSTON TO AMHERST ISLAND

Ferry to Amherst Island circa 1950 - photo Ray Scouten



From Warren Kilpatrick: That is my Dad at the old granary, with I think Doris MacDonald (Henderson) I'm guessing 1940's.



A brand new Amherst Islander from Shirley Miller



My Dad on the Amherst Islander. They sure suited up better those days. From Warren Kilpatrick



Was going through a box of old paper clippings and thought I would share this: Amherst Island School from Doris Storring-Wemp



By Shirley Miller



A snowy day from a few years ago picture taken by Don Tub Photo from Sally Bowen



I, for one, would like to know the story behind this drawing. (DP)
By Shirley Miller



Harry and Syke Fleming with grandkids Jason and Stephanie Fleming years ago from Lynn Fleming

A painting of parenthoog **Painted by Shirley Miller**



It's funny how one thought leads to another.

From Shirley Miller

This is a strange winter but I remember one when I was maybe ten that was odd. I was sitting in my swing worrying that there would be no Christmas because we had no snow and it was quite warm

Do you remember the old rope swing with a board for a seat? Some dads cut vees in the ends so the board would stay on until you stood up. My dad was a carpenter, so he drilled holes for the rope.

Every yard with a kid and a tree had a swing. The taller the tree the more fun you could have. I liked to twist round and round until I couldn't reach the ground then the rope would unwind and make me dizzy. You could stand and swing and if you had a friend who was willing, we could stand face to face and swing really high. Some kids had a tire tied to the end of the rope. You could sit and spin or swing, but you didn't have much control as to direction. I found a picture of Jeff and Jennifer Pearce's swing. A picture seems to add a lot to a memory.





Henderson House on the 3rd Concession from Shirley Miller beside a picture of their shed.



Log Cabins From Shirley Miller

Every once in a while the subject of log cabins comes up. Most of the houses here were log at one time. Even the Fowler house had a log addition or maybe it was the start of the rest of the house.

Ruth Glenn once told me that the barn that was at their place (where Bruce and Susie live) was the first frame building on the Island.

The McQuoid place (seen above) was built in 1825 was still standing over looking Kerr Bay in my school bus driving days. It had been added to so cattle could get in out of the weather but Edwin Hogaboom showed me what it looked like inside. It was very small with an open loft.

There was a log house still standing on the Third Concession where Keith's family lived. It was used to house the cows after the milking barn burned in 1931 but eventually the roof gave up and that was its demise, as happens to most of the barns that are no longer used.

The home of Albert and Phyllis Henderson is log but the cutest log building is their woodshed.

A Wee House

Every once in a while, I enjoy writing a bit of nonsense so here is a fun poem I wrote in Scotland in the middle of the night. It has nothing to do with the painting I have included but it has a bit of Keith's sense of humor in it. This was the "office" he worked out of when he first started at the dump 20 some years ago. A retired outhouse.

A Wee House

We bought a wee house in a quaint English Town But the windows were sideways, and the doors upside down The problem compounded when we got inside For the whole of the house was just three feet wide When we came to the stairs, we were really in luck They only descended, they never went up Our attempt to redecorate got off with a bang They had sold us wallpaper that just would not hang We decided to paint then, and that was a scream The paint was all lumpy and smelled just like cream The carpets are fine ones, made of horse hair They whinny when stepped on but don't go anywhere We went to the kitchen in search of a suite The table fits grandly but no room for a seat The cook was there smiling, dressed as white as could be It seems that he only makes weak English tea The reason he gave us and I'm sure it's quite true The house has no stove and that just would not do We have two fine chimneys one at either end But the smoke, like the stairs, will only descend Being a fixer, I needed proof So I looked for a ladder to get to the roof I went to the barn and encounter a cow Who quite shortly informed me, "It's not milking time now" "I've come for the ladder, do you think you can help?" "It's out by the pig pen, go get it yourself" The pigs had the ladder stretched twix two rocks And they all set upon it like a shelf full of pots They grunted and grumbled as each one climb down "How can we get sun tans with all this mud on the ground?" I arrived at the house with the ladder in hand And stood there admiring how lovely, how grand I was just setting the ladder to get to the roof When mother awoke me, it was only a spoof.





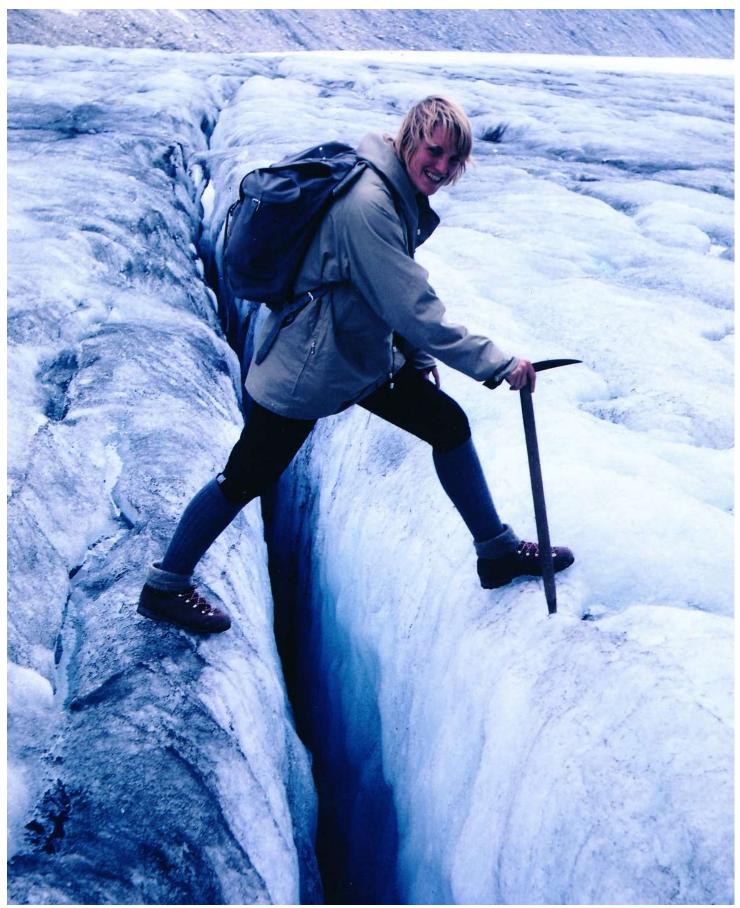
Art Drumgool brought the mail to the Island. He is gone now but he must have had some scary stories to tell.

This picture of him crossing the ice with horse and sleigh.

From Shirley Miller

Where Adam Miller's family lives From Shirley Miller





Goodbye Cherry