

Amherst Island BEACON

Issue 384

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March 2010



Island Radio Wins Gold



PHOTO BY TERRY CULBERT

Peter Trueman, retired CBC and Global Television journalist, makes the final draw at the climax of Island Radio's Second Annual Fund Drive on Monday, March 1st during the Udder Morning Show. Live on the air with Peter was show host Dayle Gowan and CJAi President Michele LeLay.

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CJAi RADIO FUNDRIVE A SUCCESS—Pages 8-11

- Terry Culbert

Tuning into the Udder Morning Show, listeners heard the familiar opening audio of barnyard animals, but what followed was very different. Six o'clock in the morning on Monday, February 22nd, the enthusiasm emanating from host Dayle Gowan's voice reached a new level as he announced Amherst Island Public Radio's second annual fund drive. "Fourteen hours a day for five days we'll be programming live from six in the morning until eight in the evening." Dayle went on to announce Island Radio's first donation, a five hundred dollar gift from AIMS, Amherst Island Men's Society. The 2010 Island Radio Fund Drive had officially begun!

As two coffee makers brewed freshly ground Starbuck beans, Islanders showed up at the studio with homemade cookies, cakes and muffins and the phone began to ring. Over the next seventy hours of live broadcasting, teams of volunteers took to the airwaves as others answered the one phone line, taking pledges from Islanders and Mainlanders alike. The excitement mounted over the next five days as programmers talked up the fund drive, interviewed guests and played music. Monday, Wednesday and Friday live musical performances were held in the milk house studio. What an inspiring sight to witness the motivation and banding together of volunteers at Canada's smallest radio station.

Setting a goal of \$4000., CJAi 92.1 FM Island Radio took in 139 pledges, 30% from the mainland, reaching an incredible \$6650. Thanks to the generosity of the listeners, of AIMS, of donors supplying prizes and gifts, of Island bakers and radio volunteers... we won gold. In the words of acting station manager Jim Gould: "Bravo Zulu", a navy expression for a job well done.

* Please see pages 8-11 for more photos from CJAi's Second Annual Fund Drive



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NEIGHBOURHOOD

- Lyn Fleming

Get well wished to Dreta Sudds

Our condolences to Sandra Reid and family following the passing of her mom, Wyona Shangraw.

Congratulations to Jim and Judy Gould, who recently celebrated their 50th anniversary.

CJAI held a very successful "fund raising week" to help offset expenses. Congratulations to all involved with the radio station and to those who supported the fund raiser.

Another good crowd enjoyed the second Pub Night at the Lodge, held at the end of February, with this month's theme being a "Poker Night". For those not playing poker, there was crokinole, cards, watching the Olympics on the big screen or just catching up and visiting.

Well, March came in like a lamb, so we will have to see if it leaves like a lion. We haven't had much of a winter so far here on the Island, but that's not to say we won't still! I remember a snow storm in the not so distant past that hit on March 11th - it took all the next day to open the roads! For now we will enjoy the sunshine and mild weather and keep our fingers crossed until the first of April!

COUNCIL GLEANINGS

- Ian Murray
Third Session,
Jan.25

"At this point in the meeting, Reeve McEwen invited Mr. Jim Hegadorn to come forward.

Mr. Hegadorn announced that he had submitted his name for Councilor - Ward 3 in the up-coming election. Mr. Hegadorn noted that he has served on a couple



of committees of Council and this seemed to be a natural progression for him.

**

Fourth Session, Feb8

"The Recreation Director asked Recreation Committee members for their input on naming the new park on Amherst Island. It was suggested a contest be run for Amherst Island school children to participate. Loyalist Township would design the entry form and develop contest guidelines. The winner would receive a prize, or perhaps the whole school could participate in a swimming party at the W. J. Henderson Recreation Centre."

**

"The Recreation Director referred to Council Motion 2009.27.19 - Request to Close Road Allowance at Glenwood Cemetery and to the report prepared by the Director of Planning and Development Services. The request to close the road allowance was respectfully denied at Council.

"After much discussion, Cemeteries Committee members felt that since there are burials in the right-of-way, it is important to close the road allowance to protect the site and eliminate a potential problem in the future.

"[It was agreed that] the Chairperson of the Cemeteries Committee, Jim Hegadorn, appear as a delegation at the March 8, 2010 Council meeting to request reconsideration of Council Motion 2009.27.19 Request to Close Road Allowance at Glenwood Cemetery."

"[It was also agreed] that the Recreation Director research and obtain a copy of the deed to the land now occupied by the Presbyterian Church at Glenwood Cemetery.]

**

"Bruce Caughey informed the Cemeteries Committee that in 2009 there were three burials in Glenwood Cemetery and one burial in Lutheran Union Cemetery. To date this year, there has been one burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

"There are a few trees that need to be moved in Glenwood Cemetery. The Recreation Director will ask Troy Buchanan, Facilities Maintenance Supervisor, to contact Bruce Caughey regarding moving the trees to a location that will not interfere with burials."

The 2010 Ferry Subsidy Petition requesting \$2,031,440 is on the website for anyone wishing to read it. [Islanders, remember that this subsidy is to Loyalist Township and not to Amherst Island. When Loyalist Council requests support from the province for this or that project, the province factors in the \$2 million that Loyalist has already received.]

FLYING LOVE

-Karen J Fleming

February, the month of romance, when love is in the air - literally!

On Monday, February 15th, Rob Empringham proposed to his girlfriend, Kendra McGinn, in a rather unconventional way.



Rob, with an aviation background and connections at Kingston Airport, knew that his proposal had to centre around flying and with Kendra's connection to Amherst Island, well what better place to propose than while flying over Amherst Island?

Kendra is the daughter of Leon McGinn and Debbie Knox, sister of Troy McGinn and the granddaughter of Keith and Cora McGinn and Sinclair and the late Norma Knox (née Wemp).

Rather than popping the question verbally though, while in the air, Rob thought it might have more impact if she read it - printed on the ground.

Rob approached long time friends of the family, Wayne and Karen Fleming about the idea and together they came up with the idea of writing it on the family's pond with snow.

The Friday before Valentine's Day, Wayne and Rob worked diligently to carve the age old question into the snow. A pilot friend of Rob's flew overhead, confirming that the letters were visible and the job was complete.

Family members and friends gathered on the pond Monday morning to take pictures of the writing and wave as the plane flew over. The plane circled and on the second trip around the pilot tipped his wing as a signal to those on the ground that Kendra had indeed said "yes".



RUTH ARTWYNA DRUMGOOLE

-Allen Caughey

On 11 Jan. 2010 Ruth Drumgoole passed away at her residence in the Helen Henderson Centre. She was the daughter and only child of Art and Nessie (Marshall) Drumgoole and maintained her Island roots throughout her life.

She was born on 14 December 1930 at the South Shore home- stead of her grandparents Robert and Elizabeth (Miller) Marshall – that home remains in the family under the care of Peter Barr and Elizabeth (Barr) Perry. She was delivered by Dr. Burleigh of Bath; that's when doctors made house-calls. She was the first grandchild and star of the show for 11 years growing a special fondness for her many aunts and uncles.

In her early years her parents farmed on the Front Road on the farm located where Margaret Maloney and Peter Large now live. In the mid-30s they moved downtown to the home now owned by Bonnie and Allen Caughey. Nessie took over as the first operator for the new telephone company owned by the Perry family of Napanee. Art took over the farm in the village and, as a sideline, became the mail carrier from the mainland – a job that he maintained for 40 years. He made numerous emergency trips across the channel in his boat or with his team of horses, and was relied upon as an expert on ice conditions.

Growing up in the atmosphere of people contacting the operator for current events, and Art's daily visits to the mainland, Ruthie developed an interest in all things pertaining to the Island – an interest that remained till her death.

Ruthie's elementary schooling was at #1 school – east of the village and now owned by Mrs. Maude. She continued to high school in the Red Brick, which stood before it burned where the Back Kitchen is now located. She was part of the last graduating class there, as the next group attended the new school when it opened in January of 1948.

She then decided to become a teacher, attending Toronto Normal School. She taught in Collin's Bay for a total of 12 years before her nerves forced her to follow a different path. She became a supervisor of the Homes for Special Care in the Ontario Hospital Psychiatric system and worked the area for Prince Edward County to Brockville until her retirement.

Although she never married, Ruthie enjoyed a relatively simple life. Not one to travel widely she took a great interest in friends and family. If you were her friend it was a friend for life. She was known to be thrifty, taking good care of her possessions and getting long use from them. Debt was not a word in her vocabulary. She bought her cars new, then kept them shining for 15 years.

She returned home every week for family dinners and to attend St. Paul's Church. In November she was hospitalized for the amputation of a lower leg due to diabetes. She returned to Helen Henderson before Christmas but had lost the will to live.

Ruthie will be a part of our memories to cherish forever and a positive influence in our lives.

* See photo of Ruth with Anna Walhout December 30, 2009 on next page.



JANET'S JOTTINGS

- Janet Scott

Isn't It Just Ducky?

One of the sure signs of Spring are the return of the Scaup to Lake Ontario.

This duck, once called the Bluebill, returns in large massive rafts to hang out and rest on Lake Ontario until it's time to head north to nesting grounds on Hudson Bay and across the north to Alaska. They've had a pleasant time on the Gulf of Mexico but their raging hormones are driving them home.

The massive raft of ducks off the South Shore these past weeks are mostly Scaup. They have dark heads, breasts and tails and are white on the sides.

They talk quietly to themselves while in this solid mass of ducks but their whispers can be heard on shore as a constant hum of conversation due to the sheer numbers of birds. This raft of ducks appears to be about 2000 birds but rafts as large as 10,000 have been seen. Included in this seething mass of Scaup are some Redheads. They have red heads, black breasts, smoky gray back and sides.

They are busy choosing mates in this mass of ducks and make beelines through the crowd to try and corner a female. The Redhead female is all brown with a paler patch surrounding the bill but can be told from the female Scaup because her white around the bill is much more prominent.

Once in awhile a Canvasback may appear in this flock as well but its back and sides are whiter and its nose profile slopes forehead to bill unlike the rounded head of the Redhead. Numbers of Canvasbacks have declined significantly in this region. This raft will move along about late April or early May but some Redheads stay all summer.

Black and white ducks can be confusing. The smallest are the Bufflehead, once known as Butterballs that bounce and dive off our shores like tiny ferry boats and yet on blustery days can still be seen off the South Shore when other ducks have gone for cover. They are only about 34cm. long with puffy head and steep foreheads. They are

glossy black above and white below with a large white patch on the back of their heads. In Spring to attract the ladies they puff out this white patch even more.

The female is duller with a small elongated patch on each cheek. They are cavity nesters and will head north to nest in April. Goldeneye, once called Whistlers because of the sound their wings make when they take off, appear also as black and white ducks with a roundish white patch on their cheeks.

Their heads actually have a green cast to them when they catch the light and their backs are a pattern of black and white with white sides. The female is darker and has a reddish cast to her head.

Andrea Cross must feel like a Princess in her castle as the Swans sail back and forth in her moat (better known as Lake Ontario) in front of her castle.

The Mute Swans were putting on a mating display as they entwine necks and sail with wings in an arched position. Their graceful curved necks support a tilted head with orange beak and black bulbous knob at the base of the beak.

The immature Mute Swan is brownish with a black beak. He sails along with two pairs of white adults and is showing a lot of white on his wings. With a few Mute Swans the slightly smaller and a native species is the Tundra Swan which has been seen in large numbers near the islands at the Foot. Its neck is carried straighter and supports a head with a black beak and some yellow at the base. Where the Mute appears to be admiring itself in the water mirror, the Tundra appears to be gazing off to the far horizons as it paddles by. Both species are white and feed by tilting bottom up to eat aquatic plants.

They sometimes graze like Canada Geese on land. The Tundra nests on the Arctic Tundra in the far north but a local group have established themselves here on the east end of Lake Ontario.

Our resident Red-tailed Hawks are beginning to sit on territory. You notice more of them now because the male likes to show off by sitting and exposing his white shirt front to the Spring sunshine and he just glows, catching your eye. The Cardinal has this same bright eye response as the light changes and we see his red jumping out at us from lilac hedges and thickets.

The Pheasant is crowing and showing off his scintillating colours while the hen seems happier clucking and feeding close to the feeder. The Starling although still in large flocks is showing signs of Spring as his dark beak turns brilliantly yellow and mottled feathers take on that iridescent purplish-blue. Great Horned Owls have finally begun to hoot and the Short-eared Owls are entertaining Islanders with their Happy Dance toward dusk.

All seems right in God's world as once again the seasons change. We may not have any Groundhogs living on Amherst Island but the birds are doing their best to be harbingers of Spring.

AIMS MEETING FEBRUARY 13

- John Kuti

The meeting began with a talk by Mr. Marty Verk from Hearthmakers Energy Co-op for 16 men after a delicious breakfast prepared by Janet Scott and AIPS.



He works as a home energy auditor with Hearthmakers energy coop, who have done over 3500 energy audits in the territory that runs between Trenton and Cornwall. He explained how an energy audit can identify better insulation practices and save approx. 4 tonnes of GHG emissions per year. One tonne of GHG would fill a three-bedroom house.

The initial energy audit costs \$350, with \$150 rebate from the government. Follow-up assessments are \$185. The energy auditor prepares and files all paperwork for government grants that follow energy upgrades to a home.

He does an energy assessment of the house envelope, including the outside of the house as well as air leaks from doors, foundations, walls and attics, and this data entered into a computer program lets him give the house a numerical representation of heat loss to compare with what he finds after improvements are made.

He explained that heat moves from hot to cold through conduction, convection and radiation. As heat or warm air rises, it exits the house through the attic and upper level. This is why it is important to perform air seal here. Furnace combustion inside the house also shoots air up the chimney which is then replaced by air being sucked in from outside through any openings around doors, windows or electrical receptacles in walls. He explained that fireplaces are actually a net heat loss because they pull so much air from inside the house while only offering radiant heat to the area near the fire.

Un-insulated basements are a huge heat loss because they constantly radiate heat into the cold ground outside. He explained how insulating on the inside can be very problematical because the freeze/thaw cycle of the seasons can destroy a foundation in as little as one season because water freezing in walls expands and breaks it apart. The best way to insulate a basement is from the outside, with products that keep out water and keep in the heat.

He proceeded to describe the three basic kinds of insulation used in most houses: fibreglass, rockwool, and cellulose. Marty shocked most members when he explained that fibreglass with the same R-rating as the other two products is only half as effective in cold climates in walls, because of the air convection within the spun glass. Attics can be problematic where cold air flows over fibreglass, penetrating the top 2-3" of insulation. He suggested blown cellulose as a secondary layer of insulation for those who have pink fibreglass in their attics, can form a crust-like

barrier as it settles.

Marty also spoke about urea formaldehyde or UFI foam insulation which is banned in Canada, the largest producer of the product for the rest of the world. He pointed out that Canada is the only country with such a ban. Tests have shown formaldehyde gas is gone in as little as two weeks of installation, unlike carpets and pressboard furniture which dissipate over a much longer time.

After his talk and many questions there was a brief business meeting.

It was decided that after such a successful New Year's party, that AIMS would increase its contributions to the Ameriks Fund, CJA and the Neilson Store Museum.

AIMS decided to put an ad in the upcoming Women's Institute Island Phone Directory, and use this means to provide basic information on the group and activities relevant to the Island community. Contributions for material to be used in this ad should be sent to Greg via email.

Greg Latiak will be organizing the New Year's dance again this year. Terry Culbert said to count himself and Brian Little in to line up auction and raffle items again this year. Allen Caughey said he had been able to secure the popular group Shylo to play at this year's party. Greg is planning on having an organizing meeting for anyone interested in participating sometime during March – a specific date will be announced at the next regular meeting.

Speaker for the March 13th AIMS meeting will be Janet Scott on Island bird habitats and feeding.

OWL WOODS

-Sally Bowen & Gwen Lauret

After visiting the Owl Woods with Janet Scott, I wrote Paul and Gwen Lauret a thank you for their part in making this resource available to us all. Here is Gwen's response:

"Paul and I love the land and the bush, as did my brother Stuart, and it gives us pleasure to share the Owl Bush with others. Children from the Limestone School Division visit our fields and ponds and it is especially gratifying to see young people enjoy the wonders of nature.

Money from the donation box is given to the Island Museum and over \$2,000 has been donated in the last several years. Paul and I do not keep the bird feeders full, as it is not fair to the birds, because during seasons of heavy snow we cannot get back to them. Instead, they are all welcome at the feeders at our house and hundreds enjoy it there. We, and many visitors, try to keep sunflower seeds in the metal box for people to feed the chickadees.

We are so glad that you enjoyed your visit."

WHERE WAS GOD AT THE OLYMPICS?

-Zander of DUNN INN

Now that the Olympics are over I am going to take a holiday. I am exhausted from watching people hurtling down steep hills on skis, people throwing themselves head-first down narrow tracks of ice on little sleds, people jumping into the air and landing on the edge of the narrow blades of figure skates, people chasing a hard rubber puck on hockey skates and firing it into nets, people shooting rifles at targets only after they have stopped skiing.

I have been amazed at the ways in which figure skaters jump, soar, and swoop. I can only admire the skill of the skiers whose knees survive the moguls and whose summersaults and twists land them safely. I am dumbfounded by the speed-skaters who make the most difficult things look so effortless.

Every event had its surprises and excitements to ponder. I felt very sorry for the Women's South Korean short-track skating team which was disqualified (and got nothing) when we all thought that team had won a gold medal. What a disappointment for the Canadian long distance skier who finished out of the medals because, after 50 kilometres, he was 1.5 seconds behind the winner. And what about the dismay in the men's bobsleigh event where one team beat another by 1 one hundredth of a second?

When competitors are that close why do we bother to declare first, second and third? Are they not all winners? Of course they are. They have all gone through rigorous training and severe, world-wide competition to qualify for the Olympics. They are the best in the world at their events. Often the difference between the top and the bottom spot is only fractions of a point. And many of those fractions are awarded by judges who cannot be entirely impartial.

I confess to being put off by the nationalism of the Olympics. We made it sound as if the whole country had won gold or lost silver or been disqualified. I was saddened when a Canadian woman skier who was expected to finish in the medals came in fifth and felt she had let down the whole country. As I understand it the Olympic ideal has to do with individual effort and excellence, not with national superiority. Hitler learned that lesson at the 1936 Olympics when a Black American sprinter, Jesse Owen, won four gold medals. His feat did not prove Americans were better than Germans or Black athletes were better than White athletes. Olympic victories do not prove anything except that at that particular time one athlete or team of athletes is better than the others in that

event. All the competitors are to be congratulated but never idolized.

I was also put off by all the talk of "owning the podium" which made it sound as if winning was the most important thing in the Olympics. I know some people have the attitude that "we are here to win; not to have a good time; not to enjoy the event." That takes all the joy out of the experience, I think. I want to encourage and financially support our athletes but why can't we inject the same money into the economy to fight homelessness, discrimination against women and job training for the undereducated?

As for where God was in the Olympics, I saw God in the love Alexandre Bilodeau, gold medalist of the men's mogul course, had for his brother, Frédéric, who has been an inspiration to his brother as he lives with cerebral palsy. I saw God in the perfect teamwork between Scott Moir and Tessa Virtue as they won gold in ice dancing. I saw God in the encouragement most competitors showed each other in many events. I saw God in the excellence of body, mind and spirit working so well together for athletes of every nation.

And, while I deplore emphasizing nationalism, I saw God, through the athletes, bringing our country together. We became one in enjoying the beauty of the events. We became one in rejoicing in the successes so many of our athletes gained. We became one in celebrating the good things about our country and the good people who live within our borders. I hope the suc-

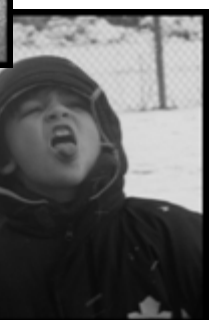
cesses of our athletes does not make us smug. The Americans scared us all in the gold medal game of men's hockey. They reminded us that hockey is not our game; it belongs to everyone.

I don't believe Canadians are better than other people in this world or even in the winter Olympics. We have been blessed with a land of ice and snow which allows us to enlist our best athletes to practice winter Olympic events. At this Olympics we showed how blessed we are by God.

Of course we should celebrate the showing of our Canadians, but let us also thank God for giving us the conditions, the athletes, the organizers and the managers of the Olympics. By God's grace each of our Olympians did well.



POLAR BEAR OLYMPICS



ALL PHOTOS BY BRIAN LITTLE

CJAI 92.1 Fund Drive

ALL FUND DRIVE PHOTOS BY TERRY CULBERT UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.



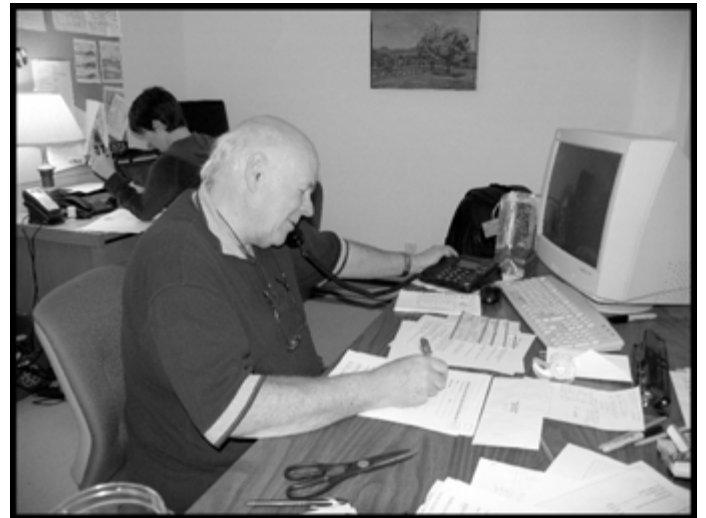
Cathy Christmas wrapped up the fund drive on Friday evening with her "Cat's Show".



Ben Whitton, co-host of the "Batt Cave".



*Above: Tara Batchilder, a registered massage therapist from Bath, and Dr. Dave Meikle were Friday guests.
Below: Ula Steif offered fire 2-hour work donations during Friday Morning in the Afternoon with Brian Little*



*Above: Ron Rochester, CJAI's newest volunteer, worked his entire life in broadcasting.
Below: Friday Morning Show hosts Brian Little and Terry Culbert.*





Ross Haines, host of "Down Memory Lane"



Dayle Gowan preparing to interview Inka Brockhausen and John Schutzbach.



*Above: Paul Lauret takes pledges on Monday morning as CJAI treasurer John Schutzbach looks on.
Below: Childhood friends Adam Miller and Leah Murray were back on the radio again.*



*Above: Jim Gould, host of "Jazz from Jim's Vault"
Below: "Bluegrass Café" host Judy Chui.*





Jacob Murray on the right popped in for a coffee during the Friday Morning Show with Terry Culbert.



Above: Dr. Dave Meikle and Michael Rowan on "Thursday Morning Matinee"

Below: Rosy Findlay showed Michael Joll the number of pledges on Day 3.

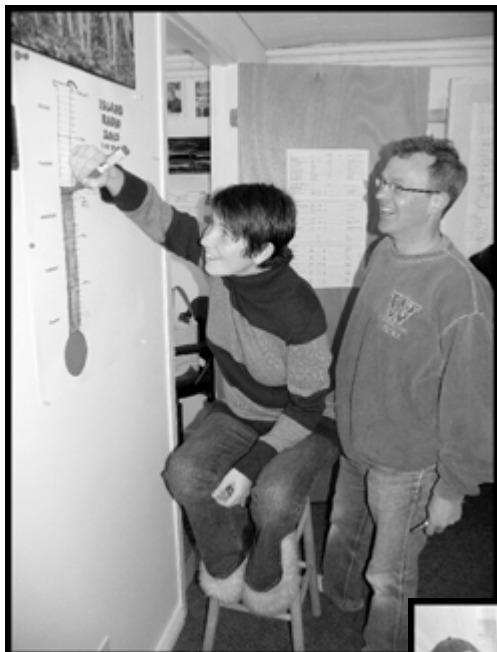


CJAI Radio Director Lorna Willis took a pledge from Tom deHaan.



The Orange and Green, Reverend Zander Dunn and Steve Kennedy at the radio coffee bar.

ALL PHOTOS BY TERRY CULBERT UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.



Above: CJA1 Bookkeeper Sue Murray and 92.1 station Vice President Dave Meikle mark the barometer on Day 2.

Center: The Wolfrey brothers Ellis and Lloyd on The Wolf's Den.

Below: Shell Madden of "Tea & Serendipity"



Above: Host of the "Udder Morning Show" Dayle Gowan with 'the bird lady of Amherst Island' Janet Scott

Below: Mary Lou Wolfreys receives pledges during "The Wolf's Den"



WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

- Mary Kay Steel

A small number of faithful members gathered for the regular meeting on February 17th, 7pm, at the home of member Liz Harrison. Co-president Kirsten Bennick was in the chair. Roll call responses consisted of each member naming a Canadian woman she admired and the reason why. Two local women (deceased) were named – Helen Bulch and Irene Glenn - plus several women more widely known including Flora McDonald, Emily Carr, and the female members of Doctors Without Borders. It was an interesting discussion.



Correspondence was read, and our financial statement reviewed. Standing committee reports were of a routine nature. Island Directory committee head, Liz Harrison, reported that considerable progress has been made in selling advertising, and thanked all members who had helped to date. She noted that her committee would welcome continued assistance in the days ahead. Anticipating our annual meeting in April, a nominating committee was struck consisting of Jackie Sylvester and Joyce Haines, to develop a list of proposed executive office-holders for the coming year. Kirsten asked us all to think about what jobs we could undertake and be ready to volunteer. Our provincial body, the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario (FWIO), has sent notice of a rise in annual provincial per-member fees; after some discussion, it was decided that we would, consequently, have to raise the fees our own branch members pay annually, to \$40. The FWIO has also informed us of expensive and badly needed repairs to the Erland Lee Home Museum (Stoney Creek, Ont.), to which we may at some point have to contribute.

We discussed two invitations from the Wilton Branch WI, and then, with our business finished, closed the meeting and enjoyed a social hour and delicious refreshments prepared by our hostess Liz. Our next meeting, open to the public, will take place on March 17th, with Deborah Kimmett making a presentation on communicating with ill and dying persons; she will start at 7pm, at the St. Paul's church hall. All welcome; refreshments will follow her talk.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE 110TH ANNIVERSARY

-M K Steel

This year marks the 110th anniversary of the Amherst Island Branch of the Women's Institute. Women's Institutes began in Stoney Creek, Wentworth County, Ontario, in 1897, and are now a worldwide organization. The Amherst Island branch was the fourth (in the world we understand) to be established. In partnership with Beacon staff, we are presenting a series of articles to mark our anniversary.

II MORE OF THE EARLY YEARS

Following Mrs. McDonald's long tenure as AI branch founding president, the period 1926-35 saw four different women holding that office. They are introduced below. The Women's Institute movement continued to grow in leaps and bounds. In old records of Lennox district meetings, I learned that by 1928 there were 11 branches in the district, and some 7000 worldwide. The rest of Canada was seeing similar growth in WI branches. The Federation of Women's Institutes of Canada (FWIC) was formed in 1919, under the auspices of the federal Minister of Agriculture. It was remarked by the editor of a Winnipeg newspaper, where the national federation first convened, that the WI in Canada is "a mighty force whose influence knows no bounds".

The 1930's are roughly the years of the Great Depression, which meant untold hardship in rural areas as well as in the cities. Local histories across our country attest to the immense contribution of the WI branches to alleviating the miserable conditions. Examples include: quilting and sewing for needy families; providing food for fire-fighters in bush and forest fires; grocery "showers" and providing clothes and baby layettes as needed; raising money to pay the rent for a family who leased a farm; and feeding farmers as they raised barns. (The Amherst Island branch minute books for the period 1915 to 1939 have not been provided to the Lennox and Addington County Archives in Napanee, so I cannot give specific examples for our Island community. If you know of their whereabouts, please contact the Archives about these valuable books.)

By 1928 the Lennox district of WI (to which Amherst Island branch then belonged) numbered eleven branches. Annual district meetings drew well over 100 attendees and were usually whole day events hosted by one of the branches. This practice continues much the same today.



1926-1929 Elizabeth (Fleming) Scott (Mrs. William Scott)

- one of the six daughters of Sarah Jane and William Fleming;
- parents' farm was located where Ted Welbanks now lives on the South Shore;
- a schoolteacher, husband William a farmer, at location which is now the Eves' farm on the Front Road;
- mother of four;
- an aunt of Anna Hitchens, and a great-aunt to Marian Glenn and Elsie Willard.



1929-1930 Mabel (Chown) Instant (Mrs. Reginald Instant)

- born in Kingston, raised on Amherst Island;
- a registered nurse;
- with husband Reg, lived first in Emerald, then in Stella, where he owned and managed both cheese factories, and at one time the General Store in Emerald;
- had two children, Estella Sharpe and Jack Instant.



1930-1933 Mary Emma (Instant) Fleming (Mrs. Hartley Fleming)

- born on Amherst Island, to Nelson and Joanna Instant;
- sister to Reginald Instant, mentioned above;
- married farmer and blacksmith Hartley Fleming;
- their farm was on the third concession, later occupied by their only child Ernest Fleming and his wife Genevieve.



1933-1935 Ella (Towns) McMullin (Mrs. Edward McMullin)

- born near Peterborough to Mary and Michael Towns;
- a teacher, she came to our island to teach, met her future husband Ed;
- husband farmed with brother Charlie, where the Hieatts now live;
- mother of five, one of whom is our own Helen McCormick.

PUB NIGHTS AT THE LODGE – POKER ON THE POINT

-Molly Stroyman

WOW!

What a wonderful night. I can hardly begin to tell you how delighted I was to see so many fine folks enjoying themselves at the Lodge - time to laugh, time to visit or play and time to laugh again. Like the first Pub Night, there were about a hundred Islanders there. It was definitely an all ages (of the adult variety) party.

Early in the evening, Olympic curling had the Eldon Willard Room packed. Since CTV didn't broadcast the bronze hockey game, after the curling cards and crokinole came into play. A few darts were being thrown in the sun porch.

In the meantime about 8 pm Texas Hold'em Poker started in the dining room and sun porch. Texas Hold'em was all new to me and to Victoria. Donny Miller guided us through and gave us the coaching we needed. Thanks Donny, and thanks Sherry for taking on the dealer role at the last table. Tom deHaan took first place, Justin Hutchings took second and Donnie Miller took third. Well done!

We were pleased to share the 50/50 draw with Angela McGinn. Angela declared it was a step in changing her luck since her purse was stolen in January. To Lorna Willis, thanks for being a super seller.

The impromptu dance party after the bar closed was great fun.

The Rec Committee does such a fine job managing the bar! It's a big job and you do it seamlessly. A huge thank you to Lyn and Larry Fleming and Rick Bedford.

There are many people to thank. Victoria Cuyler: it was her idea and she convinced me that we could do it and have fun doing it...she was so right! Karen Fleming: pure magic in the kitchen. Val Wolfreys: energy and support all round. Talia and Whitney Fleming: waitresses with style. Bruce Burnett: audio visual master using a very mixed array of equipment. Each one worked so long and hard to make it a success. I am grateful beyond words.

Thanks to Lynann and Jim Whitton and Terry Culbert for loaning us equipment and giving constant encouragement.

Finally, thanks to all of you who joined us. What a fantastic community!

Sorry, No pictures this time....

Hope to see you on March 27th for "Country Night" with Dan Simpson bringing live music, and introducing the Open Mic concept....you will have to see it to believe it.

Cheers,

Molly Stroyman



Many thanks to Island friends who called, sent cards and flowers, and attended the funeral home when Peter MacKinnon died recently. He had so many good friends here and will be missed by all of us.

Caroline Ackerman

Thanks to the folks at St. Paul's for the invitation to eat pancakes on "Fat Tuesday".

Island Farmers & Ferry Crews.

A MESSAGE TO MEMBERS, ADHERENTS AND FRIENDS OF ST. PAUL'S CHURCH

St. Paul's Presbyterian Church wishes to thank everyone for their support of the new church roof project.

As a result of your generous contributions, we now have a beautiful metal roof that we hope will last another 100 years.

It is a gift that many generations will be able to enjoy.

Thank you for your help on this important project.

For questions contact the Chair of the Board of Managers, Bruce Burnett at

(613) 634-6696.

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**AMHERST ISLAND WOMEN'S INSTITUTE
AMHERST ISLAND DIRECTORY**

Our community is growing so the Amherst Island Women's Institute is compiling the 2010 Amherst Island Directory.

Personal Listings - new additions or corrections may be submitted to Jackie Sylvester cloudbanks@kos.net or by calling 613-389-1320.

Ads - We invite any business with sales to the Island to participate by placing an ad. This would be an excellent way to put your business constantly in front of Islanders. We are a non-profit group and these ads help offset the costs of printing. Proceeds support local community projects.

We have a limited amount of advertising space available, so please: *Reserve your space*, before March 31st, by calling Liz Harrison at 613 389-5176, har-risjp@physics.queensu.ca

**FREE "LARGE ITEM" DROP-OFF
2010 SCHEDULE**

The Amherst Island landfill site will be open free of charge for residents to dispose of "Large Items" on the following dates. Regular charges apply for material not defined as "large item".

Saturday Disposal Days

10 a.m. to 12 noon

April: Saturday April 10

June: Saturday June 12

Sept: Saturday September 11

Nov: Saturday November 2

WATER SAMPLE COLLECTIONS

Due to the great response from homeowners, water sample bottles will be collected on the following dates in 2010.

MAKE SURE you have filled the form out correctly and answer all the questions.

March 29 July 26 November

29

Put these dates on your new calendar now and leave your sample bottles in the screened porch area of the General Store by 10:30 a.m. on the morning of the above dates.


MISSING COAT

I am missing my full-length, very dark navy (almost black), ladies wool, Calvin Klein winter coat. I believe it was taken by mistake at the New Year's Dance. I have a coat which was left, but desperately need mine back. If you have my coat, please call me and we can exchange. 613.887.2342. Thanks.

Julie Leeder

FOR RENT

Room for rent with kitchen privileges including private bath and TV/sitting room.

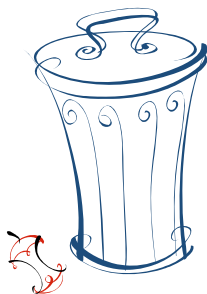
Great view and excellent home gym!

\$300 monthly.

Leave voice mail at 389-1656.

FOR RENT

Waterfront House for rent - 10900 Front Rd. 2 bedrooms, finished basement, new oil furnace, well insulated, beautiful view, \$1200/month first and last no lease required. Tenant responsible for utilities, lawn care and snow removal. call Judy Roberts 613-542-7445 anytime leave message.


FOOT CARE

at the Ferry Office/Library
back room Please call Sue Irwin R. N.
613-545-9379

**CHIROPRACTIC CLINIC
HOURS**

Tuesdays 5:30-7pm

Saturdays 9am-11am.

Call 613-384-5363

PET SITTER

Muressa Fabian-Robinson is available day or evening to walk, feed, & visit with your pet.

Reliable, animal lover.

Call 613-634-3075.

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BETTY'S AFTERMARKET MARKET

Too busy!!! No time to cook!!!!

MY MARKET GOODIES AVAILABLE ALL WINTER TOO!!!

A few days notice and cooking for company just became easier.....

Call Betty 389-7907

TOPSY FARMS NOW HAS INTERAC!

Use your debit card to pay for your purchase!

Topsy Farms now has individual cuts of our fresh frozen lamb available at the farm. Roasts, chops, shanks, and more. Please call before coming to find out what's in stock. 613-389-3444


WILD PREMIUM BC SALMON

Sockeye currently in stock. \$18.99 per pound. Call first. Other varieties available by order only: Salmon (5 varieties), Black Cod, Albacore Tuna, and Rock Lobster Tails. Selection may vary month to month.

All products are certified wild caught, individually quick frozen and vacuum packed. All varieties are skin-on and boneless.

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Sue Murray 613-384-2478 sue@topsyfarms.com

AI COMMUNITY BONFIRE

PHOTOS BY BRIAN LITTLE



The Foot

