July 1965

Although the temperatures have been a little low for July, the Island has been well populated with vacationers. Captain Lawrence McDonough, of the Beaver Islander, reports a record of 185 passengers in one trip on the 3rd of July.

WEATHER: Beaver Island weather as recorded by Fire Officer Bill Wagner, was rather cool for the first part of the month but warming up somewhat during the last half. Most of the Month was dry and windy, with scattered showers giving a total of 2.22 inches of rain fall. 3/4 of an inch of rain fell during the wee hours of the morning of the 28th. Sunday, the 27th, took top honors with a high temperature of 86 with the low of 36 falling on the night of the 3rd.

The average daytime high was 70.5 degrees and the average night low was 49.3 degrees. The mercury rose and stayed in the 50's for 3 days - in the 60's for 14 days - in the 70's for 11 days and into the 80's for 2 days.

B.I.C.A. CELEBRATES 4TH: The Beaver Island Civic Association made an all day affair out of the 4th of July.
At 11:30 a.m. a Parade was lined up at the Lighthouse, ready to start the trek around the Harbor. With Coast Guardsman Day Leroy, as Color Bearer, leading and Marie and L.Z. Riggles serving as King and Queen Chairman and Parade Marshall, respectively, in the lead car, the Parade was underway.

King and Queen for the day was Eddie Connaghan and Mary Gillespie. The Queens Court consisted of Audrey Wan, Pat Lockton and Ruth Ellen Greg all decked out in formals and riding in transportation furnished by the Circle M Lodge.

The Beaver Lodge Van was next, decorated with chartreuse and red silk flags with a dining table set on the top. Following this was Dennis Wagner's miniature tractor towing a go-cart with his little sister, Jody dressed in a clown suit, riding in the cart. Behind this came Beaver Haven's float with a replica of their new dock, representing five years of progress. Then came Gillespie's truck decorated with banners and several little Gillespie's in the back. Next came the Erin Motel's trailer load of guests, followed by a sizeable group of Beaver Island Indians in full costume amid a background of pine and cedar trees. Last but certainly not least, came the Shamrock's truck with a well stocked table of refreshments and a party of celebrants.
At 1:00 p.m. the Holy Cross Hall opened to provide booths for games, prizes, candy, baked goods, lunches and souvenirs. At 9:00 p.m., it had begun to rain but did not dampen a fine display of fireworks, as a finale for this day.

The Polaroid '103' Camera was won by J. L. Malloy of St. James. John Belfy, of Detroit, won a 14 lb. box of Amway Laundry Compound S-A-C given away at the Amway Booth by Distributor Lillian Gregg.

The Parade Prizes were as follows:

- 1st - Indian Float
- 2nd - Beaver Haven
- 3rd - The Shamrock
- Children's 1st - The Wagner's
- Children's 2nd - Elizabeth Chaffin
- Children's 3rd - Mike Green

A big Thank You goes to the Activities Chairmen, Marge Wagner and Eileen Martin for a very successful 4th of July.

GAME NEWS: When anglers get together comparing notes and tell tales, the fishing around Garden and Hog Islands is most generally in the conversation. Surely this is where the small mouths abound, but lately the harbor of St. James can't be denied. This past week, the efforts of Mrs. Rosalyn (Lawrence) Marble paid off a big dividend with the landing of a 5 pound bass from the Beaver Island Boat Dock. A short while later a 3½ pounder was taken, by Bob Campbell of Pontiac, from Beaver Haven's new dock. However, fishing at Garden and Hog is still very popular but frequent windy days have held their numbers down this past month. 1965 seems to be a peak year for Chipmunks, for there seems to be one on every stump throughout the Island. In one afternoon, researchers at C.M.U.'s summer facility, live trapped, tagged and released 300 of the little critters. This isn't exactly considered a game animal but we just thought it was rather interesting.

B. I. YACHT DOCK IS GROWING: Construction is still underway on the new addition, after which it will be a major improvement but with the boats beginning to come in larger numbers, things are a little crowded for both the Yachtsmen and the workers.

OBITUARIES: DR. FRANK E. LUTON - On Sunday, June 20th, Dr. Frank E. Luton, 86, who practiced medicine 60 years, including five years on Beaver Island, died in the Clinton Memorial Hospital after a two day illness. Dr. Luton began his medical practice in Huron County. Ten years later, he moved to Clinton County, practicing in Maple Rapids and St. Johns where he served 40 years. He retired in 1958, but soon tiring of inactivity, he answered a call to locate on Beaver Island in northern Lake Michigan. Dr. Luton returned to St. Johns in 1963. He was a member of the St. Johns Rotary Club, Masonic Lodge, state and national medical association and the Clinton Memorial Hospital staff.

He is survived by a grandson, Jack L. McGregor and a great-grandson, Michael Luton McGregor, both of Lansing.

Funeral services were held at the Hoag Funeral Home in St. Johns. Entombment was in the Mount Rest Mausoleum.

Our sincere sympathies go to his family, and Beaver Island has lost another old friend.

SERVICEMEN'S NEWS: We have just received word that Tony McDonough, son of Mrs. Sophia McDonough is now one of Uncle Sam's boys. His new address is as follows:
Pvt. Anthony E. McDonough US 56386915
Co. "B" 2nd Bn.
1st. Inf. Bde.
Fort Polk, La. 71459.

Joseph LaFreniere, son of Mrs. Elizabeth LaFreniere, is now home on a 30 day leave from the Army. Joe has been stationed in Greece for the past two years.

BIRTHS: Mr. and Mrs. Walter "Billy" Martin, of Hastings, announce the birth of a daughter Bernice Ellen on June 30th. Mrs. Ada Martin is the proud grandmother.

WEDDINGS: Nancy Kenwabakisse and Wayne Wagonere were united in marriage June 5th, 1965. Nancy is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Kenwabakisse of St. James.

HOSPITAL NOTES: Word has been received that Charles Kleinhenz is in the Veteran's Hospital in Saginaw, Michigan. The Kleinhenz lived on Beaver Island many years and we know Chuck would be happy to hear from his old friends. His address is:

Charles E. Kleinhenz
1500 Weiss
Veteran's Hospital
4 A
Room 425
Saginaw, Michigan

We have received word that a former Beaver Islander, Myrtle Gallagher is a patient in the Charlevoix Hospital.

Charles C. Earley of Lansingburg is now recovering at his home from a series of major operations and attacks of asthma. After his experience of Beaver Island last year, when he fractured three ribs in a fall at his cottage on the Harbor, friends began to think that Lady Luck had deserted Charley entirely. Last fall he underwent major surgery, which required long convalescence; then a sudden asthma attack which put him in an oxygen tent with unexpected complications that resulted in two more major operations. One added note is that while in Lansing General Hospital his sister was brought in with fractures of both arms, so it looks like bad luck hit the whole family, not just Charley.

In spite of this, the Secretary of the Michigan Beaver Island Association and his wife expect that they may yet get to Beaver Island for a summer vacation and a much needed rest and convalescence.

COME ON LET'S DANCE: On Saturday, July 17th, at Holy Cross Hall a Western Square Dance will be held sponsored by the Beaver Island Civic Association. The dances will be called by Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Thompson of Parma, Ohio. Admission will be 50¢ per person. Refreshments will be served in the Holy Cross Parish Hall kitchen.

HOMECOMING: The Annual Homecoming for Holy Cross Church will be held on August 8th, this year. Following is a list of the days activities:

1 - 3 p.m. - Roast Beef Dinner, Fancy Booth, Religious Articles Booth at the Parish Hall.
4:00 p.m. - Parade
9:30 p.m. - Dance at the Parish Hall

A beautiful Schwinn bicycle will be given away that day with donations being 25¢ each or 5 for $1.00. Why not plan on joining us August 8th.
An early start is essential in order to cover a good share of one of the outlying Islands and Garden Island is the next largest to Beaver. After a hearty breakfast and a large lunch packed, we load our gear aboard our 16 ft. outboard. A couple of rods, a can of worms, two extra gas tanks and all the other stuff that's needed for an all day outing, plus a sizeable quantity of insect repellent. These Islands grow mosquitoes the size of young turkeys.

In the early morning quietness we leave the harbor and swing north of the second red buoy. From this point, we can see Hog Island off our starboard bow and Garden Island dead ahead. A few minutes run and we are at the Garden Island passage buoy, and pass it on our port side as we head up between the Islands. A long rock reef extending out from the south side of Garden Harbor makes one aware of the fact that inter-island travel has to be done with care and helter skelter boating could end up in disaster. Recouning the reef, we head into the deep channel of Garden Harbor, then following this channel to the left, we go up into the quietness of Indian Harbor. Flights of startled ducks clear out our way as we bring our boat to the beach.

A pair of loons wail their disapproval of this disturbance, as we head north on a foot path leading through the site of the old Indian Village. The main trails have been cleared by the Conservation Department and the walking is easy. We turn left at the first fork and follow the west side trail for a short distance then right on a smaller one leading to the Indian burial grounds. There is where the fight with mosquitoes begins and we dope up good.

It is almost like a tropical jungle, with large vines hanging from the trees and scores of yellow lady slippers poking through the lush foliage of the forest floor. Coming upon a little knoll we find we have arrived at the Indian burial ground. Here, scattered through the woods, are many wood shingled shelters, green with moss, covering the graves. Many have fallen and many are practically non-existent. A few stones show a more modern trend and the latest grave is dated 1938. This little link with the past is fast decaying and we can't help but wonder what can be done to save it.

We back track down the little trail to the main trail and head northwest and turn off on the Sugar Bush trail and find ourselves dwarfed by ancient and huge maple trees, their limbs so high we can hardly make out the shape of their leaves. For many years these old trees furnished sugar and syrup to Garden Island inhabitants. Now they stand as stately monuments to a historic past.

After a good hike, we can make out the sound of the sea breaking on the beach and we know we are nearly to the north side of the Island, up a little rise and the woods opens to a field and there is the lake. This is the site of the Larsen Homestead and along the edge of the woods are the graves of Christina and Egedieus Larsen, who worked this land and fished these waters, finally settled on Beaver Island but decided to rest in the quietness of Garden. There isn't much left of the old buildings and many are gone but the depressions of old cellars.

Resting our aching legs, we have our lunch on the bank overlooking the lake and watch the sturdy line of steam boats go by.

Hiking east along the shore trail until we tie into the Danes Trail, we found an abundance of sweet wild strawberries that supplemented a dessert we hadn't packed. Heading back across the Island, we came upon a
large clearing and some remnants of buildings. Remains of old school desks and a collapsed belfry, show this was the Garden Island School, abandoned since the early 30's. Scattered apple trees with many very green apples on them show promise of sweetness in a couple of months, but would offer only belly aches now. Coming to a fork in the trail we find we meet the trail we started on, and here is another old building, its ends and sides flat on the ground with grass even growing out of its foundation. This was the Catholic Church of Garden Island.

Back at our boat once again, we decide to rest awhile before heading back, and what better way is there to rest, than to go fishing. Not bothering to start the motor, we just shoved the boat out in the harbor and drifted. Stringing on a sizeable worm and sliding a bobber about 3 feet up from the hook we tossed out our lines. Hardly a minute had passed when our rest was disturbed by sharp yanks on our lines. Feeding time for the bass and they were hungry. Within the hour our supper was assured. We hadn't broken any records but our day had certainly been a full one.

As the shadows of the tall pines lengthened across this quiet spot, we set out for St. James and all that mad pace of living in a city of a hundred and sixty five persons.

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CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

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 RENT: Modern trailer, sleeps four, overlooking the harbor. Contact Mrs. A. J. Gallagher, St. James, Michigan. Telephone 448-5868.

FOR SALE: 3 bedroom, upper, approximately 1200 square feet lower. Idea for small business, located in the heart of town. Furnished and priced to sell. Write Box C, Beaver Beacon, St. James, Michigan.

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