

The Beaver Beacon



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TENTH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE

1965

April 1965

Spring has finally decided to put the run on 'Old Man Winter' with some beautiful warm weather.

The Coast Guard Ice Breaker, Sundew, has paid us its annual visit, breaking out the harbor, to open the 1965 season. This is an occasion when the school even lets out to see the big Ice Breaker crash through three feet of ice as it cuts a wide swath to the boat dock.

BEAVER ISLANDER READIES FOR 1965: Captain Lawrence McDonough, John A. Gallagher and Russell Green have been fitting out the M. S. Beaver Islander, in preparation for another busy season. Some of this work includes the installation of a new heating plant that will provide more than double the output of the original one. Anyone riding on the boat before and after the summer season will certainly appreciate this addition. Some engine work, clean up and painting should complete the task with her first trip expected on Friday, the 16th of April. This is by no means a record for an early start and she will be well loaded with much needed freight, for store shelves are beginning to look pretty bare, as are home cupboards. No real problems exist, however, as this past winter was taken right in stride.

WEATHER: Beaver Island weather as recorded by Fire Officer Bill Wagner, for the month of March.

Average high for month was 32 degrees.

Average low for the month was 16.5 degrees.

Low for the month was -2 degrees on the night of the 24th.

High for the month was 44 degrees on the 5th and 6th.

There were 2 days with temperatures in the 40's; 20 days in the 30's; 8 days in the 20's and 1 day with temperatures below 20 degrees.

The total snowfall for the month was 9 inches.

The total snowfall for the winter was 68 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

JOE 'MAFROE' CELEBRATES 64TH YEAR: Joe Sendengerg, better know as Joe 'Mafroe', decided it was high time to have a birthday party, and that he did. His wife, Bid, prepared a kitchen full of cakes, candy and an assortment of othersweets. Invited to the party were only the pre-school and young children of the neighborhood, no adults. Music was furnished, by Irene Palmer and Vera Wojan taking turns on the piano and Joe, with his harmonica, for the vocalizing of his 35 little guests.

Joe didn't have all of his candles on his cake for fear of scorching the ceiling, but a good time was had by all and our wishes are that he has many more birthdays to come.

GAME CLUB PLANS PROJECTS: At a recent meeting of the Beaver Island Game Club, President Erwin Martin presented a list of proposed projects for the coming season.

It was agreed by those present, to prepare Iron Ore Creek for a planting of trout. This would include the building of dams to deepen the water and provide good habitat for game fish. It was also agreed to do the same with Cables Creek.

A list of volunteers was made up of members to distribute mineral blocks throughout the Island for the deer. This is to supplement their diet with minerals that are lacking here on the Island. Many deer are seen now and from all reports, they look to be in very good shape. The Game Club, also, hopes to prepare new signs, throughout the Island, to provide better directions for hunters and tourists. Who knows where the 'Darkey Town' road is? Often called the Barney Lake road, it is better known to the Islanders as the 'Darkey Town' road. Named after 'Dark-ey' Mike O'Donnell, who lived in the large house overlooking Barney's Lake. Another project discussed, was to prepare a refuge area for Wild Geese, taking in part of Font Lake and some of the surrounding area. The exact area would be posted to hunters, so planted geese would go unmolested, thus building up a homing point for Wild Geese here on the Island.

BIRTHS: We have another Islander this month. Mr. and Mrs. Erwin Martin are the proud parents of a daughter, Deborah Lynn. She was born April 10th and weighed in at 7 lbs. 15½ ounces. Our Congratulations to the Martin family.

Two of the Terry Brown triplets, of Chicago, have been released from the hospital. Shortly after Easter the 3rd one should be able to join the rest of his family at home.

HOSPITAL NOTES: Lloyd McDonough was a patient at Little Traverse Hospital in Petoskey. Lloyd was taken ill in Chicago and returned to Little Traverse for a check-up. He is home now and feeling much better.

Joseph M. LaFreniere, better known as 'Buzzy', is a patient in the South Shore Hospital, Chicago, Illinois. His room is number 249 and we know he would enjoy hearing from you.

Word has been received that former Beaver Islander's John and Norman Robert 'Speck' Gillespie are both in the Marine Hospital in Chicago, Ill. for eye surgery. They also, would enjoy hearing from their Beaver Island friends.

Mrs. Dorothy McCann was a patient in the Army Hospital in Fort Dix, N. J. for major surgery. Our last report is that she is home, now, and doing fine.

MORE HARBOR DEVELOPMENT: Gone now is the old freight shed off of the Beaver Islander dock. Walt Wojan and his crew removed the dilapidated shed in less than seven hours, leaving nary a trace of it. In its place will be a new shed with an information window.

For the past two weeks the quietness of the Island has been interrupted by the resounding thuds of heavy drop hammers, as pilings are being driven for new docks. Jewell Gillespie is building a dock out from behind the Gillespie Garage. Beaver Haven, owned by Walker Hill and Phil Green, is breathing new life into the old mill dock, soon to be called Beaver Haven Marina. Walt Wojan and his crew, have been driving pilings at Lake Geneserath for two private docks and are now driving more for L. Z. Reigle, here in the harbor. Very shortly, construction will start on the new Yacht Dock addition, so there will be many changes in the Harbor this year, all for the good.

FROM THE MAIL BAG: Mrs. John Gillespie sent us the following item: "Whenever two or more folks from Beaver Island are in the vicinity, they are bound to find each other.

The Elston Pischner's who have been residing in Phoenix, Ariz. for the past five years, had a luncheon for Mr. and Mrs. L. N. Ditlefson, Capt. and Mrs. Clyde Gallagher, Mrs. Sophia McDonough, Mr. Matt Melville and Capt. and Mrs. John Gillespie, who retired Nov. 1st, 1964, and is permanently located in Phoenix, Arizona. You may be sure a lot of reminiscing was done about Beaver Island."

A letter from Mr. Neil Gallagher relates the following: "I am here in Seattle visiting my daughter Rose Kraemer and sister Rose Malloy, who had a serious operation, but is recovering nicely. Also, visiting my niece, Rose Foerster, and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Tell all my old friends 'Hello'. I am going back to Alaska about May."

From Eddie O'Donnell, a note: "Please tell everybody at 'Home' that we wish them the best."

BAMBIE LIVES IT UP: Remember that little spotted fawn that was kept in the pen at the Yacht Dock? Well, he is still with us, or rather, is a star boarder at both the Circle M Lodge and the Dominican Sisters. Now called "Yogie", he is a big butterball for a deer. He prefers warm oatmeal for breakfast and receives many handouts from both the Sisters and Jack and Eileen Martin. He doesn't really know he's a deer and prefers people rather than the woods. The problem now exists as to what to do with him. He has a big appetite and no urge to become wild. The Sisters have to 'pay' their way out of their house with handouts or take a chance of being butted by a despondent deer.

ST. PAT'S DAY WELL CELEBRATED: On March 13th, Beaver Island parties were held at both Chicago and Lansing. Record attendances were enjoyed by both parties and from all reports, a good time was had by all who attended. The Chicago party is held as a benefit for the Holy Cross Parish, here on the Island, while the Lansing party is held to establish good will between Islanders and those who are interested in the development of the Island. There has been some misunderstandings between the two parties, which is really too bad, for both are intended for the good of the Island and both are very much needed.

SPRING CLOSING ON DOG TRAINING: Michigan dog owners are reminded by the Conservation Department that it again will be taboo to field train their animals from April 15 until July 15. The annual closed season on dog training is timed with the spring nesting and breeding period of game birds and animals to promote maximum wildlife production and survival.

FROM OUR FIRE OFFICER:

THINK BEFORE YOU LIGHT THAT MATCH
IS THIS FIRE SAFE

When you burn your leaves and debris this SPRING - SUMMER or FALL, 1967
PLAY IT SAFE:

1. Call the Conservation Department Field Office for a permit to burn before starting the fire.
2. Burn in a covered trash burner, if possible.
3. Do your burning away from wooded area or grassy areas.
4. Watch wind direction and speed - (Don't burn during high windy periods or when the wind might blow sparks towards other burnible material)
5. Burn after 5 p.m. if possible - (Wind speed is usually lower - humidity usually is higher - conditions are safer)
6. Keep your fire small enough to control with the tools you have on hand. (Garden hose - water pails - shovels and even your broom and mop might come in handy)
7. NEVER LEAVE AN OPEN FIRE UNATTENDED.
8. If your fire gets away - Call for help immediately (A call to the Conservation Department or Township Fire Department will get help)
9. When traveling - use your ash tray.
10. You have a responsibility under the law.
ACT 143 P.A. 1923, as amended, provides that:
 1. You must have a permit to have an open fire except when the ground is snow covered, or for domestic purposes, or to protect persons or property in case of fire.
 2. Any person who willfully, negligently or carelessly sets a fire which injures or endangers the property of another, may, upon conviction, be assessed a fine of not more than \$100 and costs of prosecution or imprisonment for 90 days.
 3. Any person who negligently allows a fire to escape is liable for all expenses incurred by the State of Michigan in the suppression of such fire except for Conservation Department personnel and equipment.
 4. Any permit issued may be revoked if conditions are such that burning may not be done safely.

KEEP YOUR FIRES SAFE ***** KEEP MICHIGAN GREEN

NEED A NEW WELL? With the lowering of Lake levels many here on the Island have been plagued by dry wells. A chance to remedy this situation will be given to anyone interested by contacting Dr. J. P. Ludwick, M.D. 237 W. Washington, Jackson, Michigan. Dr. Ludwick has contacted a deep well driller to put in additional wells at the Golf Course, starting about May 15th. A 4 inch well, including casing will run about \$4.50 per foot. Those interested should act immediately as the equipment will be on the Island for a limited time.

SERVICEMENS NEWS: We have just received Alvin LaFreniere's new address as follows:

Pvt. Alvin H. LaFreniere US 55802449
STU CO P U S 4 S E SCS
3rd Bn. 3rd. Plt.

BEAVER TALES

How many times have you remembered deeds you have done years ago only to realize that you wouldn't even think of it today? So was the case with Mary and Bert McDonough, as they compared their return to the Island last week to their return to the Island in January, 1925.

Word had been received that Dan Boyle, Mary's father was seriously ill, making a trip from Milwaukee to the Island of utmost importance. Traveling by car to Chicago, they booked passage by train to Petoskey. No buses here, but connections were made through the Rural Mail Carrier, between Petoskey and Cross Village. With no heat in the car and many stops to deliver mail, the trip to Cross Village was a long and cold one, but a warm welcome and the surprise of meeting Willie "Brutz" Boyle and Carl Left, who were the Island mail carriers, erased all of the discomforts of the day. There with Willie and Carl were Nels LaFreniere, Big Dick Martin, Joe "Mafroe" Sendenberg, Jim Hunt and Joe Floyd, who had brought sleighs of fish to the mainland along with the mail carriers. With a group like that gathered, some celebrating was in order and the trip back to the Island was planned for the following day. On the trip over, they had brought Sister M. Kevin, O.P., who was going to her brother's ordination, Father McLaughlin.

As a faint glow in the East showed another winters day was dawning, the party struck out for the Island. Four single sleighs, with the mail carriers in the lead, for they were familiar with the ice conditions. Walking more than they rode, the men carefully checked the route, avoiding dangerous cracks. Upon reaching Gray's Reef, the group stopped in the lee of a huge ice berg, where the horses were fed. Bert had a chance to take pictures of the spectacular ice formations and of the group, preserving this experience for posterity.

Soon underway again, with the Island appearing close, the trip was actually quite comfortable. Pulling up on the beach in front of Dick's Store, then Mike McCann's, it was learned Mary's father was much improved, so the whole trip ended on a happy note.

In December of 1927, they made another trip to the Island but were able to come within two miles of the Coast Guard Station on Johnnie McCann's tug from Charlevoix and then into St. James on a sleigh, along with the groceries and mail being brought to the Island.

Today, Bert and Mary prefer the fifteen minute plane ride to the ice crossing, but are glad to have had this experience to remember.

ISLANDER'S RETURN: With the first arrival of birds from the south, our absent Islander's return to their homes on Beaver Island. Among those who have returned to us are Kate Connaghan, Bert and Mary McDonough, Art Brown, Nellie and Frank O'Donnell and Matt Melville.

OBITUARIES: DAVID W. WILSON, age 89, of 465 East Hazelhurst, Ferndale, Michigan, died March 5th in the Arnold Home in Detroit, where he had been for 16 months.

Mr. Wilson was retired as auditor of General Accident Insurance Company. He was born Aug. 8, 1876 in Brantford, Ont., Canada.

Surviving are two sons, John of Los Angeles, Calif; David of Ferndale and two grandchildren.

Mr. Wilson had a summer home on Beaver Island where he spent many summers and was well know to the people of Beaver Island.

JOHN TRACEY MALLOY, passed away on March 31st in Chicago. He was the beloved husband of the late Gladys nee McCauley; fond brother of J. L.

Malloy, Maria Gallagher and Katherine Connaghan of St. James. The funeral was Wednesday, April 7th at 8:45 a.m. from St. Mary of the Lake Church. Interment in St. Joseph Cemetery.

MRS. MARY M. KLOUTHIS, the former Mary 'Tite' Gallagher, passed away on April 6th. She was the beloved wife of the late William J., dear mother of William, Peter Robert, Fletcher and Edgar; fond grandmother of six; loving sister of John, Susana, Elizabeth and Sarah. Funeral at 10:00 a.m. April 8th from St. Mary of the Lake Church. Interment in St. Joseph Cemetery.

HUGH EARL BOYLE, 63, passed away on April 9th in the Charlevoix Hospital. He was born October 16, 1901 on Beaver Island and was a veteran Great Lakes sailor. He is survived by his wife, of two weeks, the former Agnes Sharrow; a sister, Mrs. Mary Green; a brother, Tom Boyle and several nieces and nephews. Funeral services were held at St. Mary's Church in Charlevoix and interment was in St. Mary's Cemetery.

SAILING, SAILING: Archie Minor left March 23 to join his ship, the Caloway in Milwaukee, Wis.

Don Burke left on March 24th for Detroit to sail on the Lakes.

SCHOOL NEWS: Grades 5, 6, 7 and 8 had a kite flying contest on April 2nd in front of Father Wren's Rectory. Father acted as Judge of the contest. Awards were given to Robert Kenwabikise for the best flying 'homemade' kite and to Tony Connaghan for the best flying 'store' kite. Four 'homemade' kites, the Wojan's kite, Leonard Kenwabikise's kite, Judy LaFreniere's kite and Gale Dillingham's kite were chosen as the pretty kites. Gale ended up receiving the prize.

Two Beaver Island High School Seniors, Pauline Kenwabikise and Edward Wojan, attended Senior Government Day at Charlevoix High School on Tuesday, April 6th. They enjoyed the meetings which were interesting and stimulating.

BEACON EXTENDS THANKS: Quite often we receive friendly notes through the mail just letting us know how much they enjoy the Beacon, and even a literary pat on the back was received in the Charlevoix Courier. We would like to take this opportunity to say thanks, as these comments are real morale boosters, even though we feel there is a great deal of room for improvement in our little sheet.

Getting out a Bulletin is fun, but it's no picnic.
If we print jokes, people say we are silly.
If we don't, they say we are too serious.
If we clip things from other magazines, we are too
lazy to write them ourselves.
If we don't, we are too fond of our own stuff.
If we don't print contributions, we don't appreciate
true genius.
If we do print them, the page is filled with junk.
Now, very likely, someone will say we swiped this
from some other Bulletin - we did.

From the New York Parent-Teacher

SPRING CELEBRATION: To start the Trout season off with a bang the Civic Association is planning a dinner for April 24th at the Holy Cross Parish Hall. The dinner will begin at 6:30 p.m. and the prices are as follows: \$1.25 for adults, high school and junior high students, \$.50 1st thru 6th grade and pre-schoolers free. Entertainment is planned which includes a movie, short skit and music. Come one, come all.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

FOR SALE: Six room house on harbor. 3 bedrooms and bath, partly furnished, large lot with water front property on St. James harbor. Write Mrs. Ada Martin, St. James, Michigan or call St. James 448-5831.

FOR SALE: Refreshment stand with Miniature Golf Course, overlooking boat and harbor. Real money maker, good possibilities for a retired couple to supplement social security. Room for expansion. Contact Mr. A. J. Roy, St. James, Michigan

FOR SALE: 1 bottle gas refrigerator (Servel); 1 four-burner bottle gas range and wood or coal combination with oven. Both in good working condition. L. Z. Reigle, Box 45, St. James, Michigan. Call St. James 448-5704.

CIRCLE M LODGE

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ST. JAMES' HIGH
BEVERLY ISLAND