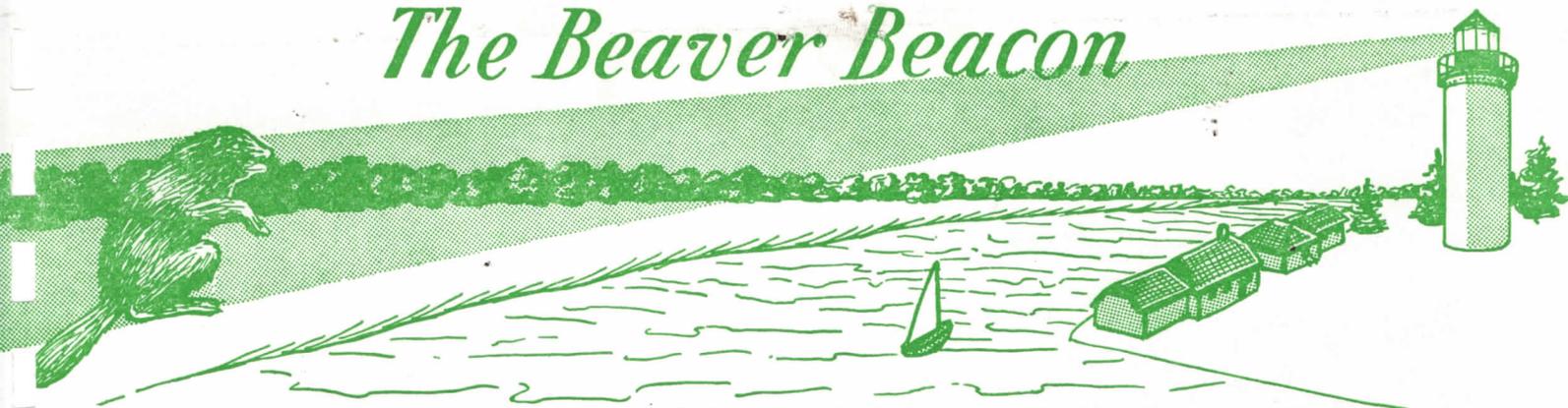


The Beaver Beacon



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

February 1963

High banked roads, frosty pines glistening in the sun, fence posts wearing top hats of snow, the smell of burning maple and beech in the clear, crisp air, red nosed youngsters trudging to school; it's winter on Beaver Island. With a warm fire, good friends and a deck of cards, this is a combination that is hard to beat.

WEATHER ANALYSIS: The following is an analysis of our warm January weather as reported by Vernon Fitzpatrick, our Conservation Officer.

Highest Day	January 9th	37 degrees
Average Daytime Temperature		18 degrees
Lowest Night	January 23rd	-14 degrees
Average Nighttime Temperature		7 degrees

The 23rd was the only day the temperature did not get above 0. The high for the day was -2 degrees.
The snow accumulation on the ground at the end of the month was 28.6".
The total snow fall was 28" with snow falling on 18 days. Heaviest snow fall was on the 12th with a total of 6.3".
The heaviest winter snowfall in the United States was recorded at the Paradise Ranger Station, Mt. Rainier, Washington. In the winter of 1955-56 the total winter snowfall was 83-1/3 feet. In mid-March the snow depth was 30 feet.

GAME CLUB NEWS: From all reports, our deer herd seems to be wintering very well, in spite of the low temperatures. Many signs of deer are throughout the Island, instead of in the yarding areas only. The cedar cuttings made late this fall, have provided good browse and will allow the yarding area to redevelop. More cuttings are to be made as soon as the weather permits.

Rogers Carlisle reports that two of the planted turkeys have returned to his place to receive hand outs from his feeding station. No reports as to the location of the rest of them, but several were staying near the airport, and now are no doubt staying in the deep woods for protection.

Fishing through the ice has been rather spotty. A few perch have been taken from the harbor, and these from the nets of Joe "Mafroe" Sendenberg and Perry "Budger" Palmer.

An excursion to Lake Geneserath, by Don Cole, Perry Gatliff and Dr. Haynes met with little success, so this same team along with Jack Connahan, has

expanded their operation. Using Dr. Haynes' cabin as the home base, they decided to work in Lake Michigan. In this way the team can fish and still enjoy the comforts of a crackling fire and a hot cup of coffee. Perhaps, later we can find out just how many fish they actually caught.

OBITUARIES: Robert "Robbie" Gibson, aged 79, passed away on January 16th. He was born on Beaver Island but spent the last 38 years in Grand Rapids. He is survived by his wife, two sons, a brother, William of Charlevoix and two sisters. Burial was in Grand Rapids.

Mrs. Herman Fischner, 78, pioneer resident of Beaver Island passed away at the Grandvue Medical Facility. Services were held February 5th and burial will be in the St. James Township Cemetery, Beaver Island, in the spring.

WEDDINGS: Bonnie Gallett and John Terrance Brown were married January 12th in Chicago. Terry is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Francis Brown of Chicago and the grandson of John Greene and Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Malloy of St. James.

James Smith and Barbara Johnson were married January 19th at South Bend, Indiana. Jimmy is the son of the Raymond Smiths of that city and a great nephew of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Sendenberg of St. James.

BIRTHS: Born to Mr. and Mrs. Lowell (Bernadette Malloy) Moore, a son, Timothy Blake on January 11th.

Mr. and Mrs. Erwin Martin of Fremont, announce the birth of a son, Eric John, on January 24th. Erwin is the son of the Charles Martins of St. James.

THE ROCKIN' CHAIR'S GOT HIM: Dick LaFreniere was mildly shocked when he received as a gift, a new rocking chair with a card enclosed to the effect - "Your help in the last election was much appreciated." - signed George Romney. Now, anyone who knows Dick would be making the understatement of the year by saying that he is not an enthusiastic Republican. As a matter of fact, he doesn't even like elephants. However, noted at the bottom of the card were two small sets of initials - G. R. and B. M. Gerry Richardson and Bud Miller. They had sent it as a gag and we might add, it went off very well. Mr. Richardson and Mr. Miller are from Mancello.

SCHOOL NEWS: The following students were on the Beaver Island School Honor Roll.

Grade 1	Doris Kenwabikise	Grade 8	Sandy LaFreniere
Grade 2	Richard Gillespie		Jeanne Wojan
	Joan LaFreniere	Grade 9	Arthur Gallagher
	Audrey Wojan		William Gillespie
Grade 4	Gale Dillingham		Pamela Martin
	Daniel Gillespie	Grade 10	Edward Wojan
Grade 5	Angie Wojan	Grade 12	Carol Ann O'Donnell
Grade 6	Judy LaFreniere		
	Ronald Wojan		

MARCH OF DIMES PARTY. The annual March of Dimes party was held at the Shamrock on January 27th. A good crowd attended and the total amount received from the party was \$64.72.

ALTER SOCIETY: At the January meeting of the Holy Cross Alter Society the following officers were elected.

President	Mrs. Joy Green
Vice President	Mrs. Mary Minor
Secretary	Mrs. Winifred McDonough
Treasurer	Mrs. Elizabeth LaFreniere

SAD NEWS: Word has just been received from Milt Bennett, that the Harbor Master of Lake Geneserath has passed away. We certainly will miss his friendly welcome to the North Arm, his interest in all of the catches that were brought to the dock and the fine job he did of keeping the beach clean of dead fish. "Boots", Ralph Rutt's cat died last week.

CIVIC ASSOCIATION: The following officers were elected from the Board of Directors of the Civic Association.

President	Joseph "Bud" McDonough
Vice President	Joseph Dillingham
Secretary	Lillian Gregg
Treasurer	Joy Green

Archie LaFreniere resigned from the Board of Directors to become Chairman of the Commerce Committee. Rogers Carlisle was named Chairman of the Game Club with Jack Martin as Co-Chairman. Eileen Martin was named Chairman of the Activities Committee with Loy Malloy as Co-Chairman. Mary Minor was appointed to replace Archie LaFreniere on the Board of Directors.

NEW PROPERTY OWNERS: Mr. and Mrs. Phillip D. Barrett have purchased property on the north end of the Island from Mr. and Mrs. Ned Tanner of Petoskey.

MID-SEMESTERS: Mary E. Gallagher from Western Michigan College, Colleen Nackerman from Marygrove in Detroit and Alvin LaFreniere from Central Michigan University were all home visiting their respective parents during the mid-semester.

SERVICEMEN: We have just received the following new address for Ronald Cull:

SP4 Roland J. Cull RA16698119
ABTRY 4th MSL BN 55 ARTY
A.P.O. 23
New York, New York

GRANDVUE NEWS: Mrs. Telles O'Brien is now residing at Mrs. Dougherty's home in Charlevoix.
Jimmy Floyd is now living at the Everts home in Charlevoix.

HOSPITAL NOTES: Mrs. Bud "Skip" McDonough has returned to the Island after a two week visit to Little Traverse Hospital in Petoskey. She looks wonderful, feels wonderful and it is good to see her home again.

DID YOU KNOW: That cultivated lettuce never has been found wild. It is believed to have been derived from India or Central Asia and is one of the oldest known vegetables.

BEAVER TALES

February, 1933. The boat had laid up in December before all of the winter's supplies had been brought to the Island, namely the material to build a new school at the south end of the King's Highway. Work was slack, this being a depression year, and the construction of the school would provide jobs, at least, until fishing could start again in the spring.

The ice had made thick and with little snow. It was decided that the only thing to do was to go after the needed materials. With Emmett McCann in charge, the group was made up of five men, two trucks and two bob sleighs. A compass course was laid out for Cross Village and at 8:30 A.M. on or about the 15th of February, the group set out. Charlie Martin and Stanley Floyd going ahead in an old Dodge touring car, converted to a truck and towing two bob sleighs. It was their job to sound the ice and set out pieces of brush every half mile to mark the route. Bringing up the rear, was Patrick LaFreniere, his brother Archie and Emmett McCann, riding in a $1\frac{1}{2}$ ton Ford truck, with several barrels of salted fish on the back that they were to sell on the mainland.

The going was good for the ice was smooth and by noon they were within six miles of Cross Village. It was here, however, they ran into rough ice and couldn't get through it. They encountered some fishermen from the mainland, who advised them there was no route through, but that cars were getting out on the ice from Charlevoix. The group then headed south, skirting the rough ice, looking for a route through. Within sight of the water tower of Charlevoix, the lead truck hit a large crack in the ice and came to a sudden stop. The bob sleighs behind, rammed the truck and punctured the gas tank. Charlie put his finger over the hole, at the same time telling Stanley to find something to fix it with. All that could be found was a paper sack with the remains of their lunch, including a couple of fig cookies. They mashed the cookies up and were able to plug the leak. By tearing up a handkerchief into strips and tying them together, bandaged the wounded tank so their patch wouldn't fall out. The truck was jacked up and out of the crack and they were on their way. Fishing shanties were popping into view now, as they neared Charlevoix.

A man by the name of Harder, who at that time was flying the mail to Beaver Island, spotted them and made several low level runs to guide them toward the route to the beach. A ridge of ice and snow prevented them from driving up off the lake, but soon a large number of Charlevoix residents came with shovels and spuds to clear the way. Prohibition had ended and the taverns of Charlevoix did very well that night, as they did the following night, also.

On the third day the supplies were loaded, but all efforts to have the gas tank welded failed, as they could find no one to do it. It hadn't leaked a drop, anyway, so they were soon on their way back to the Island.

The route they had so carefully marked going over, was now far to the north of them, but the ice was good, so the course was laid in a straight line to the Island. Several miles had clocked off when Charlie stopped his truck and signaled for the large truck to stop, which was now pulling the two bob sleighs loaded with lumber. They had come upon a large crack

in the ice about 30 feet across. It had re-frozen but between the broken pieces it was just a little over an inch thick. With speed up, Charlie and Stanley shot over it. Archie and Emmett got out of the other truck and stood off about fifty yards, while Partick put the big truck and sleighs in a wide circle getting up as much speed as possible before hitting the crack. Standing on the running board, just in case, at about 45 M.P.H., he hit the crack. The ice sagged but the truck and sleighs made it across. With a long sigh of relief, they clamored aboard and were off again.

The going was fine again and soon they were off Sand Bay. A short way from St. James, another crack was encountered and the same procedure took place, only this time the last set of runners on the end sleigh broke through and tore them off. The sleigh was unhitched and the group continued into St. James, unloaded and returned to the broken sleigh, transferred the load and towed it in.

The school could now be built and was completed in the early spring of 1933. Now re-modeled into a summer home at the south end of the King's Highway, it is still referred to as the Roosevelt School.

PARTY PLANS: The third annual Beaver Island party is to be held in Lansing on the 9th of March.

George Egbert, President of the Beaver Island Association of Michigan, along with Charlie Earley, Fred Annand and Bert Green are planning on making this one of the best yet. Announcement of the exact time and place will be sent from the Beaver Island Association of Michigan to each subscriber of the Beacon.

CHICAGO: The annual Beaver Island party in Chicago is to be held on March 9th, also. No information is available at this time as to the time and location of the party.

Now, all you Beaver Islander's and people interested in Beaver Island should be able to attend one of these parties. We guarantee that you will have a grand time at either of them, so come on, let's all go partying on March 9th. Weather permitting, we are going to do our best to have a delegation from the Island attend.

ST. JAMES: Not to be left out of the parties, and you know we can plan a party for any event up here, we do want to invite all of you to come up to Beaver Island and help us celebrate St. Patrick's Day. The motels will be open and the same band as last year has been engaged by the Shamrock. At that time you can fill us in on the details of the Chicago and Lansing parties because some of us are unable to attend either party.

HOPE TO SEE YOU MARCH 17TH ON BEAVER ISLAND