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EULOGY For HUGH WEMP

-Allen Caughey

Friends, today we lay to rest a man who was the last of his era. Over the last 5 decades, he raced horses over every racetrack, fair grounds and bull ring in Eastern Ontario.

Bob Elliott who started his sports writing career with the Whig and is now in the baseball writers Hall of Fame wrote in 1971 and I quote: "Few people realize just how exceptional a driver Hugh Wemp is – he ranks among the best in Eastern Ontario." Bob was absolutely right. In 1971, Hugh finished 4th and in 1972 he was the 2nd leading percentage driver in all of North America. His statistics record for us that he was an outstanding horseman but in my heart he will always be a fine example, a good mentor, lots of laughs and a damn good friend.

From the day I was born I was known up the 3rd at Eddie and Sarah Wemp's house as "wee Allen". I think I outgrew that! In around 1949 Hugh took over that family farm. One of his projects was to wire the place. He hired Grant Hough who was from Brockville, to do the job (for \$130. If you can believe it!). Grant decided to bring his family, his niece among them, to the St. Paul's Garden Party. That's where they met and the rest is history. In April Hugh celebrated the best decision of his life – 60 years married to Doris.

Born in 1926, Hugh was a product of the hungry 30's. There was no money and to get ahead you needed ambition and Hugh had that in ample supply. In the winter he took on the job of driving school kids with the team and sleigh as the roads weren't kept open in those times. Keep in mind that this was a man who enjoyed pulling pranks – many of you here will recall the odd one in your experience with him. He recalled leaving the school one afternoon when a runaway horse in his team tried to climb right in the back of Wilfred Miller's sleigh which was ahead of him. Another story that he liked to

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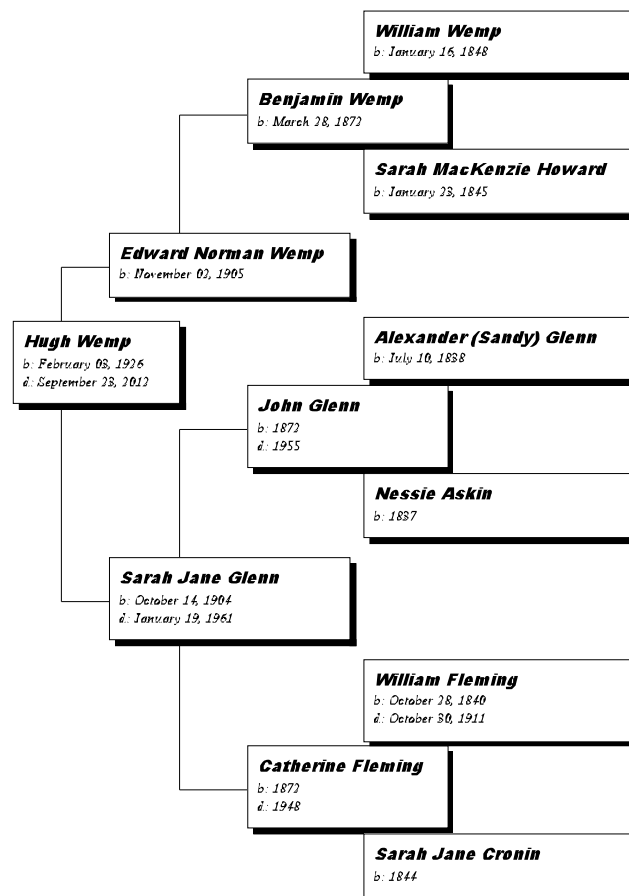
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Ancestors of Hugh Wemp



tell was about one time heading home and the kids started to rock back and forth making the sleigh skid in the snow. Hugh waited his chance, drove up on the side of a snow-bank and upset the sleigh dumping them all out in the snow. You can all imagine his chuckle when he told that story.

The young couple bought a farm south of Centerville and milked cows. Doris recounted that in 1959 they needed a new herd sire so Hugh hooked onto the trailer to go find a bull. When he lowered the ramp it was a 4-legged animal with a mane and tail – that animal was Molly Effective and so began Hugh's career in the horse race game. His talent and "green thumb" with a horse became evident and owners soon gave him horses to train.

As restrictions increased in the dairy business and you were compelled to build a milk house and buy a bulk tank, Hugh gave up milking and went full time into the horse business. He was the 1st in this area to make a full time employment in horse racing. Although his horses weren't always top of the line breeding he had a rare talent for getting the best out of them on the track. He was a jack of all trades – their driver, their trainer, their caretaker and their blacksmith.

Along with the urine line, their horse numbers grew to 50 head. When I list some of his horses I'm sure it will bring back memories to many of you: April Linda, Lady Up, Miss E Tripp, Star Trip (Grant you ran him up to the gate when he got sulky), Meadow Perth, Alpha Way, Scotch Blaze, Hilroy Pam, Smoke Out, Little Laird, Peter Magic (Oscar Fenwick's horse), Red



Photo by Floyd Patterson
Marc Raymond welcoming the 32 people on the....

Red Rose (a Tom Harrison horse), and fan favourite Wilbrook Sheila, Single D, Best, Dandy Duke, Zorro Gratton. In 1968, Justa Tom won both the Black Diamond Stake



Photo by Brian Little

From the Harvest Fest

in Belleville and the Hiram Walker Stake in Kingston – the 2 top races in Eastern Ontario – then repeated the Hiram Walker in 1972 with Dorothy Rick. He took the Molson Pace with Lenard Baker's Easters Captain. He made a top trotter and a fan favourite of Kate McLaird and set a track record never to be broken with her at Orono. Hugh hung up his blue and white silks in 2000 at age 74 driving his last horse Lady

Perna after nearly 1000 wins.

If you left a horse at Hugh's stable as did Blatherwicks, Coles, Irwins, Woods, Shermans, Harrisons to name a few, enjoyable long friendships and good times were to follow. When Bob Elliott questioned him about owners, Hugh said he only had trouble with owners who thought they should win every race, but the best owner he ever had was the owner of Canal View Way – that was Doris.

As we sat the other afternoon looking at piles of old pictures and clippings of Hugh's career, it was very evident to me that I was in the company of his most faithful supporters – his wife Doris and his daughter Dolores. Even as his health was fading, his will stayed strong to the very end.

It's hard to say goodbye to a good friend. Through all the years of racing competition and then with my position as a judge, we never had a bad word. Not everyone could say that! He always had good advice and was supportive of the Island horsemen who followed his path. He loved to recount Island stories, of its people and had a vivid knowledge of old real estate deals.

Soon we will join Hugh for his last ferry ride, to be laid to rest in the sod that he loved on Amherst Island.

Adios Hugh and God Bless.



Photo by Floyd Patterson
... Frontenac Heritage Foundation - Amherst Island Tour



All photos by Brian Little



Nicolette McGinn



JP Leeder



Mitchel Morgan-Bursey

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

- Liz Harrison

Fifteen members met at Marilyn's house on September 19 to tackle a regular business meeting after two fairly relaxed summer gatherings. We were very efficient and I'm happy to report that there were many ready volunteers offering to run the annual Seniors' Christmas Dinner. I am delighted to announce that if you are a resident of Amherst Island and 65 or older you will receive an invitation to our annual Christmas celebration. This will take place on Sunday December 2 at the Community Centre. We promise that there will be delicious food, good company and entertainment like you've never seen before (we think)!!

Other items were discussed at the meeting such as the new Island Directory which we hope to have out in the Spring of 2013 and our annual donation to the Ameriks Scholarship Fund which we increased this year. Shortly after Thanksgiving we will be tackling the clean-up of County Road 4 from Millhaven up to Doyle Road, a little later than usual but still early enough to have it done before the snow flies! Having finished the business part of the evening, we were treated to a fascinating talk by Judy Bierma who described her involvement with a group of blind people in the Bahamas where she and Anthony spend their winters. Judy was a teacher of the blind before she retired. Never one to rest on her laurels, no sooner had she and Anthony berthed in the Bahamas than Judy set out to discover if there were blind people who could benefit from her expertise. She introduced herself to Margaret who was selling peanuts outside a supermarket and could not see. She was delighted to have someone help her to improve her Braille reading. At this point Judy showed us her Brailler, basically like an old, heavy, manual typewriter but with six keys and much smaller. The combination of reading braille and typing braille improves cognition and understanding. These machines are expensive. Judy's machine, the one she showed us is broken and hardly usable. She gave her good one to a deserving student!! By the time she and Anthony set out for Amherst Island in the Spring there were 3 or 4 students working out of a one-room "school" under the guidance of an older man, also blind. Previously, Judy had visited her students at their own homes packing all her supplies, Brailler, typewriter, teaching

aids, Braille books etc. into the basket on the back of her pushbike. She made arrangements with the customs office to allow her to bring in books and supplies without having to pay duty. One of her pupils now has a room filled with Braille books but it is the bible that these people really want to read and memorize. Judy also gave us a very short but fascinating lesson on how the human nervous system and brain adapt and compensate when one of the senses is lost. There were many more questions we wanted to ask but we realized that we should break for tea and the brown bag auction.

Judy Greer, auctioneer for the evening, skillfully navigated her way through several heated bidding wars and raised a healthy amount to add to our bank account. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday October 24 (a week later than usual because of a conflict with the Area Convention) at the home of Sharen English when we look forward to hearing about several of the holidays that Sharen has enjoyed recently. As an aside, I would just like to point out the photograph of W.I. members in the last edition was credited to me when it was Mary Kay who took the shot. I apologize.

As usual, I will close by offering a warm invitation to come to any of our meetings. We will be happy to pick you up if you need a drive or would like someone to go with you. Contact any member or me at 613-389-5176.

JANET'S JOTTINGS FALL MIGRATION

- Janet Scott

Fall Migration began in August and many of North America's birds are leaving the Arctic Tundra, The Canadian Shield and even Amherst Island hoping to find safe havens with food available in the southern climes.

As the birds shift their territories they push up against the Great Lakes and then await favourable winds and conditions in order to cross our inland seas. Many tiny birds use the protection of night to follow star patterns and find their way hundreds of miles to reach the Gulf



Photo by Terry Culbert

5 ring-necked pheasants: At 8:30am, September 10th, these five Ring-necked pheasants crossed the front yard of the Culbert-Hogenauer home on O'Drains Bay.

Coast for a winter vacation. We trust they will linger as they fly the Mississippi Flyway and not get involved with hurricanes such as the recent Isaac that flooded so much of the Delta. As these waters recede our Shorebirds will find a buffet left out on the mud flats for gourmet dining.

Many of the Shorebirds left the Arctic as soon as nesting was over. They leave the young behind to forage on available food supplies and the adults, gradually moulting as they fly, turn into winter versions of these species and stop to rest on Amherst's mud flats hoping to feed on crustaceans and insects. Their feeding takes place in the wet, gooey mud along a wet area that is receding. Many Sandpipers, Snipes, Woodcock and Dowitchers for example use their long bills for probing in the soft mud making more use of the tactile sense than vision. Sanderlings are fun to watch feed as they chase wavelets in and out along a beach trying to nab food that they see and can catch with their short, stubby bills.

Phalaropes create a spiral effect in the water as they spin on the surface catching minute organisms brought to the surface by the resulting eddy.

Shorebirds hanging out at the Eastern Bar, (Sounds like they're at a pub, doesn't it?) are Semi-palmated Plovers, Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs, Semi-palmated Sandpipers, Least Sandpipers, Pectoral Sandpipers, Sanderlings and Short-billed Dowitchers. Many are hoping to reach Brazil and Argentina by November and December so that



Photo by Terry Culbert

Core drillers: This tiny tug and barge is being used to obtain core samples of the rock at both the Millhaven and Stella Docks for the proposed front-end dock system.



Photo by Terry Culbert

Doug Martin: Doug Martin, a member of the Amherst Island Men's Society, volunteered to be part of the watering team, quenching the thirst of village plants during the hot summer days.



Photo by Terry Culbert

David Wemp: Beef farmer David Wemp is one of a number of Island farmers drawing water from the lake for their livestock.

they can escape our frozen ground. You can't dig for worms once the mudflats freeze.

Cool nights and dry weather has depleted our source of flying insects so the Martins packed their bags and left for southern regions about two weeks ago. Cliff Swallows seem to have gone as well although you still see a few Tree Swallows and Barn Swallows along the wires. The same conditions have moved the Warblers south from the Boreal Forests and into our woods and thickets as they forage here. Warblers too change their brilliant colours for more drab outfits as they travel but the Black-throated Blue that we spotted in the Owl Woods was dressed in his elegant blue coat and snow-white front. Soon he'll be drab gray-green with white squares on his wings as the only decoration. Insect eaters need to travel south for food. Warblers seen on the Island during the past week are Black and White, Nashville, Cape May, Magnolia, Blackburnian, Yellow, Chestnut-sided, Yellow-rumped, Black-throated Green, Canada, Wilson's, American Redstart and Palm. So watch for these cheery Fall migrants passing through.

It never ceases to amaze me that these tiny bits of fluff and feathers, without maps or motors, navigate a fantastic flight half way around the globe and fuelled only by insect protein. What a feat!

[Ed: This article just missed the printing of the September issue.]



Photo by Terry Culbert

Hitchins Farm restored by the Amherst Island Women's Institute.

DRY STONE WALLING

- Terry Culbert

Dry stone walling began on Amherst Island in the early 1800's when the Northern Irish immigrants from the Ards Peninsula of County Down settled here. After clearing the land of timber and rocks, those pioneers used the unearthed stone to separate their properties and to prevent their livestock from wandering off.

Dry stone walling is a building method where structures are constructed from stones without any mortar being used. The structure gets its stability from compressional forces of the interlocking stones. When used as field boundaries, dry stone structures are known as dykes, particularly in Scotland. Dry stone walls are characteristic of upland areas in Britain and Ireland. Dry stone walls and structures were developed over thousands of years. Examples include the Neolithic village of Skara Brae on Scotland's Orkney Island and Newgrange near Dublin, Ireland. Today there are close to 70,000 miles of dry stone wall in England alone, although most in bad shape with only 13% livestock-proof.

As you travel the width and breadth of Amherst Island, many of the original walls still stand, some in derelict shape but others restored by the Amherst Island Women's Institute. In 2004 after applying and receiving a grant from the Greater Kingston Community Foundation, the Women's Institute was given \$4000 to help pay for supplies and to secure invaluable teachings from Kingston stone mason Bill Hedges. The Pentland Cemetery on Front Road East and the Hitchins Farm on the corner of Emerald 40 Foot and the Second Concession Road are the results of that restoration.

In 2007, Islander Jacob Murray decided to continue the dry stone tradition and was contracted to build walls for Peggy Coulter and Stanley Burke at the front of their home on the South Shore Road. In the fall of the same year, a party was held to bless the finished project with the Right Reverend Doctor Zander Dunn pouring a wee nip of vintage Irish whisky over a few stones. A corner stone is carved with the inscription: Jacob Murray – Builder – 2007.

Since then, Jacob has gone on to build stone walls for Jim and Judi Gould as well as for Terry Horner and Lily Jozkow. At present he has undertaken a large contract for David Baker and Birthe Jorgensen at 9000 Second Concession Road at the head of Amherst Island. This beautiful limestone dry wall, when completed will contain four round columns, the gates to the Baker-Jorgensen summer home.

Quoting John Shaw-Rimmington of Port Hope, Ontario, a modern day stonemason with a passion for dry stone walls: "The rock chips, pebbles and fragments packed into the spaces are called 'hearting' and they are what holds the wall up. A wall has to have plenty of heart."

It's good to see young Mr. Murray continuing this old world tradition on Amherst Island.



Photo by Terry Culbert

Coulter-Burke wall built by Jacob Murray in 2007.



Photo by Terry Culbert

Jacob Murray's latest project is located at 9000 Second Concession Road. Zeke Barker, son of the property owner learns the trade from Jacob Murray as old Mac, his canine looks on.

Harvest Fest at Reidview Farms

All Photos by Brian Little



Barbara Reid at the Nail Driving Competition.



Eric Welbanks' wagon



Hay Bale Rolling



Keith Miller and Jim Reid working the cider press.



Hay Bale Tractor

BIG DAY On AMHERST ISLAND

-Erwin Batalla

On Saturday September 1st, four Kingston Field Naturalists (KFN) set out to best the Ontario Big Day record for Ontario by birding exclusively on Amherst Island.

A Big Day is an activity sanctioned by the American Birding Association. The participants attempt to see as many species as possible in a calendar day. All members of the team must see or hear at least 95% of the birds observed. They must not receive information from other birders during that day but are allowed to scout the area before hand.

In 2008, Darren Rayner, Paul Mackenzie, Kurt Hennige and I had set the Ontario September Big Day record. We saw 115 species birding at Presqu'ile Provincial Park, Prince Edward Point and several other areas in Eastern Ontario. This was 15 more species than the previous record which had stood at 100 birds. We drove for several hundred kilometers on that day.

This time, we decided to bird only on Amherst Island. The Island is along an important migration corridor and has a variety of significant habitat for waterfowl, raptors, shorebirds and passerines.

Also, this event was a fundraiser. We solicited pledges to be collected by the

Association for the Protection of Amherst Island (APAI). These will be used to carry out further environmental research on the island.

At the September General Meeting of the KFN, we received pledges for \$280. With previous pledges from KFN members and members of the North Leeds Birders, this brought our total to \$515. Meanwhile, the APAI collected more than \$1500, mostly on Amherst.

Gary Ure replaced Darren on the group this year.

We met at the ferry terminal in Millhaven at 8:30 pm. Arriving on the Island, we listened briefly for night birds at the fire station but only heard an irate Killdeer. Kurt had arranged some sleeping quarters at the home of Peggy Coulter and Stanley Burke on the South Shore Road and we rested until 3:40 am. After a quick cup of coffee, we were on the road at 4 am.

We left in high spirits and went to the west end of the

Island where we walked into a marsh under the light of the full moon. We heard geese honking but no owls responded to our taped calls. We went to the Marshall Forty Foot road but there was also silence there except for distant dogs and a Ring-necked Pheasant. We stopped in an open field but were not successful there either. By now, it was after 6 am and we had only two species.

The mood was subdued as we stopped at the ferry terminal. We did observe Common Loon and loud Belted Kingfishers as well as Gulls there but we were still far short of what we had hoped.

We then went a little west and drove into Kerr Point. At first the area seemed deserted but a few warblers were spotted by Kurt and soon these turned into a large feeding flock. We saw Tennessee Warblers, Orange-crowned Warbler and Canada Warbler as well as

several others. Further down towards the lake, we also picked a Prairie Warbler. We spent nearly three hours at that location and our mood improved tremendously. We had a chance to beat the record!

Leaving Kerr Point, we stumbled on a Northern Mockingbird. Very few have been reported in the Kingston area this year. We picked a Baltimore Oriole and a group of Eastern Bluebirds along the way towards the Emerald Forty Foot road. There, we

saw more Passerines and added an Ovenbird to our list of warblers. It was time to return to our base and refuel with coffee and food.

It was now about noon and we went to the KFN property at the eastern end of the Island. We walked along the lake shore and spotted an American Pipit on a large boulder. When we reached the ponds, there were Great Blue Herons fishing and Marsh Wrens and Swamp Sparrow were still active.

A few shorebirds were in the mudflats but they were soon disturbed by a Peregrine Falcon. We saw the raptor make several unsuccessful passes at his intended victim before he gave up. At the bar, we observed several species of ducks and a pair of Black-crowned Night-herons bathing. We were thankful for the few clouds that shielded us from the sun. A Merlin was spotted chased by a pugnacious American Kestrel. We



Photo by Terry Culbert

A record number of large sailboats dropped overnight anchor in O'Drains Bay this summer.

returned to our vehicle and heard a Wilson Snipe along the way. Savannah Sparrows and Palm Warblers accompanied us on the walk.

We tallied our sightings. We had 105 species and it was only 3:50 pm. The record was within our grasp. We only needed ten more species!

This would be the high point of the day. From there on, new species proved very hard to find. A Brown Creeper, several Chipping Sparrows and an Olive-sided Flycatcher were seen along the Marshall Forty Foot road to the Owl Woods. There were no new species in the woods. We drove back to the west end of the Island and saw a few Barn Swallows coming to roost in a marsh. Nearby an American Bittern flew by.

We ended the day at the fire station at 8:30 pm where the Killdeer scolded us as he had done the night before. Our total was 110 species.

This was five short of the record but still an amazing total for September in a small area. It would have been the Ontario record if we had not bested it in 2008!

We felt that we had done very well in showing that Amherst Island is indeed a migration hot spot. We saw 21 species of warblers and nearly 40 of the species we observed were migrating through the area. With a few more shorebirds, the record can be beaten next year...

We would like to express our thanks to Peggy and Stanley for their kind hospitality and to everyone that gave us information about the location of certain species, allowed us to access their land or contributed to the fundraising. Thank you all.

COUNCIL GLEANINGS

- Ian Murray

From 21st Council Meeting – August 27

2012.21.33 - By-law 2012-082 - Approval of Indemnity Agreement with Windlectric Inc.
re: Amherst Island Wind Project

Moved by Councillor Ashley and seconded by Deputy Mayor Bresee that the C.A.O.'s report, August 21, 2012 re: Approval of Indemnity Agreement with Windlectric Inc., re: Amherst Island Wind Project - By-law 2012-082 be received and that By-law 2012-082, being a by-law to authorize an Indemnity Agreement with Windlectric Inc., be approved and that the Agreement be signed pending receipt of the requisite Letter of Credit. Enacted and Passed this 27th day of August 2012.

From 22nd Council Meeting – September 10

APAI's response to CAIRE's recent letter to Council

may be seen on the Township's web site.

From 23rd Council Meeting – September 24

Mercifully, I could see nothing of significant interest to Amherst Island readers.

AIMS SEPTEMBER MEETING

- Anders Bennick

Breakfast: Thank you to Janet Scott for preparing a wonderful breakfast despite power cuts.

Present: 24 members.

Chair: Brian Little, President.

1. The Chair introduced a guest, Larry Jensen who is an island resident.

2. The future of AIMS. At the last general meeting D Woodiwiss (Woody) was appointed as a one man committee to identify candidates for a new president, since our current president, Brian Little wishes to step down.

Woody reported that he had been unable to find any candidates. Instead he proposed that AIMS become a breakfast club that could also serve as an umbrella for community projects such as the market wagon and the flower baskets in the village. In this way there would be no need for an executive, although a treasurer would still be necessary, and there would be no need for a general meeting at the monthly breakfast. Thus the monthly meeting would primarily be a social event. New projects could still be undertaken provided that there were volunteers.

Brian Little outlined the projects that AIMS is currently undertaking. The biggest and most difficult is the New Year's Dinner and Dance. Other projects such as the market wagon and the flower baskets are not problematic because volunteers are looking after them. It would still be necessary to have someone responsible for arranging breakfast.

A lively discussion took place that raised several issues:

-Mark Raymond suggested that the executive be disbanded. Originally AIMS had no executive, decisions were made by the membership acting as committee of the whole. In the future, speakers for the monthly meeting could be found within the membership and new projects could be undertaken if volunteers were available.

-Several members agreed that the executive committee could be disbanded.

-It was pointed out that AIMS has been successful as a service club, for example in starting up or helping in

the start of projects such the museum, the market and the radio station.

- AIMS should continue as a service club.

- It has not always been possible to find volunteers for planned projects. Only if volunteers have been clearly identified should a project be undertaken.

- Breakfast could be organized by a volunteer appointed at the previous meeting.

- Fundraising would still occur through income from the market to ensure support of current projects such as Amerik's fund.

It was decided that based on this discussion the secretary would formulate a motion on the future organization of AIMS that would be send out to members prior to the next meeting. At that meeting there would be a vote on the motion.

2. New Year's Dinner and Dance

Following a spirited discussion a consensus was reached to continue the New Year's event. The band and the caterer have been booked and Victoria Cuyler has agreed to be in overall charge with help from volunteers. Various members indicated their willingness to volunteer for this event. Additionally the president will send out a memo encouraging members to volunteer. It was decided that there would be a pre-ticket sale and that cash donations would be welcome. The ticket price would be \$70 per couple and excess funds would be donated to the community.

3. Other business.

There was no other business.

4. It was decided to postpone the presentation by the guest speaker Tim Gushue to the next meeting.

5. The meeting was adjourned at 10a.m.

FRONT ROAD

-Garry Filson

In 2011 a section of Front Road was rebuilt which was 1.5 km. long starting at Emerald and stopped at the Reid farm. This road was originally pavement which had to be pulverized then 4 inches of new 5/8" gravel was applied. There was a section in front of the Reid farm that was rebuilt by replacing the existing base with 16 inches of 3" stone and filter cloth. After completion of prep work a double layer of 3/8" stone chip and oil

was added to create the finished surface.

In 2012 the remainder of Front Road that was 4.8km long started at the Reid farm and proceeded east to the public school was reconstructed in the same manner as the first section.

In total 23 cross culverts were replaced and 2 new ones were added.

Cost for project 1: \$174,600.

Cost for project 2: \$262,295.

Total for the two projects: \$436,895

[Editor: Garry sent me this at my request. Thanks, Garry for the information and a job well done.]

BIO BLITZ REPORT SUMMARY

KFN BioBlitz 2012

-Anne Robertson

The 14th Great Canadian BioBlitz of the KFN was held at the west end of Amherst Island. Amy Caughey and Marcus Bermann and their neighbours generously allowed us onto their old farm property. Here we had a variety of habitats to explore and in which to record species for 24 hours. The property included open areas, wetland and woodland habitats providing a variety of species. The wetland habitats included a small stream and wetland draining into Lake Ontario as well as a couple of dug ponds. The woodland near the Lake was mostly Red and White Cedar with some hardwoods on a ridge to the north. Natural succession is taking place in the old fields.



Photo by Terry Culbert
The rolled bales look an awful lot like the old fashioned breakfast cereal, Shredded Wheat.

The BioBlitz took place on June 15th to 16th. The weather was perfect. A BioBlitz is an attempt to list as many species as possible in 24 hours and gives baseline information on the biodiversity of the property at one point in time. Amateur, professional and young naturalists helped with spotting and identifying species as well as educating each other about the diversity of the location. Species listing, guided walks and the traditional BBQ were held.

About 50 people turned out for this event. Many KFN members and Junior Naturalists participated, including several families.

An important feature was the guided walks. Mammal traps were set and a night hike took place which included scat identification, setting minnow traps and

pitfall traps as well as painting trees to attract moths. We listened for owls, heard a Whip-poor-will, and saw and heard a bat using a bat detector. This year we were able to enjoy the night sky with the aid of people and telescopes from the local Astronomy Club. This was a popular evening event. On Saturday early morning bird walks took place followed by a plant walk, pond dipping and a damsel and dragonfly walk. After lunch there was a walk to search for amphibians and reptiles and one for butterflies.

Special species included the Orchard Oriole and the threatened Whip-poor-will. Amongst the Butterflies, the Giant Swallowtail, increasing rapidly in Ontario, was still a significant sighting. The uncommon Swamp Darner dragonfly was also a species of interest. In the pond the most notable species were a water scorpion and an Eastern Newt larva. We discovered that the old pizza crust and light stick bait were less successful at attracting species than dry cat food in the overnight minnow traps.

A good variety of grass species were identified, 11 species in this family. Few spore-bearing plants were reported this year. The flowering plants are by far the largest group and we are very grateful to those recorders for their significant additions to the inventory (more than half the total tally).

Notable for their absence were any turtle species. Invasive species included the abundant Round Goby from the lake, Garlic Mustard in the woods and Wild Parsnip in the fields. European Buckthorn was also present. And the Grove snail was found very frequently in the woods, sometimes climbing up the cedar trees!

Several species were not included in the tally because they had been planted.

The final tally is 372 species.

The event was enjoyed by the participants who commented that they found it educational and had had fun.

Thank you all for your participation and we hope you will all come back next June to another location for another BioBlitz.

[Staff: The Island house mailing didn't emphasize the fact that there were lots of mini workshops for all ages and levels of knowledge, so unfortunately few Islanders participated in a most interesting event.]



Photo by Don Tubb

Just in case anyone has forgotten what she looked like...

AMHERST ISLANDER SOLD (AGAIN)

[This information comes from a newspaper article that was sent to Elsie Willard from Arah Wilson, who was the late Captain William Cochran's daughter. He sailed on the Amherst Islander from 1955 when it arrived until he passed away in 1962 when Eldon Willard took over until 1989. Judy Bierma forwarded scanned copies of the article to the Beacon.]

Our former ferry is headed to Honduras where its new home will be on Roatan Island in the Bay of Honduras at the southerly end of the Gulf of Mexico.

Churches in the Norfolk, Ontario, area have loaded the boat with basic goods and household items that include: clothes, shoes, beds, sewing machines, chairs, books, Bibles, religious CDs and DVDs, and a honey centrifuge.

JESUS DOESN'T HAVE ALL THE ANSWER(S)

- Zander of DUNN INN

Written on the blackboard of Knox Theological College was the statement, "Jesus is the answer." Somebody added these words: "What is the question?"

A man talking to his rabbi asked, "Why is it that rabbis always answer a question with another question?" The rabbi answered, "So what's wrong with a question?"

Jesus was a typical rabbi (teacher) of his day. Jesus rarely gave a straight answer to a question. One writer contends Jesus asked 307 questions. Another author states that Jesus was asked 187 questions of which he directly answered only three.

Jesus' questions made his questioners think for themselves. Jesus knew that answers can provide a false sense of security. If you get the "right" answer you won't ask any more questions on that topic. You might come to think you have arrived; that you are right; that you cannot be contradicted.

I am impressed with the author Maya Angelou when she says, "I'm startled or taken aback when people walk up to me and tell me they are Christians. My first response is the question, 'Already?'"

If Jesus didn't ask questions, he told stories. He never gave the meaning of the stories. They were told for people to figure out for themselves. And, let it be noted here, that people have come up with different answers and insights into the stories Jesus told. In other words, there is no "right" answer for every situation.

I was accosted once by a woman who demanded to know why my sermons were so different from the doctrines of the church. She believed every member of the church should think the same way. I asked her what sermon she was thinking about. She told me it was a sermon about "Being Born Again." I had pointed out that the concept of being born again is based on a mistranslation. While some translations have Jesus telling Nicodemus that he must be "born again" the more accurate translation has Jesus telling Nicodemus that he must be "born from above."

This mistranslation has led to two very different approaches to the spiritual life. Those who speak about being "born again" think of a once-and-for-all experience of God. Now being "born again" can be helpful if we think of it as the first step in the travels of life. But Jesus never said you have to be born again. He said you have to be born "from above." Being born from above implies a journey, a process, a way of life.

I have found that those who emphasize that they have been born again refer back to one (often dramatic) experience of God. They seem to think that because they have had that one experience, that's all they need. In fact, for some people new information, new experiences, new questions are threatening. They often think that those who ask questions or raise issues should be put down or made to conform.

I find it liberating to ask and raise questions with people. I often get different answers, most of which help me consider my own answers, thoughts and positions.

But my approach is not to the liking of all church members. Some want answers, the right answers and they try to reduce all the answers to the questions of the world to Jesus. But some also contend that everybody must believe the same things about Jesus or about the issues of life. That's because they are insecure and want to be certain about all the matters they consider important.

It is both interesting and significant that church members have never been in full agreement about anything. We disagree about almost everything. And that's not all bad.

The danger is that any who disagree with the perspectives or the answers of those who are so certain are considered completely wrong. In some churches certain groups of people cannot receive communion or become members. Some people are so upset by "the wrong questions" or by different beliefs they think they have the right to bomb abortion clinics or kill gay men. The push for certainty has led to dangerous and terrible places. Absolute certainty keeps us separated from God and our neighbours because

it means that we think we have the whole truth and there's no room for the experiences or input of others.

Some good, well-meaning people espouse doctrines set in stone years ago. They no longer have to think for themselves. But they also miss out on the challenge of following a story that is always evolving through questions. Like Jesus we can try to get involved in a story that involves thought, raises questions, often runs

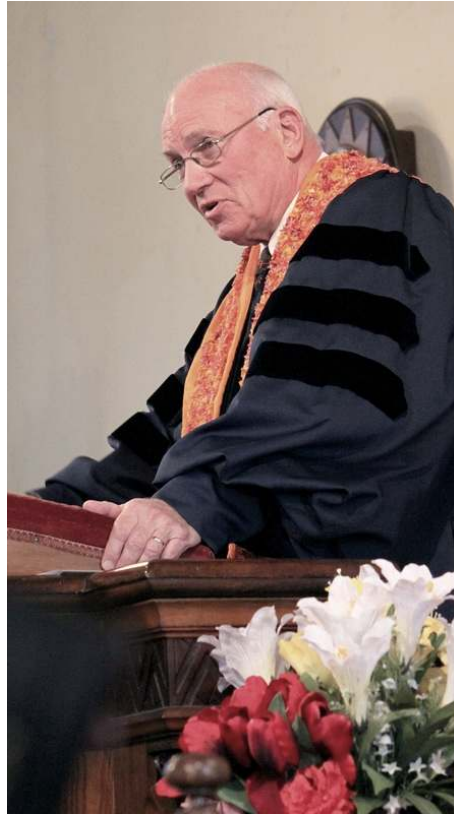


Photo by Terry Culbert

After more than 50-years preaching from the pulpit, twelve of those at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church on Amherst Island, the Right Reverend Doctor Zander Dunn has decided to officially retire. On March 24, 2013, Zander Dunn will be replaced three out of four Sundays a month by Reverend Harry Klassen. This arrangement will last for two years while the congregation searches for a new minister.

counter to conventional wisdom. Real faith is not trusting that statements made years ago are true; real faith is not seeing ambiguity as the enemy; real faith is questioning, doubting, struggling with issues as part of the journey of life.

Paul Tillich, a great modern theologian, wrote this: "Everyone seeks answers, mostly to questions that are not very important. The great concern in life should be to discover which are the right questions. Then, even if you rarely get answers, you are at least journeying in the right direction."

MAGNIFICENT WORLD OF MUSHROOMS

-Birthe Jorgensen

For all of us, when we venture into nature, we come away awed by the beauty that surrounds us and amazed at how much more we'd like to know about the nature all around us. This sense of awe was reinforced for the great mix of people, Islanders and Mainlanders, who attended this weekend's Mushroom Workshop on Amherst Island led by Richard Aaron, naturalist, <http://natureknowledge.weebly.com/about.html>.

During two days, Richard managed to share innumerable stories about the history, behavior, uses and peculiar habits of the many mushrooms we found, while teaching us how we can learn more and go deeper in the future. Making forays into three beautiful Amherst Island woodlots, we returned each time to the Lodge to inspect and classify our specimens.

Our wonderful group consisted of experienced and inexperienced fungi collectors and studiers. While many of us came to learn to find mushrooms for eating or for painting and photographing, we all learned so much about the known and unknown value of fungi, that our perspectives were broadened, and our thirst to learn much more increased. The best edibles we saw over the weekend were the Giant Puffball (*Calvatia gigantea*), Pear-shaped Puffball (*Lycoperdon pyriforme*), Bear's Head fungi (*Hydnum Coralloides*), one of the Parasol mushrooms (*Macrolepiota rachodes*), and some dried up oyster mushrooms (*Pleurotus ostreatus*) that was found in the



Photo by Birthe Jorgensen



Photo by Birthe Jorgensen

forest on Sunday. We also found quite a few other fungi to delight the eye and spark great interest, including the Cortinarius with the flesh that turned lilac, and others that were just plain intriguing, such as the Blood-foot Mycena (*Mycena haematopus*), which left a trail of blood-coloured juice on Jan's hand.

Special thanks to the owners of the Owl Woods, and the Alports, and Dorothy McGinn for allowing our group to explore the fungi - which is thriving, despite this summer's drought - in their beautiful diverse woods. And many thanks to The Lodge for the delicious and generous meals and warm relaxing accommodation enjoyed by all.

WILLIAM JAMES JACKSON HOWARD AND LOUISA HITCHINS

-Eric Bowler

William J.J. Howard was born on Amherst Island on 8 February 1809, the son of John Howard and Anne 'Nancy' Jackson, and baptized by the Rev. John Langhorn on 14 March 1809. He was raised in a pioneer family home that was pleasant and comfortable although lacking in everything that today would be considered necessary to raise a child.

He was taught reading, writing and arithmetic by an aunt of his, Mrs. Elizabeth Connor, who kept a private school on the Island for a few years.

He was married, when he was still very young to Louisa Hitchins, daughter of Richard Hitchins and Maria Gates. They had six children in the next 12 years before his wife died

on 26 August 1856.

William Howard was a clever businessman, purchasing in 1833, 100 acres of farmland at Lot 12, Concession 1, Amherst Island, from Catherine Maria Bowes, (the daughter and heir of Sir John Johnson), and adding an additional 200 acres at Lots 4 and 5, South Shore Concession in 1835, also from Mrs. Bowes. The value of these lots increased year after year and was the basis of his family's considerable wealth.

His grant of land as a son of Loyalists was Lot 26, Concession 18, Harvey Township, Peterborough County, next to the lot granted to his brother George. The order-in-council was dated 5

March 1835, the land was patented on 19 Sep 1837 and was sold to the Hon. J. Kirby for £50 on 22 March 1838.

Apart from farming, he became a merchant, a captain in the local militia, a Justice of the Peace and a reeve of Amherst Island. After his death, his store at Stella was advertised for sale in the Napanee Weekly Express on 16 Oct 1868 as: "A large frame store and dwelling house, two stories high and is the very best business stand on Amherst Island. The store has a large yard, good stabling and garden attached. Upon the premises is the best wharf and store house upon the Bay of Quinte at which a very large grain and general business has been done."

About 1862 he was re-married to Rachel Moore, a widow who we believe was originally Rachel Honner, daughter of Edward Honner and Sarah Waldron. The Honner family had come from Ireland and they were said to have been friends and possibly related to the Howard family who had also come from Ireland. Rachel had a teen-aged daughter, named Eliza Moore (1846-1916) who later married Charles Mortimer Howard of Amherst Island.

William J. J. Howard died on 29 May 1867 and is buried in Pentland cemetery, Amherst Island. After his death his second wife married George Matthews (who had worked for the Howards on the Island), and moved to Port Hope, Ontario.

Children of William James Jackson Howard and Louisa Hitchins:

1. Minerva Ann Howard (1832-1905) m. Alexander Smith and moved to Chatham, Ontario.
2. Eliza Jane Howard (1833-1911) m. David Hiram Preston and stayed on Amherst Island.
3. Mary Martha Howard (1835-1914) m. her cousin, Thomas Edward Howard and moved to Bath. After T.E. Howard's death, she married another cousin, Nicholas Hazlett Peterson
4. William James Jackson Howard (1837-1895) m. Mary Jane Degge. They lived in Detroit.



Photo courtesy of Eric Bowler
William J.J. Howard & step-daughter.

5. Margaret Louisa Howard (1840-) m. James Bethel Todd. They lived in Detroit.

6. Richard Allen Howard (1844-) m. Mary Elizabeth Hitchins. They too moved to Detroit although Mary returned to Amherst Island at a later date.

[Editor: this completes Eric Bowler's articles on early Amherst Islanders. Thanks Eric.]

THANK YOU NOTES

Thank you to the WI and AIMS volunteers who planted and maintained the flowers throughout the village.

Beacon Staff

NOTICES

As the BATH VILLAGE ANIMAL HOSPITAL, our licensing body (College of Veterinarians of Ontario) prohibited us from conducting the facility as both an "animal hospital" and as a "spay-neuter facility". So, when we made the decision to change the Bath Village Animal Hospital to the Kingston Napanee Spay Neuter Clinic, it was done so in good faith. Our goal was to provide a desperately needed service to help curb the over-population of dogs and cats (nearly 3000 spays and neuters in the last 18 months alone); a story close to the heart of Amherst Islanders.

I am pleased to announce that we have finally been able to secure unique accreditation through the College of Veterinarians to operate both facilities out of the same location, and thus we are planning on reopening our office in 2013 for regular Veterinary appointments, pet food, supplies, nail trims, heartworm and flea treatments etc. Programs are currently in place at both the Limestone City Animal Hospital (in Kingston) and the Lennox & Addington Animal Hospital (in Napanee) to accommodate those of you interested in using our services until our Bath location reopens."



Photo courtesy of Eric Bowler
Louisa Hitchins c 1865

BEACON ADS

Three New Ads This Month (+ Shirley's from last month):

Wanted: a used VCR (for playing childrens' tapes).
Phone 613-328-8892

Local electrician 30yrs exp, \$25 an hour. Also Home Renovations, Tree Removal, Pressure Wash. Call Cary 389-8327.

HONEY: Topsy Farms once more has Island honey for sale at the Wool Shed.
Phone 613-389-3444 for an appointment or drop by and take your chances.

Free For The Taking
Shirley Miller has a regular size washer and dryer to give away free to anyone who comes to pick up. (They are being replaced by stackable ones.)

AMHERST ISLAND CHIROPRACTIC
10650 Front Rd.
Office hours: Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.
For appointments call 613 328-8892

AMHERST ISLAND STORE
Monday - Friday: 9am - 11:30am; 2:30pm - 5pm
Saturday: 9am - 1pm (Post Office closes at noon)
Sunday: closed

BETTY'S HOME COOKING
My Market Goodies are available!
Plus if you want a full meal to go... a few days notice and your cooking for company is over.
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Do You Need Extra Help at your house or property?
Do you need someone to watch your house or animals while you go away?
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FOOTFLATS FARM ACCOMMODATION:
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Goodman House (waterfront)
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- 3 bedrooms, 1 bath
- May to October

FOR RENT
House in the village is available by the weekend or the week.
Contact - Jan Sydorko at 519-451-1197 or email to michael.sydorko@sympatico.ca

FOR RENT January - March, 2013
1 1/2 storey house on south shore, huge windows, radiant heating, plus propane gas fireplace in loft and radiator at other end, ensuite bathroom off master bedroom, door from m.b. onto porch, second bedroom and bathroom, room in loft area for at least 3 other beds (2 double airbeds available), fabulous views in all directions, large open fully equipped kitchen. (photos available)
Call 613 389-7758

GODDEN'S WHOLE HOG SAUSAGE
We would like to thank our faithful sausage customers on Amherst Island for their continued support of our product.
Flavours now include: Salt & Pepper; Honey & Garlic; Sundried Tomato & Oregano; Hot Italian; Sweet Chilli & 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.

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613-379-5672

HELP STILL NEEDED. We need the following items for the Lennox and Addington S.P.C.A.. Used towels and linens, paper towels and cleaning supplies, pet food, kitty litter, dog and cat toys are always in demand as are used stamps (any kind), Canadian Tire coupons and pop cans. There is a large container in my porch for the pop cans and any other items can be left in my porch as well.
Thank you for helping to support our animal shelter.
Further information needed? Call Freda Youell - 613 384-4135.

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Open weekends and most weekday mornings.

TOPSY FARMS has lamb cuts for sale in the Wool Shed. We also have lamb patties, and our own sausage for sale.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

{Island Beacon: October 15, 1982 - Volume 3 Issue 57}

COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING Oct 5th

- Jackie Sylvester

The Council met in regular session on Oct. 5th. Two delegations were received. Lloyd and Phyllis Strain applied for approval in principle of a severance request, which they received.

Mr. Skillings asked Council for a right-of-way over the marsh for a hydro line to be built in mid-winter when things are frozen. An agreement is to be drawn up by legal counsel.

The building inspector issued permits for things as varied as machinery sheds and silos to a plumbing permit.

The ferry committee indicated that our ferry will return when it shows up -- otherwise things are going well.

The roads committee is concerned with mounting price and wage demands upon its budget. Also due to union regulations regarding overtime, the council may be looking for more drivers for the snow plows in winter so we don't have to pay overtime. It is thought that presently there are only 4 persons residing on the Island who have the appropriate driver's licence so this may be a problem.

The fire committee reported that Phil Silvers is to be hired to put steel siding on the fire hall.

The property committee is pleased with the clean-up job that has been done around the dock area.

Sheep evaluators are to be compensated for their time and expenses with \$25.00 per call, an amount comparable to that paid fence-viewer's.

The Recreation committee is donating \$100 for six months of the 1981-82 season and \$200 for the 1982-03 to the Cubs and Beavers. They were pleased that Jack Forester was able to acquire 30 chairs at the recent auction at Victoria Hall. Council expressed regret at having to accept Howard Pearce's resignation from the Recreation Committee since he is no longer a resident of the Island. They wish to thank him for his six years of involvement.

The Township office is to be supplied with a new Olympia compact electric typewriter for a cost of \$980, much cheaper than a regular office typewriter.

Council wished to recognize the efforts of the coordinators and all those who participated in the Oral History project this summer. The 19 page Walking Tour of Stella, one of the outcomes of the project, is available at the Municipal Office at cost; \$2.00 per copy.

Council agreed to accept the two conditions asked for by the Drainage Petition Review Committee on the Miller Drain. The conditions relate to concern over damage to pike and bass spawning areas. Straw bales are to be installed and maintained downstream of construction activities at the drain outlet and other

[From The Archives continues]

locations as required. Secondly, no construction is to be permitted on the drain between March 15 and May 15 of any year. The drain should now receive full acceptance for funding requirements. . . .

Then, soon after 9:00 p.m. ended the shortest council meeting I have ever attended.

CORRECTION

- Tom Sylvester

I reported in the September Beacon on increase in vacation time for the ferry crews in the ratified ferry agreement. This was erroneous, and I apologize to all concerned.

CHAPTER 4

- Garth Orchard

[Actually this chapter should have preceded last month's chapter, but was temporarily misplaced.]

Time seemed to slip by until my two year contract was completed. In the Spring of 1931 I received word that my Dad had developed rheumatic fever, and would be laid up for many months, unable to work. While I hated to leave the Island and the healthy farm work that had done wonders for my physique, it seemed obvious that my help was needed more with the family in Toronto. In spite of the drastic employment situation at that time, I was lucky enough to get a job as junior salesman in a men's clothing firm.

For the balance of that year the whole family lived on my wage of \$12 a week. Dad was advised to get to a drier climate, and accepted an offer of work in Winnipeg, so the rest of the family moved West.

Keith left the Island shortly after and joined me in Toronto, taking over my job when I was promoted to another position. On combined earnings of \$27 a week, we rented and furnished a two room flat, and lived like kings by careful shopping and developing our culinary skills. I shall never forget the look on our landlady's face though as she summoned us to her rooms on our return from work one evening, to see a steady drip, drip! from the ceiling into her dishpan on her bed! We had forgotten to empty the waterpan under our ice-box fridge, and it had overflowed all day! All in all though, we enjoyed our year of 'batching it' in Toronto.

Early in the Winter of 1933 I received a distressing phone call from Becky Hill telling me that Willie was dying of advanced kidney failure, and had asked if I

would consider coming back to run the farm for them.

With only a few days to make a decision, I gave my notice at work, and prepared to return to the Island. As an example of the desperate employment situation in Toronto then, the firm advertised the job (for which I had been paid \$15 a week at \$8 weekly, and had over a hundred applications for it, finally hiring a married man with two children for the job. I asked him how on earth he expected to live on that, and he said "Don't worry, enough will go out the back door to make up a living!" Desperate situations create desperate people, and I couldn't help thinking that employers almost courted dishonesty by offering such starvation wages.

The journey back to the Island was somewhat apprehensive as this was my first experience with impending death. On phoning from the station I was told that a neighbour would drive over the ice to get me, as Willie was not expected to live through the night.

Hustled up to his bedside, I was shocked by the gaunt shadow of the man I had known. He recognized me and whispered "My wee man, you did come," and shortly after, "Sing for me." Holding his hand, I found the strength to sing that haunting Welsh tune of 'Jesu lover of my soul, let me to Thy bosom fly'. Moments later there was a long sigh as Willie breathed his last. When family and neighbours had paid their last respects and left, Becky and I were left alone to do the necessary preparations.

In those days there were no facilities available on the Island for undertaking services. Mr. Miller in Stella, kept one or two caskets on hand for ready use, and the family looked after preparing and dressing the body. So, by the flickering light of a single coal-oil lamp, we set

to the task. After a careful wash, Becky asked if I thought I could shave him. Gulping down my panic, I said I'd try. With cold thin lather and much patience, I managed to remove several days growth from one side without a nick, then gently turning him over to tackle the opposite side, there was a long drawn out AGH H H! from poor Willie. Becky nearly tipped over the lamp, and I almost dropped the razor and ran; I was so startled, before realizing it was just air trapped in the body, and not a resurrection! By the time the shaving was finished, rigor mortis had set in, and I still had the challenge of dressing him in his Sunday suit. I cut the sleeves out of the shirt and slipped it on. Tying a tie on myself was easy enough, but did you ever try doing it in reverse on someone else? The pants were relatively

[From The Archives continues]

simple, but the jacket proved quite impossible. Nothing would bend! I finally solved the problem by slitting up the back right through the collar, and sliding each half on separately, then pinning it back together! Hidden in the casket next day, the finished appearance looked quite presentable. Nevertheless, my first experience with death was a most memorable one. It was a bleak February day, with ruts in the roads frozen solid, as we loaded the casket onto our spring wagon and headed the cortege of friends to the church on the hill.

That was probably the roughest ride poor Willie ever had, for I was hard pressed to keep the casket from bouncing out of the swaying wagon! It reminded me poignantly of my first jolting ride up that same road beside Willie, on our way to the farm. So much had happened in those few years, and I recognized how, in many ways, Willie had helped my growing from boy to manhood. We laid him quietly to rest in the cemetery vault, and I drove home to the sober responsibility I was taking on as 'man of the house' and farmer.

A.I.P.S. NEWS

- Steven Ward

On September 29 the school elections took place. These are the results:

Head People - Julie Forester, Penny Thornhill

Senior Representative - Steven Willard

Junior Representative - Hugh Filson

Primary Representative - Amy Caughey

Last month a mistake was made In the Beacon about the grades that the students are in this year. This is the correct list.

(x represents children that are new in the school)

Primary Room Teacher - Mrs. Forester

Kindergarten

x Douglas Gavlas x Gordon Thornhill

x Jamie Silver x Sarah deHaan

x Ricky Bedford

Grade 1

Jason Silver Lori Caughey

Grade 2

Amy Caughey Tracey Hitchins

Chad Miller

Junior Room - Miss Agnes

Grade 3

Laura Wemp x Sarah MacDonald

Robert Eves Jeff Forester

Mike Horth

Grade 4

Sherry Ward

Reg Hitchins

Mike Strain

Jeff deHaan

Peter Horth

Hugh Filson

x Jamie Thornhill

Grade 5

Shannon Eves

Adam Miller

Jamie Miller

Kirk Collins

Senior Room - Mr. Flanigan

Grade 6

Steven Ward

Ricky Welbanks

Trudy Strain

x Penny Thornhill

Donnie Miller

Grade 7

Steven Willard

John Eves

Julie Forester

Leah Murray

David Brown

Paula Collins

Grade 8

Steven Viau

Oct . 12/82

Director of Education,

Board of Education,

County of Lennox & Addington

Please accept our thanks, as sponsors of "Amherst Island. Oral History Project, 1982", for the use of the Amherst Island Public School facilities this past summer.

We also wish to express our thanks to the staff of the Public School. Special thanks to Principal Mike Flanigan and to Beth Forester for their help and advice during the planning stages of the project during which meaningful goals were set for the benefit of both students and community.

It is cooperation of this nature that helps make the school an integral part of our community.

Sally Bowen and Ian Murray

for "Amherst Island Oral History Project, 1982"

(typed original sent to Board)

AMHERST ISLAND ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

- Leslie Gavlas

I would like to move a 'Vote of Thanks' to Jan Milligan, Cathy Wilson, and their assistants Pauli Bulch and Bev Wemp, for the fine manner in which they shared with the citizens of Amherst Island the results of their summer's work.

While I was aware of their activities in taping the

[From The Archives continues]

reminiscences of our Senior Citizens, it took the Open House of August 26 at the school to point out the vast amount of additional research that went into the project.

On this occasion, a truly impressive array was on display in the school gymnasium. Obviously, it was not possible for the general public to listen to all the tapes, however, a file had been prepared in which a summary of the tapes had been, made for each interviewee. (These tapes, a bibliography of all source materials, and other relevant material have been filed at the Napanee Historical Society Museum where they can be consulted by any interested parties).

In addition to the tapes, the girls had collected and compiled material from many sources. A second large file contained information regarding the history of each individual parcel of land on the island. Many of us were fascinated to learn just who had, lived on our property, and under what circumstances it had changed hands.

On display also were many pictures (loaned by Amherst Islanders), census information from the past, church records, bookkeeping records from the stores, and a complicated chart giving information about the business life of long ago Amherst Island. This chart listed the many individuals who were in business with information as to the type of business they operated and the years in which they were active.

The display was further rounded out by a large assortment of tools and household articles which were used on Amherst Island in pioneer days.

After browsing at will over the display we were invited into the lunch room for tea, coffee, or Kool Aid, and a delicious assortment of baked goods. Here a slide display was presented, the slides having been copied from photographs loaned by the island people. This display was accompanied by a commentary compiled from the actual taped reminiscences. Unfortunately, the sound was very poor and I understand the commentary was not used with the second showing of the slides.

This Open House was basically Jan's and Bev's baby and they are to be congratulated for a most successful evening.

On Sunday, September 26th, Cathy returned to Amherst Island to conduct 2 tours based on the Historical Tour of Stella which she and Pauli had developed for use in the Public School as part of the Social Studies Program.

Under Cathy's guidance, we toured Glenn's Store, the Town Hall (originally the Methodist Church), the Victoria Hall, the third Town Hall (now the Fire Hall),

Pringle's Blacksmith Shop, Neilson's Store, St. Alban's Church, Farnham, the Cheese Factory, the Tugwell Slaughter House, the Ice Cream Parlour, and Wes Brown's Blacksmith Shop.

Cathy had arranged with people familiar with these sites to provide part of the commentary, and to open their doors for the tour. Since many Senior Citizens were on the tour, there were many comments made by them as well which greatly added to the entertainment value in addition to providing further information.

Thanks is due to the people who opened their premises to the group, and especially to Syl Apps who let us tour Farnham, although he had not been approached in advance. With the weather co-operating beautifully, these tours were also very successful.

Personally, I found this entire project to be extremely interesting. I'm sure the Senior Citizens involved in the preparation of the material must have enjoyed the experience of recollecting past events knowing that these are considered important for the future. For the rest of us, the public presentations can only result in an increased awareness and appreciation for the original settlers of Amherst Island to whom we owe so much for our present, pleasant community. So Thank You, Jan, Cathy, Bev and Pauli for sharing your work with us.

Incidentally, a Bibliography of the materials on file at the Museum, a Master Copy of the Walking Tour, and the files prepared giving the history of the farm properties on the Island are available at the Stella Library. Any persons interested in studying the materials on their own can make arrangements to do so.

CARD OF THANKS

I wish to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to my family, good friends and neighbours for all the phone calls, cards, visits, flowers and fruit. Also to the P.C.W. and the A.C.W. for calls and gifts.

For having special friends at a time of need, always helps to heal.

Gratefully appreciated,
Jennie McCormick

[News Item From Whig Standard 1948]

HE TAKES UP FLYING EARLY

Youngest air traveller in Eastern Ontario is five days-old Reginald Garry Hitchins, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Hitchins, Amherst Island.

Garry and his mother, the former Anna Glenn, yesterday left Kingston General Hospital where he was

[From The Archives continues]

born Monday. To return to their Island farm by ordinary means would have meant a four mile journey by sleigh over snow-choked roads. Instead a Canuck plane landed them in their field in a few minutes, where Mr. Hitchins met them with a sleigh and blankets, to whisk them to their warm home.



Photo by Terry Culbert

A thoroughbred grazes on the Hitchins Farm along the Second Concession Road.