

The Beaver Beacon



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

January 1963

A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL

This month marks the eighth year of publication of the "BEAVER BEACON". With the ever growing number of subscriptions, now totaling 385, we will make every effort to make this year an eventful one in the life of its publication.

WEATHER ANALYSIS: The following is an analysis of our December weather as reported by Vernon Fitzpatrick:

Highest Day	December 4th	57 degrees
Average Daytime Temperature		30 degrees
Lowest Night	December 21st	-4 degrees
Average Nighttime Temperature		25 degrees

Heaviest snowfall on December 25th with 9 inches.
Snow fell on 13 days for a total of 32 inches.
Snow on the ground at the end of the month was 15.9 inches.

HOLLY DAZE OVER: The Christmas Holidays were active ones here on the Island. From Mid-Night Mass to open houses and parties, to welcoming in the New Year at the Shamrock. Many hidden talents were displayed on the dance floor New Year's Eve, including many vocal renditions that took place later in the evening, or actually, just before breakfast. Eva and Lloyd McDonough, Bud and Skip McDonough and Frances and Archie LaFreniere donated the buffet lunch that was served after the stroke of twelve.

Those who returned to the Island to be with their families over the Holidays included A.J. and Mary Elizabeth Gallagher, Markus Martin, Perry and Edward Palmer, Colleen Nackerman, Caroline Kenawabikissee Newsted and family, Kathleen Gatliff, Loretta and Alvin LaFreniere, Isabelle and Joe LaFreniere, Larry McDonough, Margaret and Richie O'Donnell, Thelma Schmidt Marquass and family and three of the Roger Carlisle daughters and families came to spend the holidays - the Robert Powells, the Robert Chaffins and the Gerald Lockwoods.

Others who came to help ring in the New Year included Dr. and Mrs. Robert Smith with Sherri and Steve, Joe and Jane Grossel, and John and Lorene Adams. We would like to point out at this time that with two motels, Isle Haven and Harbor View, facilities are available to those who would like to visit the Island in the off seasons.

BON VOYAGE: The "Beaver Islander" made her last trip to Charlevoix on the 30th of December. Her wake had no more than flattened out before the harbor froze over. Now berthed in Charlevoix for the winter, the "Beaver Islander" will open another season in April.

SKATING FUN: This year the harbor is topped with smooth ice, much to the delight of the youngsters and the hardier grown ups. Most every night a fire is built out on the ice to light and warm the skating area.

BIRTHS: A son, Michael Patrick, was born to the Raymond O'Donnells on December 21. The proud grandparents are the James O'Donnells of St. James.

On January 5th, a daughter, Jeanette Marie weighing in at 5 lbs. 13 ozs. was born to the John LaFrenieres. This is the third grandchild for Elizabeth LaFreniere of Beaver Island.

OBITUARIES: Mrs. John E. Ludwick, who with her husband has owned the Beaver Lodge on Beaver Island for the past six years, died December 25th at Foote Memorial Hospital in Jackson, where she had been a patient for 10 days.

A native of Spring Lake, the former Amaritta DeWitt was a member of the Jackson County Medical Society Auxillary and past president of the Women's Club in Jackson. In recent years she had turned to writing, first doing a book entitled "Sunday Shoes for Everyday", a history of her family and more recently "Russian Doctor in Paradise", the tale of a Russian exile who became the first doctor on Beaver Island.

Besides her husband, Dr. John E. Ludwick, she is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Betty Woodfield of Jackson and Mrs. Alma Hagle of New York; a son Dr. John P. Ludwick of Jackson; 11 grandchildren; 3 great-grandchildren and a brother, Dr. Chester DeWitt of Silver Lake, Wis.

Mrs. William Belfy, 75, life long resident of the Beavers, died Sunday, December 30th after a 10 week stay in the Charlevoix Hospital. Funeral services were held on Wednesday, January 2nd, but burial will be at Holy Cross Cemetery on Beaver Island in the spring.

Born December 4, 1887, the former Alice Johnston, is survived by her husband; one daughter, Mrs. Edna McCann; two sons, John Delbert and Erwin of Detroit; 8 grandchildren; 2 sisters, Mrs. Elizabeth Dunlop of Boyne City and Mary Johnston of Orlando, Fla.; one brother, Peter Johnston of St. James.

Herbert Boyle passed away in Arizona and burial was in Chicago. He was a brother of Irene LaFreniere Melville of Charlevoix, formerly of Beaver Island and a nephew of Mrs. Andy Gallagher of St. James.

GONE UNTIL SPRING: The following people have left the Island to return with the first birds and the "Beaver Islander" in the spring. Sybil and Art Larsen, Mary and Bert McDonough, Judy Palmer, Mary and Patsy 'Doney' Gallagher, Mary Green, Mary 'Vesty' McDonough, Mary 'Duffy' Gallagher, and Mary Early.

DID YOU KNOW: The Israelites complained to Moses in the Wilderness because they couldn't have onions to which they had become accustomed during the long captivity in Egypt. The cultivated onion probably originated in Afghanistan.

BEAVER ISLAND MISSILE BASE DISCOVERED: This was the headline in the Petoskey News-Review (Old Newsboy's Edition). The following is a reprint of the article which appeared on December 14th along with a large picture of a Missile Base.

"It was announced today by the newly proclaimed government of Irish Nationalists on Beaver Island, that they would tolerate no aggressive acts from the U.S.

Informed sources in our nations capitol were shaken by this unforeseen and sudden National crisis. No immediate explanation was available to the press and top secrecy shrouded all news releases.

The only source of information on the island situation was from Radio Free St. James with studios atop the "Shamrock Recreation Center". The Irish Nationalists Defense Ministry announced that Martial Law had been established throughout the island.

The missile launching pads which have just recently been completed were first discovered and reported by Mr. Al Phillips on a routine flight to Fox Isle. Since that time, extensive investigation and surveillance has been placed on this strategic area by the C.I.A.

Backbone of the Irish Fleet, the Emerald Isle, was seen to be unloading a large cargo of deadly missiles and aged Irish Rocket Fuel.

A sizeable military build up is expected in the Cross Village area. All available housing is being made ready along the coast line. Summer homes, closed for the season, have been taken over.

All residents are advised not to regret the purchase of this paper, and to go right ahead with their Christmas shopping. Let's all make the J. . Penny Co. sorry that they ever went into the charge account business. Be a "dead beat". Don't pay."

Confronted with this news, it was decided to make an investigation of the island to determine whether or not this news was based on fact or not. A committee of one, headed by Patsy 'Doney' Gallagher was appointed to this task and the final report was rather startling.

Discovered behind Wojan's house was a small half track, first believed to be a missile hauling tractor but was later found to be Walt's new snow buggy.

In the basement of the Shamrock, a large quantity of rocket fuel was found neatly stacked and ready for immediate use in a long seige.

With this new evidence, the search was spurred on and lo and behold the launching base was discovered!!!!

Russ Green's root cellar had been converted to a unique multiple missile launching silo. Here, lined on a slanted rack, were a half dozen, high velocity wine jugs, with the corks aimed in the direction of the mainland.

An underground peace movement is being planned at this time, to eliminate this threat by spring.

SERVICEMENS NEWS: The following new addresses have been received by the Beacon editors:

A 1/c Brian J. Gallagher AF 16674249
41 st. A.T.S.
Charleston A. F. Base, South Carolina

A 3/c John C. Pischner AF 16747729
Box 348 6214 APRON
A.P.O. 140
San Francisco, California

TIDBITS: Moreen Gallagher, daughter of Jane and Norbert Gallagher of Rochester, Ind., graduated on December 16th from Mercy Central School of Nursing in Grand Rapids.

Mr. Barry Pischner, son of Mrs. Delores Pischner of Charlevoix, has been named secretary of the Grand Rapids Furniture Designers Association. This is the oldest group of its kind in the nation. The FDA, in addition to purchasing furniture design and research books for the Grand Rapids Library, also screens promising students for scholarships to Kendall School of Design. A new project this year will be 15 minute presentations by the membership at monthly meetings covering new products and services helpful to designers.

On the 10th of January, Walker and Lola Hill, owners of the Rustic Villa and partners in Beaver Haven, will be leaving New York, en route to India, with stops in London, Paris and Athens. Walker, has been assigned by Columbia University, to develop testing methods for Indian education systems. This will be for a period of two years. Their daughter's, Mary and Ellen hope to join their parents next fall. Mary is now attending Antioch College in Ohio and Ellen is a member of the ice skating cast in a show, 'Girls, Girls, Girls', held at the Conrad Hilton Hotel in Chicago.

Hugh F. (Rob) Burke retired from the Air Force on the 30th of November. He is now visiting with his sisters, Mrs. Ada Martin and Mrs. Clare Schmidt of St. James.

MUSEUM NOTES: Through the kindness and interest in the Beaver Island Historical Society, Mr. George Egbert of the Island and with the Oldsmobile Public Relations Department, Mr. Egbert was able to get from Mr. E. W. Schuron, Division Comptroller for Oldsmobile a gift of a Royal typewriter, which is now being used by Olive Dillingham, Secretary for the Beaver Island Historical Society. This is a wonderful gift to our Society as we have been unable to find funds for a typewriter. May we thank both Mr. G. W. Egbert and Mr. E. W. Schuron and Oldsmobile Company for this gift.

A. J. Roy, President
Beaver Island Historical Society

GAME CLUB: The winner of the prize offered by the Game Club for the largest bass was Steve Smith, son of Dr. and Mrs. Robert Smith of Grand Rapids. Congratulations, Steve.

COYOTE HUNTING: Last month, this winter's first successful Coyote hunt was launched. Arriving on the island with his pack of hounds, was Roy Chambers of Indian River. Also from Indian River was Roy Vincent and his son, Roy, Jr. From Rogers City, came Mr. C. Foxey. These men, along with numerous Islanders teamed up to bag four Coyotes, the largest was a record breaker here on the Island, and was shot at Little Sand Bay. The afore mentioned group have bagged a total of 286 Coyotes in the Indian River area and this one was the second largest of that number. Weather is the big factor in this type of hunting, with fresh snow being the deciding factor for a successful hunt. They had three days of good hunting. At this writing, the same team is waiting patiently on the mainland for the word that a new fall of snow is now on the ground so they can return and try again.

BUGLEING BEAGLES: Those large snow shoe rabbits are plentiful on the Island this year and you may rest assured the ardent rabbit hunters are taking advantage of the situation. Most every day the beagle dogs of Milt Bennett, Perry Gatliff, Archie LaFreniere and Karl Kuebler, can be heard throughout the Island, with their masters not far behind.

NEW ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH: A campaign to raise \$6,000 to help underwrite the cost of construction of a new St. James Episcopal Church and vicar's cottage on Beaver Island is currently underway according to a communication received from the Rt. Rev. Charles E. Bennison, Bishop of the Diocese of Western Michigan.

The property for the church site has been given by Warren Townsend of Holland. A total of \$5,000 has been already earmarked for the building program on America's Emerald Isle.

Dr. Paul Nelson of Grand Rapids has been appointed warden of St. James Mission on the island. Rev. Alexander Wood will serve as clergyman-in-charge during the fall, winter and spring months with other clergy in the diocese serving on a two or three week basis during the summer, according to Bishop Bennison.

The proposed new church and vicarage will be of log structure and will replace the old house which has been used for services since 1954. The mission has a membership of 20 year around members and more than 40 during the summer months. It is the only Protestant Church on the Island.

THANK YOU: Our heartfelt thanks goes to Mr. and Mrs. William Kreuter of the Kreuter Paint Company for donating all the paint used on the HolyCross Parish Hall. The Hall looks wonderful.

THE FOOT PATH TO PEACE

To be glad of life, because it gives you the chance to love and to work and to play and to look up at the stars; to be contented with your possessions, but not satisfied with yourself until you have made the best of them; to despise nothing in the world except falschood and meanness, and to fear nothing except cowardice; to be governed by your admirations rather than by your disgusts; to covet nothing that is your neighbor's except his kindness of heart and gentleness of manners; to think seldom of your enemies, often of your friends, and every day of Christ; and to spend as much time as you can, with body and with spirit, in God's out-of-doors --- these are little guide-posts on the foot-path to peace.

from The Friendly Year by Henry VanDyke

SEE YOU NEXT MONTH