

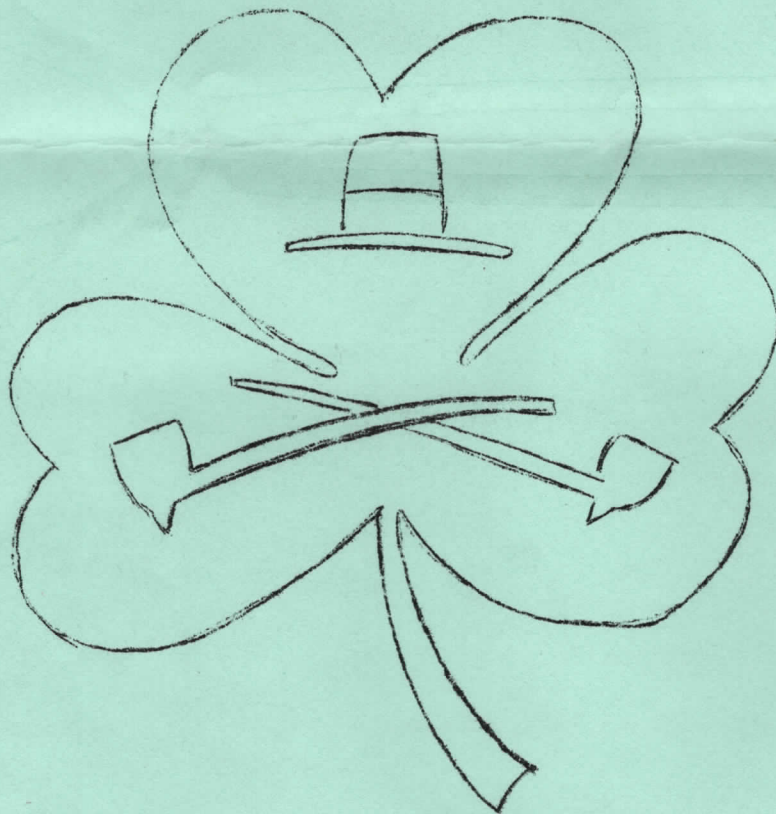
The Beaver Beacon

March



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

ERIN GO BRAGH



March 1961

LONESOME FOR BEAVER ISLAND? Announcements of the 7th Annual Chicago St. Patrick's Day party have been sent out. It is being held this year at the Eagles Hall, 9231-33 Cottage Grove Avenue. There will be dancing and entertainment, with music by the Eagle Brothers, T.V. and recording artists. Buffet supper will be served - beef, ham, Polish sausage - all you can eat. The party is held for the benefit of the Holy Cross Church in St. James and is under the chairmanship of Bernard O'Donnell, 1712 East 92nd Place, Chicago, Illinois. Donations are \$2.50 for adults and \$1.50 for children under 18. So Pop, why not buy Mom a new dress, get a sitter for the babies and go out and have a good time. There'll be some folks from Beaver Island at the party, too, and you can get them in a corner and have them give you all the gossip we don't print in the Beacon!

BEAVER ISLAND ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARTY: If you're really lonesome, don't buy Mom the new dress. She won't mind if you take the money you have saved, gas up the old buggy, and take her up to the Island for a party being held at the Parish Hall. Corned beef and cabbage supper for \$1.25, sponsored by the Holy Cross Altar Society.

Everyone claims a bit of Irish ancestry on St. Paddy's Day, so if you can't come here (we wish all of you could), celebrate in Chicago. The wee folk will be watching you, so don't forget to wear a Shamrock!

PANTRY SHOWER: The ladies of Beaver Island held a pantry shower for for the Dominican Sisters at the convent on February 19th. The Sisters received many gifts for their pantry along with a nice kitchen stool. Games were played and a delicious lunch was served.

We'll pardon the Charlevoix Courier for their misprint in reporting the party as a "panty" shower. Calls came in from Chicago and Detroit questioning the advisability of giving a "panty shower for the Sisters. Oh well - we all had a good laugh, including the Sisters.

WELCOMING PARTY: A welcoming party was held at the Shamrock for Mrs. Vernon Fitzpatrick. The new bride received many beautiful gifts. A buffet luncheon was served by the Beaver Island ladies.

POST-NUPTIAL SHOWER: Mr. and Mrs. Archie Minor were the guests of honor at a shower March 5th at the Shamrock. The newlyweds received a gift of money plus other lovely gifts. A barbecue luncheon was served by Loretta Malloy, Wini McDonough and Burdene Stromberg. Mr. and Mrs. Minor expressed their appreciation to their hostesses and to the many people who remembered them.

25TH ANNIVERSARY PARTY: A surprise party for Jack and Bea Boyle of Chicago, former residents of Beaver Island, was held at Woodlawn Gardens in Chicago. Mr. and Mrs. Boyle celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary on Feb. 18th. A buffet luncheon was served. Congratulations to the Boyles from the Beacon staff and from all their friends and relatives on the Island!

LIGHTED BUOY: Boating enthusiasts will be pleased to learn that the buoy marking the passage between Beaver and Garden Islands will again be lighted. The buoy was lit for many years until about four years ago, when it was discontinued because this passage was seldom used. With the increase in boating activities, the United States Coast Guard has decided to replace the present unlighted buoy with a suitable lighted buoy to facilitate use of the passage during the hours of darkness. It will be regularly maintained on a seasonal basis each year during the period from May 1st to October 1st. The Island would like to thank the many interested parties who cooperated by writing letters to those concerned in this matter.

VISITORS TO THE ISLAND: Mr. and Mrs. Charles O'Donnell spent their honeymoon on Beaver Island. They were married February 11th at St. Henry's Church, Lincoln Park, Michigan. Charles is the son of the Edgar O'Donnells, former residents of Beaver Island. Congratulations to the newlyweds!

Mr. and Mrs. John Adams, their son, David and his friend spent a few days visiting Beaver Island.

Father Alexis Martini, former Island pastor, spent several days visiting old friends.

Edwin McCann and Joe Perron were the guests of Vernon and Musette LaFreniere. The men enjoyed a few days of rabbit hunting.

Margaret O'Donnell visited with her parents, the Frank O'Donnells.

Perry Crawford was here for a few days visiting friends.

BIRTHS: Beaver Island's population has been increased by one small male resident, William Jerome McDonough, son of Edna (Skip) and Joseph (Bud) McDonough. Little Billy was born February 14th at the Beaver Island Medical Center. He was christened February 26th with Jack Cull of Chicago and Jean Wojan as godparents.

Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Nackerman are the proud parents of a baby girl, Mary Coleen, born February 11th at Pontiac, Michigan. Rodney is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Nackerman, our postmaster and his wife.

Mr. and Mrs. Hubert McCauley are the parents of a baby girl, Shari Ann, at Pontiac, Michigan. Hubert is the son of Elizabeth McCauley, former Island resident.

Mr. and Mrs. Roger Ricksgers are the parents of a baby girl, born at Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Congratulations to the proud parents and their little ones!

CHURCH NEWS: The Altar Society of Holy Cross Church has elected its officers for the coming year. They are as follows: President, Mary McDonough; Vice President, Lillian Gallagher; Secretary, Jo Carlisle; Treasurer, Marion Martin.

SERVICEMEN'S NEWS: An address has been received for Sgt. Francis H. Burke, AF 36158391, 931st A.C. and WSQ, APO 23, New York, New York. Sgt. Burke was the first serviceman to leave the island in 1941 and will be retired this June.

MEDICAL CENTER NEWS: A letter from Albert E. Heustis, M.D., State Health Commissioner for the Michigan Department of Health, stated that he would send his associate to prepare a picture story of Beaver Island to assist in the procurement of a new doctor. Dr. Luton has announced his plans to retire on June 30th.

HOSPITAL NEWS: Ann Gatliff is a patient at Little Traverse Hospital in Petoskey, Michigan. She is undergoing skin grafts following the surgery on her ankle which was injured in an automobile accident in 1959.

CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT NEWS: John Ozaga, Conservation Department Biologist who is studying the coyote on the Island this winter, has tracked the wary animals an estimated 350 miles. John's lengthy tour throughout the Island has led him to eleven dead deer carcasses, two of which were killed by coyotes. He estimates that there are about 30 dead deer left in the woods by hunters. While this may seem a large number, Mr. Ozaga pointed out that Conservation experiments over a three year period show an average of 4 dead deer per square mile on the mainland where there is a "bucks only" season. This number represents illegal deer (fawns and does) and wounded deer.

Mr. Ozaga feels that the reason for over thirty deer being left by the hunters this year was due to the lack of tracking snow during the deer season.

GAME CLUB NEWS: 900 feet of 16 mm. film has been prepared by Rogers Carlisle for showing to organizations in other cities. This promotional film shows the deer herds on the Island, the art of coyote hunting and many other short subjects. Accompanying the film is a descriptive letter explaining the high points. This film will be loaned, free of charge, to any responsible person wishing to help us promote the Island. Plans are being made to prepare another reel of film showing the Island's summer activities; fishing, boating, etc., and will be available this fall.

Speaking of coyotes, the hunters are complaining of a lack of good tracking snow. Nevertheless, the coyote population has been decreased by two this month. Rabbit season is over, and those who now must give up hunting the elusive hare have turned to coyotes. Good luck, boys!

BOAT COMPANY NEWS: Karl Erber of Charlevoix is the new president of the Beaver Island Boat Company following the resignation of Henry C. Allen who served in that capacity since the company was formed in 1944. Mr. Allen's resignation was accepted by the Board due to the fact that he has present business relations with members of the company.

WEATHER: February's weather more than made up for the colder than usual January. Warm sun melted the winter's ice and snow. Local husbands caught their wives thumbing through the catalog for that new Easter outfit. Kids in light jackets on bicycles, warm south west winds, and that "oh so lazy" feeling are all sure signs of Spring. The first of March was as meek as a lamb. Now if we can just keep the lamb meek, the winter will be over.

FISHING NEWS: At the February meeting of the Civic Association, it was decided by a majority vote to completely eradicate the fish in Fox Lake and restock with more desirable species of fish. A letter has been received from Mr. Max Hunt, Regional Supervisor of the Fish Department, Department of Conservation, asking the Association to decide when this should be done. Mr. Hunt offered two alternatives: early spring with fish to be reintroduced into the lake this fall, or early fall with restocking to take place the following fall. Either way a season's fishing would be lost to the anglers, and the association decided to get the work done as quickly as possible. This will mean "no fishing" in Fox Lake for this summer, but will hasten the time when really good fishing will again be available on Fox Lake.

A strong and steady Southwest wind has moved the winter's ice away from the Island with open water reaching to just inside our harbor. The beautiful big and tasty perch came in. The commercial netters took advantage of this and have reported fair size catches.

CIVIC ASSOCIATION NEWS: Beaver Island has decided to begin a restoration program on the Island. There are many interesting items and locations that are of historical value to the visiting tourist. This program is planned to continue over several years until the many historical sites have been restored or replaced. It is planned to begin the project with the Indian Burial Grounds at the north end of the Island. Roads and paths will be cleared to the area and the graves will be restored.

New Chairman for the standing committees of the Association were appointed by the president, George Van Buren, and are as follows: Harbor Committee, Lloyd McDonough; Commerce Committee, Burdene Stromberg; Activities Committee, Musette La Freniere; Game Club, Bud McDonough; Beacon Committee, Loretta Malloy.

PONDEROSA OF BEAVER ISLAND: Seventy head of Hereford cattle have been purchased by a partnership consisting of Henry Allen, Lawrence McDonough, and Bud McDonough. The cattle will be brought to the Island during the latter part of October. New machinery and equipment has been purchased and present plans are to increase the herd to at least 300 within the next few years. Bud and his wife Skp and their family will become part-time ranchers, living in the stone house on James Gallagher's farm where part of the cattle will be grazed. The balance of the cattle will be grazed at Sand Bay. Over \$20,000 has been invested in the project. This venture into cattle raising will open new jobs for several Islanders, and the partnership is wished the best of luck by all of us.

SCHOOL NEWS: Twenty-six boys and girls are participating in the Hunter Safety Program at the Beaver Island School under the direction of Vernon Fitzpatrick. The youngsters, twelve years of age and up, spend one hour each Friday for four weeks. The course is designed to train these youngsters in the safe and intelligent handling of firearms and bows and arrows.

CIVIL WAR CENTENNIAL: Richard Sonderreggor, history Professor at Northern Michigan College, Marquette, was one of the ten persons appointed to the State Civil War Centennial Commission by Governor Swainson. The Centennial is in commemoration of the enormous contribution of the young state of Michigan in manpower and effort to the Union Cause.

We wonder if any reader has information on the number of Beaver Islanders who were "Boys in Blue". If you have, send it to the Secretary of the Civic Association, St. James, Michigan.

Mr. Sonderreggor is the son of the late Max Sonderreggor of Beaver Island.

KING OF ?????? With the crowning of the Cherry Pie Queens, Beauty Queens, Mardi Gras Queens, and all the other Queens, Lawrence McDonough decided it was time the men got into the act. He decided to become Pre-Frosted by Accident Package Mix Cake King. Perhaps we should explain.

Lawrence decided to try his hand at baking a package mix cake. He read the directions wrong and added too much liquid. Wini came to the rescue, said they would just add another package of cake mix. She reached into the cupboard, got another box, and without looking, poured it into Lawrence's mixture. Lawrence noticed the new mix appeared somewhat lighter in color. To his horror, he discovered Wini had added frosting mix instead of cake mix. Undaunted he proceeded to beat it all together thinking he may have discovered a new recipe. In the baking process, certain weird chemical actions took place with the cake part settling to the middle and the frosting part separating and going to the outside. Very little has been said by the McDonough's about what they finally decided to do with the concoction. We only know that Lawrence is trying to decide on some other field in which he can reign as King.

The Beacon, always trying to be helpful, has a suggestion. A letter has been received from Mrs. Theo (Marion) Hine. Theo is on a strict diet but Marion is still fond of mashed potatoes. It's one thing to cook just one lonely potatoe, but an entirely different matter when it comes to mashing it. Marion wants to know how to mash one little potatoe and end up with more than just a messy potatoe masher. Here's your chance, Lawrence. You COULD become King of the Lonely Mashed Potatoe!

WOULD YOU BE SURPRISED TO KNOW THAT General Custer stopped at Beaver Island on his way to the tour of duty which culminated in the battle of the "Little Big Horn" at which Custer and the 226 men of his command were massacred. His ship stopped at the harbor to refuel. Custer was head of the Michigan Cavalry Brigade at the Battle of Gettysburg and emerged as one of the most brilliant Cavalry leaders of the Civil War.

That's all for this time. See you in April!