

The Beaver Beacon



Only Island Publication since King Strang's "Northern Islander" in 1856 — Established January 1955

April 1963

Spring has finally come to the island, and a welcome season it is after a long cold winter. The woods are full of song birds and the deer have come out of their yards and are now scattered throughout the island. The gulls are back in the harbor, laying claim to their favorite roosts. The crew of the Beaver Islander have been wielding paint brushes and putting an ear to the engines, making certain all is in readiness for the coming season. Ice is still holding up her first trip, however, she should be on schedule by the end of the month.

STORK RACE ENDS: Mentioned in the Beacon last month was the probability of there being two Lillian's in the Medical Center at the same time for the same reason. With the estimated dates of arrival being the same, there was much talk as to which would be first. On the 3rd of April, Lillian Cole presented a fine boy, Paul Gerard - 7 lbs. 7½ oz. Just twelve hours and forty minutes later, Lillian Gregg also presented a boy, Ronald Stewart - 6 lbs. 10-¾ oz. It might be interesting to note in this list of similarities, that both Lillians even share the name of Isabel for their middle names. In the afternoon of the 4th of April, Dr. and Mrs. Haynes, Joy Green and Skip McDonough, left the Medical Center tired, but happy with a big job well done.

The above paragraph also explains why the Beaver Beacon is a week later this month. Next Month we will be back on schedule.

BEAVER ISLAND PARTIES: March the 9th was a busy date for those that attended either the Chicago or the Lansing Beaver Island party. A few hardy souls managed to attend both parties on the same night, a feat only a true Irishman could do. This was accomplished by Russell and Joy Green and Bud McDonough. A delegation of fifteen Islanders attended the Lansing party, where a record attendance of approximately 200 enjoyed meeting old friends over a delightful dinner and a toast (or two). The Chicago party was a great success with an approximate attendance of 300. The proceeds from the Chicago party, which was turned over to Holy Cross Church, was \$300.00. Also attending the Chicago Party was Jewell Gillespie, Russell Palmer and Ed Boyle of Manistee. These three, the next day furnished music for a gathering at the "Bing" McCafferty home. Mrs. McCafferty is the former Madonna McDonough. With both parties being on the same date and having such good turn outs, shows that interest in the island is growing. Perhaps, next year we can set a new record.

WEATHER ANALYSIS: Vernon Fitzpatrick, local Conservation Officer, has given us the following analysis of our March weather:

Highest Daytime Temperature	March 29th	56 degrees
Average Daytime Temperature		36 degrees
Lowest Nighttime Temperature	March 9th	-15 degrees
Average Nighttime Temperature		16 degrees

There were two nights in March below zero.

There were nineteen days above 32 degrees in March.

The heaviest snow fell on March 6th with 8.4 inches.

The total snowfall was 15.6 inches.

The total rainfall was .6 inches.

Rain or snow fell on 9 days during March.

GAME CLUB NEWS: A total of 15 turkeys were seen during the month of March. An estimate of the total number of turkeys would be 20 to 30.

QUACKER'S ORDERED: Vernon Fitzpatrick and Archie LaFreniere have ordered fifteen white ducklings to be released in the harbor this summer. White ducks made a big hit two summers ago when Vernon LaFreniere and Don Hanson released about eight of them.

SUNDEW MAKES HAY RUN: Due to the long winter and appetites of 85 Herfords of the Jordon River Ranch, an early shortage of hay developed. This prompted a call for the Coast Guard to deliver hay to the island in order to supplement the supply until the Beaver Islander can start her schedule. Late in the afternoon of the 2nd of April, the Sundew appeared through the haze, entering the harbor. It had taken her ten hours to smash a path through the ice from Charlevoix. Five tons of hay and several bags of grain were unloaded from her deck. The Sundew stayed until the following morning and headed back. Winds had shifted the ice so she had to break a new trail back, taking eight hours to do so.

SIGNS OF SPRING: Some signs of spring on Beaver Island are different from any other place except, perhaps another island. Over the years the merchants have learned to gauge their stock to a degree that baffles a newcomer. As the arrival of the first boat comes closer, the shelves of the stores begins to thin out. Certain favorite brands of goods are depleted. Gasoline becomes a scarce and valuable commodity. Currency that has been shuttled back and forth all winter, becomes rather ragged and larger denominations become a rarity. Then, in one day, after the boat arrives, all is in order again and another season is on it's way.

BIRTHS: Another sign of spring. Along with the two listed in the second paragraph of this months Beacon, we have the following announcements.

Mr. and Mrs. Alex Walgus, the former Beverly O'Donnell, announce the birth of a son, Steven Micheal, on April 10th.

On March 17th, a son was born to Mr. and Mrs. James Fiege of Ormond Beach Florida. Mrs. Fiege is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Bales.

Mr. and Mrs. Bruce McDonough of Charlevoix announce the arrival of Kathy Ann on April 7th..

On January 23rd a daughter arrived for the Donald "Topper" McDonough's of Lapeer, Michigan. Miss Kelly Marie.

Mr. Kevin David Reynolds arrived on March 31st to the area Reynolds + Holly, Michigan. Mrs. Reynolds is the former Mary Helen Martin.

ROBINS RETURN: With spring comes the return of the birds to the island and the early birds this spring include the following: Bert and Mary McDonough, Matt Melville, Peter Johnson, Judy Palmer, the Arthur Larsens, Catherine Connaghan and the Harold 'Hoot' Rudolph's to the Beaver Lodge.

EAGER BEAVERS BETTER BEAVER: Eagerly awaiting the opening of the Beaver trapping season, the ardent trappers of Beaver Island waited for high noon on the first of April. Karl Kuebler, Rogers Carlisle and Walt Wojan then invaded the swamps to fill their quotas. Apparently, an awful number of traps were set, for one particular old Beaver couldn't even find a place to sit down without getting caught. Walt caught one right by the end of the tail, and when he found it he found a very mad Beaver. Lawrence Malloy has been busy skinning them for the boys; once more bringing activity around the old butcher shop. Being a past master at meat cutting, Lawrence often cuts roast of Beaver for those that want it. Anyone who has never tasted a Beaver roast should never slight it for when it is properly prepared, it tastes like the dark meat of turkey.

MUSEUM NOTES: There will be a meeting of membership of the Beaver Island Historical Society for the purpose of election of officers and any other business that is to come before it on June 22, 1963.

JOE'S PACKING: After fifteen years of service to the island in a wide variety of ways, Joe Dillingham has accepted a new job as Plant Manager of the Port Hope, Michigan section of the Independent Telephone Corporation. Joe has been 'Mr. Telephone' on Beaver Island since the founding of the company five years ago. Joe took on the task with no experience but with an abundance of self confidence, to become a very versatile, self taught, one man telephone company. His leaving makes a large gap to fill, for his activities certainly don't stop with the telephone. He served as assistant engineer for the REA Power Plant and did all the line work. He served as Township Clerk of Peaine Township. He was a member of the School Board and was Vice-President of the Beaver Island Civic Association. There was seldom a committee appointed that Joe did not have some part of, for saying no, was just not in his vocabulary. On the side, with what little spare time he had, he repaired television and radio sets and any other electrical work that might need doing. We wish him the best of luck in his new venture and hope he will be able to visit us from time to time.

This item can also be taken as a "Help Wanted" advertisement, for we are now in the process of finding a replacement for Joe. Some experience would be strickly by choice. We often hear people mention they would like to live on the island if only there was work available. Now is the chance for someone. Anyone who might be interested should contact either Joe Dillingham, Rogers Carlisle or Vernon LaFreniere as soon as possible.

SERVICEMEN: We have received the following new address:

Kenneth L. McDonough ADJ-3
VA 125 X Division
NAS
Lamoore, Calif.

Gregory P. Smith, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gregg Smith of Boyne City, (the former Marguerite Andy Gallagher) is vacationing at the home of his parents, after completing an Academy Preparatory course at Sullivan School, Washington, D.C. Gregg Jr., has an appointment to Annapolis and will know in May whether or not he passed this rigorous examination to enter Annapolis in June.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith are the co-owners of The Boyne Citizen in Boyne City, Michigan and another interesting side note to the above article is that Gregg received the highest mark in English that was ever attained at the Sullivan School. Congratulations and good luck, Gregg.

WEDDINGS: Miss Betty Rose Hammond, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Russell Hammond of Ipsilanti became the bride of Mr. Kenneth L. McDonough, son of Mrs. Sophia McDonough and the late Mr. William McDonough of Beaver Island on March 9th during a double ring ceremony at a Nuptial High Mass with Monsignor Lawrence F. Granen officiating at St. John's Church. Mr. and Mrs. Ted Donaj of Garden City, sister and brother-in-law of the groom attended the couple.

An afternoon reception and dinner was held at the bride's home. The newly weds are touring the southern states enroute to their home in Lamooore, Calif.

Out-of-town guests included Mrs. Sophia McDonough of Beaver Island; Mr. and Mrs. Pat Monochins of Batavia, N.Y. and Mr. Glen McDonough of Grand Rapids.

On April 5th Mrs. Lila Lee Jones, the former Lila Lee Conaghan, and Max Selfridge were married in Petoskey, Michigan.

Mr. Kenneth Souter and Miss Judith Dorgal were married March 23rd in the Bethel Reform Church at Holland, Michigan. Kenneth is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Souter of Holland and Mrs. Souter is the former Doris Larsen.

HOSPITAL NOTES: Word has been received that Victor Sorsenson, brother of Dr. N. P. Sorsenson of Greenville, Michigan, has been a patient in the Bloggett Hospital in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Arleen Malloy has returned from Little Traverse Hospital where she was a patient for a week.

Another Islander returning from Little Traverse Hospital after a three week stay, is Isabelle Kenewabikissee.

YOUR TAXES AND MINE: So many questions have been raised about the tax notices received last December that we thought it would be interesting to our readers to have a brief report on how taxes are assessed. This is not intended to be a legal opinion but is merely a brief explanation by the St. James Township Board.

In 1961 the State Tax Commission sent assessors here to spot check various properties of various types and from their report the Tax Commission set a total figure for each Township. They raised St. James Township by the sum of \$49,205.00 above the figure that had been in effect for several years.

The Township Supervisor then has to spread the taxes on the total valuation (set by the State) equally on various properties in his Township. If a property owner feels that he has been assessed higher than the ad-

owning properties of equal value, he can appeal to the Township Board of Review at their annual meeting in March. If the property owner feels that his property is assessed equally but is still assessed too high - then he should appeal to Mr. Russell E. Curtis, Director, Charlevoix County Assessment Equalization Dept.; County Building, Charlevoix and to the State Tax Commission at Lansing.

According to the State Tax Commission, St. James Township had been showing an assessed valuation of approximately 48% of the State figure. The County Board of Supervisors voted to raise the assessed valuation as close to the State equalized value as possible. This caused the assessed valuation shown on your tax slip to almost doubled - BUT - the millage was reduced in proportion - so - the tax dollar you paid remained about the same.

TOWNSHIP OFFICERS: Peaine Township:

Supervisor - Jack Connaghan
Clerk - Skip McDonough
Treasurer - Rose Connaghan
Trustee - Pat Bonner
Nellie O'Donnell
Board of Review - Frank O'Donnell
Earl Boyle

St. James Township:

Supervisor - Lloyd McDonough
Clerk - Philip Gregg
Treasurer - Vera Mae Wojan
Trustee - John Gallagher
Rogers Carlisle
Board of Review - William Belfy
Vernon LaFreniere

NEW BOAT SCHEDULE:

April - Monday, Wednesday and Friday Only
Lv. Beaver Island 9:00 a.m. Lv. Charlevoix 1:30 p.m.

May to June 14 - Every day except Sundays
Lv. Beaver Island 9:00 a.m. Lv. Charlevoix 1:30 p.m.

June 15, through June 28, Every day including Sunday
Lv. Charlevoix 9:00 a.m. Lv. Beaver Island 2:30 p.m.

June 29, July, August, Sept. 2 (inclusive)
Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays
Lv. Charlevoix 9:00 a.m. Lv. Beaver Island 2:30 p.m.
Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and Labor Day
Lv. Charlevoix 9:00 a.m. Lv. Beaver Island 12:00 a.m.
Lv. Charlevoix 3:00 p.m. Lv. Beaver Island 6:00 p.m.

September 3 thru September 22 Every day including Sunday
Lv. Charlevoix 9:00 a.m. Lv. Beaver Island 2:30 p.m.

September 23 thru November 30, Every day except Sunday
Lv. Beaver Island 9:00 a.m. Lv. Charlevoix 1:30 p.m.

December - Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays Only
Lv. Beaver Island 9:00 a.m. Lv. Charlevoix 1:30 p.m.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

FOR SALE OR RENT:

6 room house on Harbor. Lot 100' by 440'.
Comptly. furn. inc. linens, C.E. Refrig.
with large freezer. Somatics etc.
Contact Mrs. Walter Lyons, 4823 S. Winchester Ave.
Chicago 20, Ill. Telephone Radcliffe 3-4536.

FOR SALE:

21 inch Zenith Television, 8 years old. \$45.00
Contact Rogers Carlisle, St. James, Michigan

FOR SALE:

14 ft. Fiberglass Boat. Deck and windshield, wide beam, high sides,
rubber gunwals - \$125.00. Contact Rogers Carlisle, St. James, Michigan.

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| REMEMBER: | April: | Trout Season opens April 27th |
| | May: | Smelt Run |
| | June: | Mushroom Hunt |
| | July: | 4th of July Civic Association Celebration |
| | August: | Annual Home Coming - Second Sunday in August. |
| | October: | Colorama |
| | November: | Hunter's Ball |

SEE YOU NEXT MONTH ON TIME