



Amherst Island BEACON

Issue 375

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June 2009



ABBA on Amherst Island??



And it was all for Laurene Kilpatrick! See Page 2 for more photos. (Photo by Lynn Fleming)

THIS ISSUE

- Ian Murray, editor

It was a pleasant surprise to have so much new material that I had to move archived articles to the July edition. I enjoyed going back through the old Beacons for material to re-print and I hope that our readers find it interesting.

NEIGHBOURHOOD

- Lyn Fleming

Condolences to Gayla Williamson, who recently lost her mother, Lois Shonniker. Get Well this month to Judith Harrower, Marion Glenn, Sheila Whiting.

Condolences to Karen J. Fleming on the passing of her father Stanley Russell Shangraw.

Congratulations to Helen McCormick on the birth of her

4th great-grandchild, Adam. Adam is the son of grandson Dillon McCormick and his wife Anne-Marie of Ottawa. Third grandchild for Paul and Holly McCormick.

Happy 50th Birthday to Laurene Kilpatrick, who celebrated with a "back to the 70s" party at The Lodge. Close to a 100 friends and family celebrated in their favourite 70s garb. The evening was topped off with a special appearance by ABBA !

Happy 50th also to Gary McDonald, who celebrated with friends and family at his home on Front Rd.

Ida Gavlas spent 10 days travelling and exploring the east coast with her daughter Jessica Rybka.

The Amherst Island Recreation Association held their annual Fish Fry and Spring Dance for another sold out crowd again this year.

The Neilson Store Museum, Saturday morning market and

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The Amherst Island Beacon

Issue 375
June 2009

Published monthly, the
Beacon is wholly
funded by paid sub-
scriptions and sales at
the Amherst Island
General Store.

Subscription Rates:

Canada \$35/yr

USA \$40/yr

Overseas: Contact Us!

E-Mail \$20/yr

June Printing

300 Copies

Subscription & Edi- torial

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Deadline for all sub- missions:

25th of each Month

Printed By:

Burke's Printing,

Napanee

Credits:

Word 2003

Microsoft Publisher

2007

Pagemaker 7.0

Acrobat 8.0

Family Tree Maker

9.0

Microsoft Clip Art



*Above: Warren Kilpatrick, Doug Shurtliffe, Duncan Ashley, and
Brent Wolfreys ham it up 70's style!*

Below: Warren Kilpatrick & Birthday Girl, Laurene Kilpatrick.



PHOTOS BY LYNN FLEMING

(Continued from page 1)

Weasel and Easel are open again for business, a sure sign that Spring is upon us.

One of the most beautiful times on the Island is during lilac season, which we are right in the middle of as I write. There seem to be an abundance of lambs and calves in the fields and huge "gaggles of goslings" along the shorelines. While it hasn't been an especially warm Spring, neither has it been especially cold. We must be getting a good mix of rain and sun, as grass cutting season is in full swing.



Family Reunion?



Terry Culbert snapped this photo of Grackles at a local bird feeder.

JANET'S JOTTINGS

- Janet Scott

Not a Weighty Subject:

My bird of the month is certainly not a weighty subject at all. This wee mite, only a tiny bit of bone, meat and feathers is a living dynamo. It weighs only about as much as a penny and is 10cm (3") in size. The Ruby-throated Hummingbird is a favourite of our gardens and patios as it feeds happily at man-made, sugar-water feeders or darts happily into tube shaped flowers seeking the sweet nectar inside.

In flight the hummingbird burns energy at more than ten times the maximum energy required by an athlete. Their efficient digestive system processes 99 per cent of the sugar from nectar in 15 minutes. Its amazing figure eight movement of the wings allows it to hover and feed without perching. This rapid flight creates the buzzing sound that alerts us to its presence on our porch or deck. The long tongue, twice the length of the bill, allows it to slip deeply into flowers after nectar but it also feeds on tiny insects and spiders. The tongue can move in and out at 13 times a second. Sometimes your friendly, neighbourhood hummingbird will sit on a perch at your feeder, staying long enough to cause bubbles to rise as it drinks the liquid. I mix 1 cup of water with one quarter cup of sugar and bring it to the boil before filling my feeder as this seems to kill some of the bacteria and it lasts longer.

There are approximately 330 species of hummingbirds in the New World. Those of you who have travelled are quick to share with me some of the exotic hummingbirds that you have seen in the tropics. Here on Amherst Island, until recently, the only species that you were able to see was the Ruby-throated Hummingbird. Lately the Rufous Hummingbird has made a few appearances in the Kingston area and Stewart and Kathy Reed were lucky enough to have one visit their feeder.

The Ruby-throated Hummingbird male appears to have a black throat but as it turns just the right way to catch the light the throat then glows with this deep red gem-like colour. The feathers on the throat are actually transparent with stacks of flattened granules of melanin, blackish pigment. Each granule is packed with dozens of microscopic air bubbles which act like mirrors. The bubbles reflect and refract the light so that some are cancelled and some are amplified. From straight on the throat appears red and then depending on the angle orange, yellow or black. The back and head are iridescent green and the chin is white. The belly is white with flanks and sides dusky green. The female has a white throat and young may appear at your feeders with speckled throats.

The first week of June shows Hummingbirds in various stages of acrobatic flight as they try to attract a mate. The males fly in dizzy patterns in and around the feeder area. They fly at amazing speeds in and out around my porch or establish a swinging arc from cedar at the east side to the

cedar at the west. These flights are sometimes accompanied by a loud squeaking noise which seems like a very loud voice for such a wee bird. The female builds the nest with cobwebs, plant down and bud scales and covers the outside with lichen so that from below the nest looks just like a mossy knob on the tree.

Recently Dayle and Elly Gowan had a most exciting encounter of the feathered kind when a Hummingbird got in their house and surprised Elly while she was making a salad. She called Dayle who got the bird on his finger and went to carry it outside. The bird then moved to his head and rode the rest of the way to their feeder where it gratefully drank deep and long. They were able to photograph this event. What a marvelous chance to see it up so close and something they will always remember. What a gift!

There is no doubt that they like red. Elly was wearing a red shirt when the bird came to see her. When Audrey Miller had her craft shop in their home on the third, a hummingbird kept pecking at the red closed sign in the window. Another bird dived right up to my daughter Ruth when she was wearing a red ribbon from the Sunday School picnic when she was only about eight and rather surprised her. The birds like my red Hollyhocks too.

Hang out a brightly coloured feeder, make your own sugar water and sit back and prepare to be entertained. Fun guaranteed.

Good Birding



A Unique Visit

We had an interesting close up encounter with a hummingbird last week.

Elly was working in the kitchen when she heard a noise, and then was buzzed by a female Ruby Throated Hummingbird. Somehow it had found its way into the house (the front door had been left open for a while), and found its way to the kitchen.

I suspect it was tired from trying to find a way out, stopped for a rest on the kitchen counter.

It seemed reluctant to fly out the back door when it was opened, but agreed to sit on my thumb for the ride outside. Once in the doorway, however, it decided to move up to my head (for a better view, perhaps?).

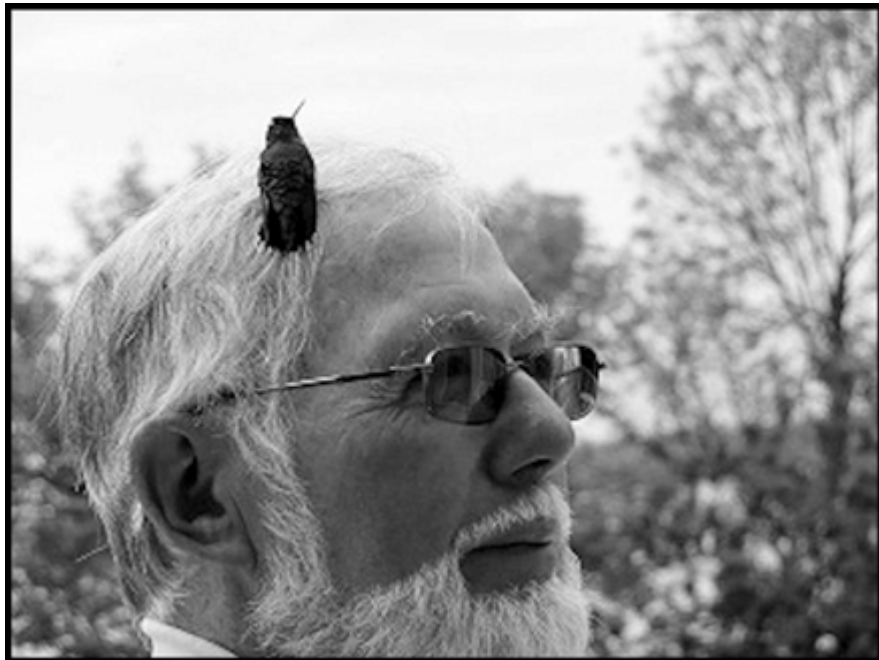
Once we were close to the hummingbird feeder, it made a quick dash for refreshments after its exciting, and exhausting, visit inside.

After about 5 minutes of rest, it recovered its energy and flew off.

What a neat experience!!

Fortunately we had a camera close by, and Elly was able to get several pictures.

- Dayle Gowan



PHOTOS BY DAYLE & ELOISE GOWAN



SCHOOL NEWS

- Sally Bowen from Janet Scott

Six students from Amherst Island Public School submitted entries to the Kingston Regional Historical Fair, held at MacArthur College. The entrants were: Gavin Ashley - Ferries; Brendan Reid - Farming then and Now; Nicholas Varga - Amherst Island General Store; Shyanne Shurtliffe - The Ferry Office; Ciara Richmond - the Pentland Cemetery; and, Rachael Scott - The Fleming Family Genealogy

Two students won prizes in their categories: Ciara won the Cataraqui Cemetery Award and Rachael won the regional Ontario Genealogical Award.

Warm congratulations to all who participated.

The school also presented their spring concert "Fables to Forts". The younger students offered the Three Nanny Goats Gruff, and the senior students presented a version of Shakespeare's Macbeth. It was a very successful evening.

OUR FABULOUS TRIP

- Janet Scott

Thanks to the many people who helped and supported our fund raising events such as: the AIMS breakfasts, the sales of shirts and vests, the spaghetti supper, BBQ and Bake Sale. Thanks to groups such as I.S.L.E., the Women's Institute and the Limestone Board of Education for donations of money towards the cost of the trip. Thanks also to the students and parents who raised funds for this trip. A very big thank-you to Eva Little and Lyn Fleming who worked tirelessly since late December until the present time, making the many phone calls and completing the necessary paper work to make this trip possible. Thank-you also to Jim Reid and Caroline Yull who acted as chaperones.

On Wednesday, May 13th, the Senior Class of A.I.P.S. set off on their end of year trip to our beautiful capital, Ottawa. It was great weather and our trip coincided with Tulip Festival Time. The first stop was the Museum of Agriculture. That took me back a long way, as I used to visit the Experimental Farm as a child and have fond memories of its gardens and barns. The historic tractors and farming equipment tied in so well with Brandon Reid's heritage project about "Farming Then and Now" and the simulated ride in a huge John Deere was a hit but the favourite exhibit was a newborn calf.

We arrived on Parliament Hill in time to hear the carillon ringing out the hour and were immediately included in a trip up the Peace Tower, past bells weighing tons and up to a viewing area that allowed us to see over a panorama of Ottawa and neighbouring Quebec. Dakota could count 15 Canadian Flags from the top of the tower and felt sad as he read the book of Remembrance. There was a hushing and sense of awe as we entered the chamber. We checked but none of our Island names were on the open pages that day. It was a moving moment to see our Island children so moved and so respectful.

After lunch on the grass at Parliament Hill we walked along Rideau Street and Sussex Drive to The National Gallery of Canada. The first sight that greets you is a huge sculpture of a spider by Louise Bourgeois called "Maman". Our guide explained that it weighed some six tonnes and required cranes to place it in the plaza. The marble used for the spider's twenty eggs came from the same quarry as Michelangelo used over 500 years ago. Inside the museum we had our photo taken on the red carpet but I don't think it was really rolled out for us. A mobile that moved when we walked in a circle around it, paintings by Picasso and Monet and the historic painting of Wolfe's death were part of our tour.

From the Art gallery we walked back towards Parliament Hill and stopped to visit The Bytown Museum tucked below the hill next to the Rideau Canal. Shyanne was quite taken with the stories of Joseph Montferrand that you might know as Big Joe Mufferow and that Samuel de Champlain called the river the Rideau because it reminded him of curtains. Rachel liked the guide's stories about the ghosts that you can still hear in the museum and she remembered the death hand of D'arcy McGee. Both girls want to visit the Bytown Museum again with their families. We re-climbed the hill and then met our bus in front of the Centennial Fountain.

Supper followed at Mother Tucker's in the Byward Market area and an amazing buffet found something to appeal to everyone's taste. Matthew sure likes mussels.

After supper we went bowling and Dakota, Brandon and Jim wowed us with their bowling prowess. Even I was able to make two strikes with a lot of coaching and encouragement. Our children proved to be supportive and so much fun to be with.

We settled down in our rooms at Ottawa University and after the usual corridor racing we did have a good night. The next day's plans were to visit The Canadian Museum of Civilization and The War Museum so it didn't matter that it rained. The totem poles on the first level are so impressive and helped our Grade 5 and 6 students understand just what a feat it was to carve and create these works of art and then to raise them. They were gigantic. Matthew was impressed with the masks and Ciara noted that the

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(Continued from page 6)

huge white aboriginal carving was the same as the picture on the twenty dollar bill. Brooke was impressed with the mummy exhibit and we all loved the IMAX Theatre presentation "Under The Sea". We had our picture taken with Fred Werthman's wonderful model of the St. Matthew and Caroline and I both remembered the painstaking days he spent building it in the building that is now The Neilson Store Museum and Cultural Centre.

In the afternoon we visited the Canadian War Museum. Gavin liked this visit the best. We were greeted by a woman impersonating someone from 1759 and The Battle For Quebec. We got to pick up a cannonball and feel the weight. Riely's group visited the Izzy doll display and he remembered Mrs. Secker coming to our school and telling how her sister Carol made the dolls for her son Mark Isfeld to hand out to children in war torn countries. He died on a Peace Keeping mission but we remember him for Mrs. Secker. Most of the students were quite taken with the collection of vehicles, tanks, trucks and cars. Hitler's car brought a lot of discussion. Brandon said the visit really made him think about the reality of war.

The skies had cleared and we made a quick visit to 24 Sussex Drive and also had our photo taken at the gates to Rideau Hall. Supper followed at the Lone Star and we were royally treated to a wonderful meal. That evening we went swimming at a wave pool and everyone had a great time. On the way to the pool we discovered the singing talents of our own Dakota FM and were immensely entertained. There was a slide, wave pool, hot tub and pool area. The waves came on every 15 minutes and we were able to ride on floating boards. There were 7 life guards and Jim Reid also volunteered to watch us all so that we could all swim. After juice and pop corn for snack we all went happily to bed.

Our last day was sunny and we headed to the Science and Technology Museum. The Mars Simulator was a great hit as well as a demonstration of electricity. Nick, Noa and Ciara got high scores on virtual Snowboarding. Fae and Ciara found the demonstration of gyroscopes really interesting and Kyle liked the Krazy Kitchen which was lopsided and made you feel like you were walking up when you walked down.

In the Byward Market the class was able to find all kinds of ethnic and interesting things for sale. Noa and Fae were able to get their names written on a grain of rice. Brooke, Fae, Kyle and Caroline tried Shwarmas for lunch. Noa called her visit to the market a one-of-a-kind experience.

Sadly it was time to meet the bus again and head for home but we had had a wonderful trip and I was so glad to have been invited to join the Island children on a journey of memories and experiences.

Thank-you,

COUNCIL GLEANINGS

- Ian Murray

From Minutes of 7th Session:

"That applications for Infrastructure Stimulus Funding be submitted [for] . . . Amherst Island Culverts project (\$334,000).

"Motion carried."

**

"Small Craft Harbours Amherst island (Long Point) facility.

"There was a discussion regarding whether a surveyor should be hired before a legal opinion is obtained regarding the property in question.

"The C.A.O., Ms. Pearce, advised there have been numerous surveys on the property and the Township needs to know the status of the road established by By-law. The two issues in the report are the access to the dock and the need to repair the dock that is deteriorating.

"Moved by Councillor Ashley and seconded by Councillor R. Bresee that the C.A.O.'s report, April 28, 2009 re: Small Craft Harbours Amherst Island (Long Point) Facility be received and that the following be adopted:

That staff proceed to obtain a legal opinion on the status of the former Township of Amherst Island By-law 377 that established a road to the Government Wharf at Long Point.

"Motion Carried."

From Minutes of the 8th Session:

Employee Service Recognition Awards for 2008 to the following Township employees: Doug Shurtliffe, 30 years; Dianne Marshall, 15 years; and, Jane McGinn, 10 years.

Time does fly by.

**

"The Director of Engineering Services, Mr. Thompson, indicated that approximately 31 tonnes of electronic waste was collected at E-waste Disposal Day held on Saturday, May 2nd, 2009 at the Henderson Recreation Centre. Scott Industrial picked up all materials at no cost to the municipality."



W.I DONATES BENCHS TO MUSEUM

- Dayle Gowan

On Saturday, May 16th, Victoria Day weekend, the Amherst Island Women's Institute donated two wrought iron benches to the Neilson Store Museum and Cultural Centre. Kirsten Bennick and Claire Jenney made the presentation on behalf of the W.I., accepted by Margaret Maloney on behalf of the Board of Directors for the Museum. There was a good turnout for the season opening of the museum and the Easel & Weasel, in spite of the rainy day.

Many thanks to the Women's Institute for their kind generosity.



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY DAYLE GOWAN

FROM MY GARDEN

- Doug Green

(www.douggreengarden.com)

Ontario Pesticide Regulations.

I thought I'd try to clarify a bit of confusion about the nature of what kinds of things you can use on your lawn and garden and what the current legislation really means to all of us. The ban on cosmetic pesticides began on April 22, 2009 and it removes all chemicals from legal use for cosmetic purposes. And note when the word "pesticide" is used, it refers to insects as well as weed control - the word refers to any pest be it plant or animal.

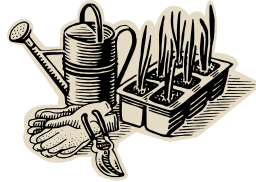
The reasoning behind this is the growing medical evidence that uncontrolled use of chemicals is indeed poisoning our environment and adding to our chronic health problems. Now, the landscape industry may disagree with this action and I have no doubt there are a bunch of gardeners who are going to be pretty upset by this but that's the future of things and you can complain or you can get onboard. Or maybe even both but that's up to you.

Now what if you have a serious pest infestation in your house? Well, you can hire a registered exterminator and they can use pesticides to control it. You can't use the same pesticides but a trained and licensed person can deal with this. You can also obtain certain kinds of pesticides for the use on

pets so they can be healthy. And if your tree becomes sick because of an insect infestation, a licensed applicator can indeed treat the

tree with certain kinds of pesticides that are unavailable to you. So the overall health of pets, homes, children and landscapes is not compromised. But yes, you're going to have to bring in somebody to certify it's not a cosmetic problem but rather a health problem before certain classes of chemicals can be used.

Now here's a bit of news. Some chemicals are classed as "Category Seven" chemicals and these are dual-purpose chemicals with a special license. For example, Roundup (Glyphosate) is used for killing brush and noxious weeds such as poison ivy. It has also been used in the past for wiping out weeds in patio and driveway areas. So a Category 7 chemical can still be purchased as long as the intent is to use it for brush control or noxious weeds such as poison ivy but it can't be used on your driveway or for home cosmetic purposes. Let me be clear about this, if you use Roundup or other Category 7 chemicals for cosmetic pur-



***...growing medical evidence
that uncontrolled use of
chemicals is indeed poison-
ing our environment and
adding to our chronic
health problems.***

poses (home weed control) you will be breaking the law and can be charged. Even if you can buy it - and the manufacturers aren't changing their packaging - you can't legally use it the way the packaging suggests, i.e. lawn weed control. This holds true for farmers as well. They may own Roundup for crop use but they can't spray it on their home lawn. Cosmetic use of Category 7 chemicals isn't allowed.

This Category 7 rating also applies to chemicals that are used for control of insects in the house. You can purchase an insecticide to control ants or creeping whatever in the home under the legislation but you can't take the same can outside and spray it on your roses. Again, pesticides are intended to control specific problems within homes and this intention doesn't carry over to outdoor uses. So something like Raid House and Garden Killer is still sold and labelled that way but you can't legally use it outdoors in the garden.

And no, a huge multi-national corporation isn't going to change their labelling to conform to a single province's legal changes. So it's up to you to understand what's in the bottle of "stuff" you just purchased and understand that when you are given a special notice on your receipt or individually when you purchase a Category 7 product, it is up to you to follow your laws.

What about those chemicals that aren't Category 7 and are now banned? You have a small stockpile on your shelves and figure you're good to go for the next 10 years. Ah, but you're not. It is illegal to use the products for cosmetic purposes. Period. You have them but you are no longer legally able to use them. The answer is to dispose of them through the toxic waste centre. Do NOT put them in the regular garbage.

I can hear the chemical diehards out there saying (and in fact have said to me already), "The government isn't going to catch me - they have other things to worry about than one single guy spraying this stuff." Note that "stuff" wasn't the word used but we'll let that go by. And he was right, the government has made it clear that their first response will be education but that they do have the right to fine and take legal action. And you're right, the odds on being able to actually police an act like this with 5 million homeowners is pretty slim. But mark my words, if you use it, somebody is going to notice. It's like watering on the wrong day or driving too fast past playing children. Sooner or later somebody is going to figure it out and you'll wind up paying the price - either in court or in the more powerful court of public attention of your neighbours.

Questions about the ban can be directed to the Ministry of the Environment's Public Information Centre at 1-800-565-4923 The website can be found at <http://www.ene.gov.on.ca/en/land/pesticides/factsheet-pesticides.php> and there are downloads of information on this site that tell you what you can use and can't use.

And I write about all this on my websites if you need more how-to information.

Visual History



Above: Allen Caughey and his father, Bruce, Sr., with Duke & Dick (1942 or 1943)

Below: Left to Right: Art Drumgoole, Tommy Brown, Eric Morris, Mel Filson (Early 1970's)





*Left: Back Row Left to Right: Paul Glenn, Allen Caughey, Lyl White
Front Row Left to Right: Joe White, Jack White
(Early 1950's)*

Right: Allen Caughey and his father, Bruce Sr. with Duke & Dick.



Floats ranged from flash to elegance including this beautiful horse and carriage ride at The Bath Canada Day Parade.

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY ALLEN CAUGHEY

AIMS MAY 9, 2009**MEETING**

- Hugh Jenney

Twenty-eight men sat down to a delicious full breakfast feast prepared by Janet Scott, Eva & Daniel Little.

Woody, our returning president, thanked our vice-president, Greg Latiak, for having filled in during his absence. He also thanked Dave Meikle for his secretarial duties this winter.

Dayle Gowan reported that his application to the Township garnered us \$350 towards our hanging flower basket project. It was agreed that AIMS contribute an additional \$350 to this worthwhile beautification project for Stella.

Paul Lauret assured us that our coffers are not bare.

It was also agreed that AIMS donate \$1,000 towards the repair of Saint Paul's leaking roof.

Gord Miller encouraged everybody to fill up a car and join in the fun on Doug Martin's Birthday. Each person will pay \$15 to support our AI Museum. They will receive an historic information brochure, map, questionnaire and a ticket good for a hot dog and drink at the end of the car rally. A winner's plaque will be hung in the Museum to commemorate their observational skills. This is NOT a race so take your time and enjoy Amherst Island's history and beauty. Hamburgers and hotdogs have been donated to the AIMS BBQ so come out and enjoy the day. The Car Rally takes the place of the Art Tour this year.

It was agreed that AIMS donate \$200—300 to help organize this event.

Ross Haines reported on the Radio's alternative library. The bookcases are filled with CDs & books ready to be loaned out for two week periods. There is no signing in or out. Tom trusts you and hopes for a small donation to help with expenses.

Brian Grace lauded Judith Harrower for taking his idea for collecting water sample and running with it. She delivered 60 bottles to the Health Unit in Kingston. Brian calculated that her efforts saved the Islanders over \$800 dollars in ferry tickets, gas and time @ \$10/hr. It is a great idea, Brian. Thanks, Judith, for making it work.

Terry Culbert reported that the AI Folk Festival at the Lodge has been extended to include the 15th and 16th of August.

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Gary & Andrew McDonald of the Emergency Services of Loyalist Township were the guest speakers.

The genesis of this 15-16 member team began in the 1970's when the Amherst Island Firefighters were formed. All our firefighters are now trained as First Responders so now they are all equally trained. All these people receive monetary compensation for their time and they undergo



continual training sessions. As Captain McDonald kept stressing, "All of us would not be doing this job unless we were dedicated to helping people on Amherst Island."

Captain McDonald and firefighter Andrew McDonald showed us the defibrillator which has a monitor component so that the patient can be monitored during the 30-40 minutes of waiting for the ambulance. They can give constant updates to the hospital while they wait. If the patient's heart stops, a switch to the electrical pads can be made so they can try to get the heart going again. They also have another machine that has the ability to measure the patient's pulse and oxygen saturation. It too gives constant updates which means that when the paramedics do arrive in the ambulance, they know the condition of the patient. "We have everything needed for the emergency but drugs," said Captain McDonald. "We are not doctors, but the paramedics can give drugs when they arrive," he continued. He also warned us not to try to get to the hospital by oneself. Call 911 and within three minutes everybody is informed and on their way. If it is a false alarm, so be it. Do not take the chance of being stranded or worse by attempting to get to the ferry yourself. The helicopter can be on our landing pad within 45 minutes. Our emergency truck has a strobe light for guiding the chopper at night to a closer location to the patient if that is deemed necessary. Amherst Island has better medical emergency response times than on the mainland. We can get you to the hospital within one hour max. If one has a stroke or heart attack it is essential to get to those special drugs at the hospital within three hours in order to have a much better chance of a full recovery. It only takes one emergency person on a cell phone to call in the chopper. So call 911 first and do not go to the ferry yourself.

We are designated as a remote area so the helicopter pad is paid for by the Government.

Greg Latiak asked if wind turbines would interfere with the helicopter. The helicopter pad is protected from allowing wind turbines coming too close. The pilots are extremely well trained and can maneuver around wind turbines.

Andrew and Gary then showed us some of their high tech equipment. They have an alarm that sounds off if the wearer does not move for 30 seconds or if exterior temperatures become too hot.

Our water trucks hold 1700 gallons that can be all used up in fifteen minutes. It can spray 1050 gallons a minute so one strategy is to hit the fire with all you've got and if that doesn't put it out then try to protect the surrounding area. Consequently, even though we live on an Island, having enough water for us is a constant logistical issue. Diane's fire would have needed at least ten pumper trucks within fifteen minutes of the fire. i.e. it could not be saved even if it were on the mainland. A structure fire doubles in size every five minutes so call 911 and get out quickly.

(Continued on page 13)



GRACE ISABEL (ANDERSON) TUGWELL

(1919-2008)

- Jean Tugwell

Grace Isabel (Anderson) Tugwell was born in Scotland, and emigrated to Canada in 1946. She married Chester Tugwell, Earl's brother and they had a son Anthony, who sadly predeceased her. She and Chester were later divorced.

She called both Montreal and Amherst Island home. She taught for years in Montreal and Ottawa; studied at Concordia where she received a Bachelor of Fine Arts in 1988. Her abstract works, mainly in acrylic, were shown in both group and solo exhibitions in the Ottawa and Montreal areas, to great acclaim.

She passed away suddenly on October 25th, 2008, in Montreal. She is sadly missed by nieces, nephews, sister-in-law Jean Tugwell, and friends. On May 24th, a graveside service was held at Glenwood Cemetery, with Rev. Alan Bennett officiating.

Now she is Home with her family. We thank God for the many blessings she received and shared with family – her patience, kindness, strength, compassion, joy and love.

Excerpts from messages received:

“When I think of Grace many adjectives come to my mind – witty, courageous, cheerful, artistic are just a few. I can clearly hear her laugh and see those twinkling eyes.”

“I never ceased to admire her elegance and love of life. Those blazingly blue eyes, lovely accent and great sense of style were memorable.”

“How I wish my children could have had Mrs Tugwell's lovely face greeting them every morning in grade 2.”

“Many have danced this dance called life ... but none with her gentle grace.”

(see photo Top Right)



(Continued from page 12)

Burn by-laws are now quite strict. Burning in Loyalist Township is prohibited except for small “camp fires” used for cooking. There is a \$1500 fine for burn barrels plus the time of firefighters and their equipment. Farmers are able to burn brush, but they must have a person watching the brush fire at all times and he has to have water on hand.

Zander asked why we no longer have volunteers. Gary said it is because of Worker's Compensation laws. If a paid employee gets hurt on the job he/she may receive \$60,000 tax free until fully recovered.

Brian Grace thanked the men for being there for us all. He talked about the old fire hall where the only excitement in those days was the annual street dance and the ensuing fisticuffs. He knew it was a very successful dance when his son and Dick Dodds' son were able to collect \$40 worth of beer bottles and that was when the beer bottles were worth 2 cents!

Brian was happy to learn that we have the best emergency team of any village and that they are being constantly trained. They were on the job within three minutes when Janet had a problem at the Church. They were so fast and efficient that Brian just stood back and let them do their thing.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

- Mary Kay Steel

The monthly meeting of the AI Women's Institute was held on Wednesday, May 20th, starting at 7pm, in St. Paul's Church Hall. A group of about 30, comprised of WI mem-

bers and other Island folks, enjoyed a presentation by Prof. Bill Morrow of Queen's University on interpreting the Old Testament. The guest speaker appeared as part of the institute's ROSE program, ROSE standing for Rural Ontario Sharing Education. Prof. Morrow explained how there are different versions of the Old Testament, involving differing combinations of individual books and different editions, and that these versions reflect, among other factors, which major religious tradition is involved. As well, there are several perspectives from which to view or analyze the contents. It was a most interesting talk, as witnessed by the number of questions posed afterwards. A social hour with



the usual delicious refreshments followed.

With the co-presidents Kirsten Bennick and Claire Jenney chairing, our business meeting then got underway. Treasurer Nancy Pearson reported a healthy bank balance. A decision was taken to make a donation to the new roof for St. Paul's. Various standing committee reports were received.

Joyce Haines and Kirsten Bennick reported on the highlights of the District Annual meeting held in Centreville on May 19th. Several of our members were in attendance, and our contribution to the gathering by way of an amusing skit and a panel discussion on Buy Ontario was very well received and enjoyed. The president thanked all who participated. Plans were developed to hold our bake sales over the summer (Friday afternoons before long weekends), to manage our market wagon on Saturday mornings, and to plant flowers at various Island locations. Our continuing work on the stone fences at the Pentland cemetery will start up again in June; as in the past, volunteer help from community members is solicited.

Our next meeting will take place on June 17, location to be determined.

Apparently, Canada Geese Are Not Fans of Merlot!



PHOTO BY TERRY CULBERT

Merlot, one of Terry Culbert and Barb Hoegenaur's Bouviers heads in the direction of two rapidly retreating Canada Geese.

THEY CAME BACK

- Zander of DUNN INN

Two people who came back to live on Amherst Island are Alex and Debbie Scott. In one sense they never left; but in another sense they made a deliberate decision to live here with us.

Alex was not born on the Island. He came into the world in Kingston and lived for the first 15 years of his life in Kingston Township. When he finished grade 10 at Frontenac Secondary School he moved with his family to Am-

When asked why they returned to live on Amherst Island both Alex and Debbie cited family as the main reason.

herst Island and started to attend Napanee High School. When he graduated from High School he attended Loyalist College and became an architec-

tural technician.

Although there were not many architectural technician jobs available in his field when he began looking for work in the early 1990's he was soon employed by J.L. Richards as a draftsman. From 1990 to 2000 he enjoyed that work until he moved into the engineering department of Loyalist Township as an engineering technician. Now he reviews and inspects all the new subdivision roads, water mains and site plans from an engineering point of view. This has kept him very busy for the past 10 years.

Debbie is very much a native of Amherst Island, her parents being Harry and Syke (Witteveen) Fleming. Her grandparents were Ernest and Genevieve Fleming and Piet and Ytje Witteveen all of whom lived on the Island and influenced her life. As a youngster, Debbie lived at the Fleming house at 350 on the Third Concession, worked hard on the farm, went to grade eight at the Island Public School, and then attended Napanee High School.

When she graduated from high school she immediately took her resume to downtown establishments in Kingston and within a week had landed a job with Smith Brothers Jewelers at 125 Princess St., one of the oldest jewelers in Canada. After working there for one and half years she moved on to work at the Correctional Services for three and a half years. Following that she landed a job with Community Care Access Centre where she has worked for the past 25 years.

Debbie returned to the Island almost every Friday night for the weekend and went back to Kingston, where she had an apartment, on Sunday night. At first she borrowed her father's car but then she got her own vehicle and felt independent. She loved helping out on the farm whenever she could and deliberately took her holidays during the haying season so she could help her brothers tote the bales for their father.

Alex and Debbie discovered each other in the early 1990's and started dating in 1993. By 1994 they had become engaged. They were married at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church by the Rev. Lindsay McIntyre in 1995. They took up residence in what had been the house of Eva and Edna Glenn and which is now The Annex of the Schram residence at 100 McDonald's Lane.

While they lived there both their daughters were born - Rachel in 1998 and Rebecca in 2001. Both girls attend the Public School on the Island and are doing well if their pictures in the latest Public School Art Exhibition at the Lodge are any indication.

Alex, Debbie and their two girls, moved to a new house they built almost exactly where Piet Witteveen's barn had been on 4700 Front Road. That new house boasts a high vantage, an excellent layout and a great view of Lake Ontario although it is not close to the water.

Debbie continues to travel to work on the mainland every day - it's a 25 minute drive after the ferry trip - and comes home to look after her children. Although Alex also drives to his work he has a much shorter commute - about seven minutes. He also serves as Fire Captain of our Fire Department on the Island. Prior to the amalgamation of Amherst Island with Loyalist Township, his title was Fire Chief. Alex takes pride in that volunteer service which sees him at the Fire Station every Thursday night for training. He notes that there are currently 16 firefighters at the Island station. The department responds to both fire and medical calls on the island.

When asked why they returned to live on Amherst Island both Alex and Debbie cited family as the main reason. Alex's mother, Janet Scott, and his brother, Jamie, live on the Island and continue to play a large part in his life. Janet Scott is a teacher and grandmother to Rachel and Rebecca. Debbie's mother, Syke, was here until she died in July of 2004 and Debbie's three brothers, Larry, Wayne and David are all important residents of the Island.

Both Debbie and Alex enjoy the pace of life on the Island, the wide open spaces, the fields, the people, the friends, the school. Even the ferry is a good part of their lives. The trips over and back allow them to unwind, relax and enjoy some down time before work and before supper. They note with pleasure that Rachel and Rebecca are seventh generation Amherst Islanders. Debbie and Alex are glad they made the move back to the Island where they are at home and where they can enjoy life. We are glad they returned to be with us.

EARLY YEARS ON LONG POINT, AMHERST ISLAND

- Barbara Filson

I was only a toddler when I first lived on the Island. Dad fished with Grandfather. Later we moved to Chatham for that was Mom's home and at one time, Dad's home. When Grandfather died he left the fishing to Dad and we returned to the Island in 1939 or 1940 to our permanent home.

The families fished in the summer and then moved to their winter homes until spring. Mr. & Mrs. Bilkey went to Picton, as did Gramps as they owned homes there. Welbanks moved to the village, as did we. Ray & Bob Smith stayed at their Mom's on the farm where Gord Forbes lives.

In the winter, they would get help and fill the icehouse. They would cut blocks of ice and pack them in layers, between sawdust. They used them to pack their fish for shipping.

The men used to anchor their boats out until the government put the new dock in. The agreement for them to do this was in Feb. 1937. The breakwater was for the use of the public as well.

The Point was once a very active place. The homes were kept neat with lots of flowers grown about. The men were on the lake with only a compass to guide them in storms or fog. If the men were late, the women were on the shore listening for the boats. They would go to the dock to see what their catch was and sometimes it was good and sometimes it was not. They used to get beautiful red salmon, whitefish, herring and the odd sturgeon. The sturgeon we didn't get to eat for they brought a good price. In later years fishing got poorer and Frances and Nessie bought a farm on the South Shore in March of 1949 and moved from the Point, sold their cottage and moved it to Stella.

Mr. Bilkey passed on and Mr. Welbanks & Howard still fished as Howard did until he passed away.

Dad bought a cruiser and guided people from all over, for many cruise boats came into the dock and tied up.

We added a dining room to our cottage and made meals for these people and many came and rented our two cottages. It was a busy time. The main menu of course was pan-fried, deep-fried or baked fish. Dad built a BBQ for steaks etc. for we had no hydro and cooked with gas. We had no fryers, so Dad bought from a gentleman, named Mr. Metcalf, who owned a meat store in Kingston on Brock St., a large icebox. It now stands in the museum in the village. Dad eventually purchased a Delco system and later we got Hydro.

When the men fished in the fall, they would smoke her-ring and hang them up to dry. They would pack the salmon in salt brine for the winter months. They were good. Later, around August 1969, Mom & Dad sold our

property to Everett Jeffery's and it has changed hands again since then.

The reels are all gone now, when once they were many. The men came in with their nets and if the nets were dirty, they put them in the lime pit. Then they put them on the reels to dry and then rolled them back down on the spools to go out with the next morning to set. A while ago, the icehouse by the dock was torn down. Dad, Granddad and Mr. Welbanks & Mr. Bilkey owned the icehouse. Each owned a quarter share. It was torn down during the 1990s.

The men packed their fish in boxes and I had the job of taking them to the village and putting them on the ferry for Mr. Sersmith to pick up at Millhaven. In later years, Howard would take their fish across the bay to meet a buyer.

At lunchtime, the wives each had a call of their own to have the men come and eat. Grandmother had a school bell that she rang. I believe Dick Dodds bought it at our sale. Mrs B & Mrs. W. had a call of their own.

Irene Glenn and her son Paul lived with her parents at the Point while Leslie was overseas in the war. Paul never missed too many trips to the village with me when I took the fish there. He always fell asleep before we returned home.

We had bank day once a week on Wednesday in Stella. Nessie, Eric and Ted always at that time rode out with me to do her banking etc. On the way, they would ask me to pick up a loaf of bread, tobacco or some ice cream at Max Beaubien's ice cream parlor. Mr. Bilkey gave me a quart sealer to put the ice cream in and he wrapped it well. It always stayed okay.

I was 13 when my great uncle Claude Cole (King Cole) passed away, but I remember many trips to the Main Ducks before and after he passed away. It was also a busy spot and I know we had lots of large water snakes at the point but none to compare with those at the Ducks. He had racehorses, cows, buffalo and fowl on the Island as well as fishermen. He built an icehouse and his initials are still carved on the foundation. I was back there in 1981 and I went with Dave Harrison when he went to pick up fish from some of the fishermen who then, I think, lived mostly on their boats as the cottages had been torn down. Uncle Claude had a farm on Cape Vincent and used his C.W. boat to go back and forth to the Ducks.

I understand that he had some pretty frightening trips at times, as the weather could get pretty nasty. He would mail letters to his father (my Great Grandfather) by putting a letter in a bottle, some postage and tie it to a board and in a prevailing wind would put it afloat. Someone would pick it up and mail it on, and this they did. Uncle Claude had two sons that helped him. Cecil died at age 42 and Wilmont married and had a daughter, separated and remarried. He lived at Deseronto and passed away there, and Aunt Annie (Claude's wife) still lived there, but in poor health.

- Zander of DUNN INN

May 22-24 was the Queen's Homecoming Weekend. This was the first year Homecoming had been moved from the autumn because in recent years, when the celebration was held in September, after a football game, thousands of young people gathered in the Aberdeen Street section of Kingston to drink, carouse and cause costly chaos.

Nancy and I attended Homecoming this year because it marked the 50th anniversary of our graduation from Queen's University where we met and fell in love.

On Friday, May 22, we registered. We were given carrying bags full of good gifts from Queen's and were presented with name tags which displayed our pictures when we graduated in 1959. It is a good thing they did that for all of us because we would not have recognized most of our classmates. They looked much older than the two of us! Some graduates of Arts '59 we had not seen for 50 years!

With most of them we had little in common - except our year of graduation. But with several of them we were able to pick up where we had left off 50 years ago. I was especially interested in a Jamaican man who continues to work in his own Chemistry laboratory in Duke University in North Carolina where he had been a professor for many years. From 1955 to 1959 he and I, and a classmate of ours from Trinidad, used to argue Caribbean issues. (After all, I was born in Guyana.)

Another classmate with whom I found a common bond was a friend who studied History with me. We talked about our professors (now all dead), our lives since graduation and our retirements. After he had gained his Ph.D. he had not been able to find a job as a professor of History so he became a professor of Education and had settled down in Victoria after teaching in Regina for years.

There were three of us in our class who went into the ministry. I thought it was significant that the Anglican, who became a Canon, married a United Church minister and they now live in Quebec. He continues to serve a church in Montreal. She is the minister of three churches and oversees another three churches.

The class of Arts '59 is scattered all over the continent and the world!

After registration we gathered to meet and greet and then share an excellent meal at the Radisson Hotel. We had never eaten there before. The food was so outstanding that Nance and I vowed to dine there again.

On Saturday our class got our picture taken, after the class of Arts '49 and Arts '44. Now there were old people! Most of them were 82 or older! Getting our class to stand on the steps of Summerhill Residence for our photo was like herding cats. We were talking, waving, jostling, laughing, before the photographer got us settled down.

At lunch time we enjoyed a fine picnic under a big tent where we were welcomed by the Town Crier, the Mayor



and the University President and were entertained by the Boys and Girls Club Choir with whom many Queen's students volunteer today. That was followed by a guided tour of the Campus during which we gained new insights into the history and architecture of Queen's, marveled at all the new buildings and heard about the plans for future expansion.

In the evening the University presented a delicious, free meal for all the grads of 1959 and earlier. I sat beside two women who graduated in 1949 both of whom had Ph.D.s and both of whom had become professors. One was a professor of Library Science. The other was a professor of Psychology. I learned much that night from both of them. (You can learn a lot from older women.)

As we reflected on the experience, we marveled first, that Nance and I had reached the 50th year since our graduation. Many of our classmates had died and some were nowhere to be found. We have had good, full lives and it was a joy to celebrate that gift from God.

Second, we were impressed by the student volunteers of Queen's who made the whole Homecoming work. They were at the registration desk. They served food. They guided tours. They set up and took down equipment. They did all this with good humour and grace. God has been good to Canada and we figure our nation will be in good hands when this generation takes over.

Third, we were amazed to discover some of the different paths our classmates have taken. They are all gifted and have served our country and other countries well, sharing their talents and abilities with many different people. It was interesting to us how many of our classmates continue to serve others long past retirement. They may no longer be making money, but they continue to be servants of God and good ambassadors of Queen's University.

Finally, we caught a glimpse of how God can reach out through people of every race, religion and culture to promote friendship, peace and love.

It was a fun-filled and encouraging weekend and most helpful for an old couple like us. For what we learned at Queen's, for the friends we've made and kept, for the ways our lives have developed, for all that we've accomplished - for all of that - we thank God.



THE AMHERST ISLAND FOLK FESTIVAL

August 14 - 15, 2009

Folk, Bluegrass, Celtic, Country, Blues and more

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*Friday evening members & sponsors
Sponsored by Lifford Wine Brokers*

Doors open 6:30pm, Music begins 7pm at The Lodge on Amherst Island:

Jon Jones & Tim Ryan Fireweed Jason Fowler

Wine and Cheese will be available

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Saturday

*Gates open 10am, Music begins 10:30am, music ends 8pm. This is a
rain-or-shine event.*

--Visual Artist in residence: Wallace Edwards--

*Rick Fines Jason Fowler Phil Shapiro & Carrie Shore Kristin
Sweetland*

*Jay Linden Steve Kennedy Seamus Hannah Christina Fenn &
Elwood Trumble*

Tom MacIntosh Dave Martin John MacPherson

Lamb & Pig Roast by Harley Gurnsey served at 4:30 pm

Saturday BBQ all day until 4pm

Wine and Beer by AIMS

Soft drinks and Juice by AIWI

No Coolers will be allowed this year.

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TICKETS \$30 each in advance only for Saturday. Bring a comfy chair!

*Members and sponsors of CJAI-FM may attend Friday at no additional
ticket expense by presenting their Saturday ticket at the door,
others are \$10 each for Friday night.*

ALL TICKETS BY PRE-PURCHASE ONLY - THIS IS A RAIN OR SHINE EVENT!!!
There are a limited number of tickets available

Tickets (613) 384-8282 during the day, or at The AI Saturday Market from





Steve and Laura Street and family wish to express our utmost thanks to Jane McGinn and Barb Laing for driving Stephen almost every day to the Hotel Dieu, during his long struggle to regain his eyesight. Also, thanks to Russell and the boys for getting his water line up and running.

We are very grateful.



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Beautifully hand painted silk scarves with matching jewellery

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Our hours of operations are:

WEEKENDS up to and including Thanksgiving:

Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Sundays from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m.

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WEEKDAYS throughout July and August from 12:00 to 4:00

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WOMEN'S INSTITUTE CALENDARS

Featuring Brian Little's photographs, are still available. The cost is \$10.00.

They are available from Liz Harrison (613-389-5176), Joyce Reid (613-634-8716).

If anyone has any **photographs of past years ice travel**, I would like to know about them for a museum project.

Please call me at 613-389-2588.

Thank you. Keith Miller

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PHOTO BY DAVE YUELL

Two new lambs enjoy a rare moment of sun.

The



Foot