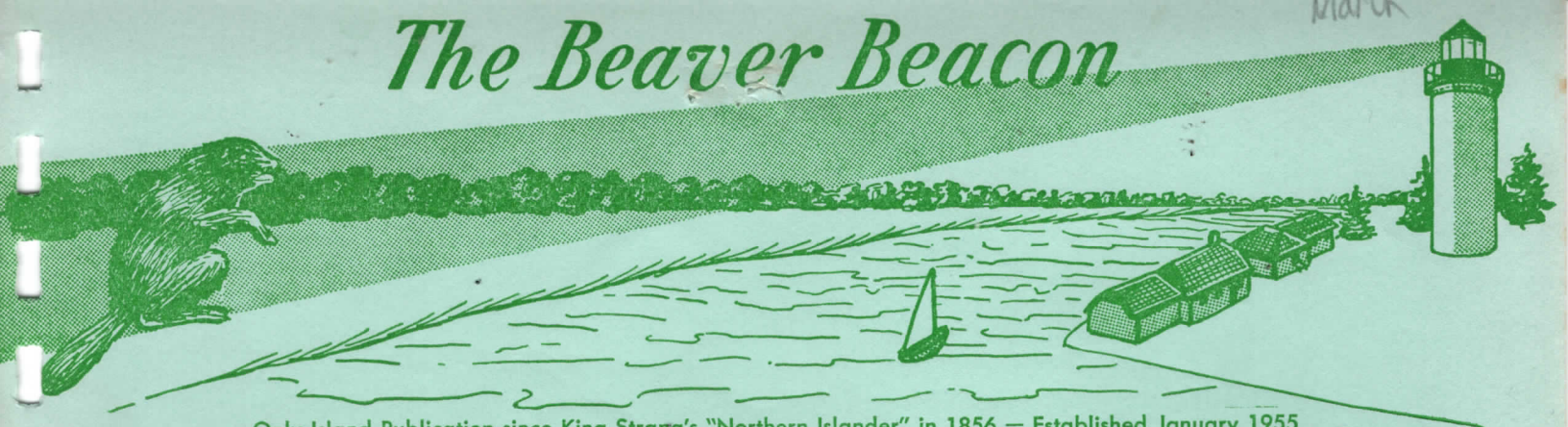


The Beaver Beacon

MARCH



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

May the LUCK
of the IRISH,

The gift of the
BLARNEY,

The charm of the
OLD EMERALD
ISLE --

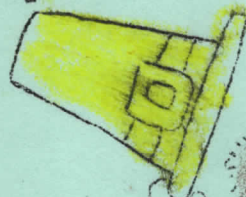
Put a BOUNCE
in your Steps.

A LIGHT
in your eye,

And brighten
your
ST. PAT'S DAY
Smile!



A FINE YEAR TO YOU, NOW!



March 1962

WEATHER: Following is our official February weather as reported by Vernon Fitzpatrick:

Warmest day was February 4th with a temperature of 35 degrees.

Coldest night was February 1st with minus 12 degrees.

Average daytime temperature was 22 degrees.

It snowed on 13 days with the heaviest fall of 5.7 inches on Feb. 26.

The total snowfall for the month was 29.8 inches, and we now have a total accumulation of 36.9 inches on the ground.

We had twelve nights with below zero temperatures in February.

Just for fun we checked our weather report for February of 1961. Among the comments we found was that warm sun had melted winter's ice and snow and that a strong and steady southwest wind had moved the ice away from the Island with open water reaching to just inside our harbor. 'Tain't so this year!

BIGGER, BETTER BOAT FOR BEAVER: Beaver Island will have a new ferry. Of the three bids received, the one from Sturgeon Bay Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Corporation was accepted in the amount of \$187,000. Construction will begin immediately and present plans are to have the boat on the Charlevoix-Beaver run on June 23. The new boat will be named the BEAVER ISLANDER. Following is a comparison of the EMERALD ISLE and the new BEAVER ISLANDER:

	EMERALD ISLE	BEAVER ISLANDER
Length.....	72 feet	95 feet
Beam.....	25 feet	27 feet
Horsepower.....	360	1020
Screw.....	1	2
Speed.....	12 M.P.H.	14 plus M.P.H.
Car capacity.....	8 large	12 large
Passengers.....	115	150
Gross Tonnage.....	86	100
Gangway Clearance.....	7'6"	9'6"

The lady who will do the christening honors has not been selected as yet, but the bottle of champagne for the occasion is being held under lock and key. The special wine was donated by the late Myron (Bo) Dunham, Island visitor for many years. Mr. Dunham passed away last month.

There is another interesting sidelight to the story of the new BEAVER ISLANDER. Captain John Rowen, who is the owner of the boat building company, got his "start" on Beaver Island cutting posts in the woods for the late Gus Mielke. In 1912, Captain Rowen, in his 60 foot freighter, was shipwrecked near Looney's Point with, as he says, just fifty cents in his pocket. It is a truly American story that now, fifty years later, his company is building a new boat for the Island.

ICE HIGHWAY TO THE NORTH: On Feb. 12th, Charlie Martin made his annual trek across the ice from Beaver Island to Naubinway, a distance of 28 miles. His nephew, Billie Martin, accompanied him in an open Model A Ford. They left Beaver at 2:00 P.M. and arrived on the beach in Naubinway at 5:30 P.M. They reported very heavy ice on the lake. There was much snow and several very rough areas about 5 miles from Naubinway.

The Martins returned to Beaver on February 13th and delighted the palates of the Islanders with fifty pounds of fresh whitefish that had just been taken from Lake Superior by commercial fishermen in Naubinway.

WE'RE IN THE NEWS: Art Mercier of WBBM gave a 15 minute discussion of Beaver Island on February 27th over the Chicago station, thanks to Ed Howland of Bartlett, Illinois. Mr. Howland talked of the Island with Mr. Mercier and created the interest that ended up with the programming.

Beaver Island is mentioned regularly on the Escanaba station, WDBC, thanks to several Island residents who keep us in the news. The station has requested a delegation of Beaver Islanders to visit them some Saturday morning and appear on the program to give more details on what the Island has to offer. Anyone interested in being a radio star?

EMBARRASSING MOMENTS: A local businessman needed the middle initial of an Island youngster to complete a form he was filling out. He dialed the phone number. The following conversation ensued:

Businessman: What is Kevin's middle initial?

Other Voice: I'm afraid I don't know.

Businessman: For **!##-**sake, don't you know the middle initial of your own kids?

Other Voice: My good man, you have the wrong number. This is the Dominican Sisters' Convent!

It really happened!

BIRTHS: Mr. and Mrs. Dan Sauber of Chicago announced the birth of twin boys, Donald and Ronald, in February. Danny is the grandson of Maria Gallagher of St. James.

Tommie and Claire Schmidt are the parents of a girl born Feb. 23rd at Charlevoix. This was a special joy to the paternal grandmother, Mrs. Clara Schmidt, as the 23rd was also her birthday.

The Dr. Raymond Murrays of Grand Rapids announced the birth of their eighth child, Catherine, on Feb. 4th. The Murrays are Island visitors.

Mr. and Mrs. George Quick (Phyllis McCauley) are the parents of a son, Thomas Patrick. George and Phyllis are from Detroit.

Jimmie and Mary Martin of Fremont, Michigan are the parents of a boy, Christopher Charles, born Feb. 24th. Jimmie is the son of Charles and Marion Martin of St. James.

ENGAGEMENTS: Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Stromberg of Northbrook announced the engagement of their daughter Carol, to Mr. Kare Lid of Northbrook. The wedding date is set for April 14th. Carol is the niece of Richard Stromberg of St. James.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Ryan of Chicago announced the engagement of their daughter, Karen, to Larry Born. The wedding has been set for November 24th. Karen is the granddaughter of the Lawrence Malloys.

WEDDING BELLS: On March 3rd, Carol Ann Belfy, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Chester E. Belfy of Charlevoix, became the bride of James Edward Galmore of East Jordan. The ceremony was performed at Christ Episcopal Church at Charlevoix. Carol Ann is the niece of Musette LaFreniere of St. James.

OBITUARIES: Mrs. William A. (Margaret Keenan) Metzger died unexpectedly of a heart attack at Boynton Beach, Florida, on February 3rd, according to waord received from Fr. F. M. Keenan, former Island priest. Surviving besides her husband are three sisters and her brother, Fr. Keenan.

Word has been received from Mrs. Marion Ritz of the death of her mother, Mrs. Nora Eicke on January 20th. The late husband of Mrs. Eicke will be remembered as the first dentist on Beaver, practicing his profession at his summer home on the East Side Drive many years ago.

SERVICEMEN'S NEWS: The following new addresses have been received: Private Robert Palmer, 16674676, 53rd Trans. BN (Medtuk Refrig.) 83rd Trans. Co., APO 227, New York, New York.

Andrew J. Gallagher, Q.M. 1/C, c/o Coast Guard Cutter Hawthorne, New London, Connecticut

SNOW CAUSES PROBLEMS: We have received word that the Coast Guard Ice Breaker MACKINAW will arrive in Beaver Harbor on March 9th with 2000 gallons of gasoline for the County Road Commission. Unusually heavy snowfall and drifting snow kept the snowplows busy day and night and the result was that not enough gas had been stored on the Island for their use.

CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT NEWS: Vernon Fitzpatrick, local conservation officer, reported that another fawn would be available this year for exhibition purposes at the township park near the dock area. Our fawn, Jackie, created so much interest last year, and we are happy to know we will have another "star" to entertain our visitors. As most of you know, Jackie was released in the woods last fall.

The trout season on Fox Lake will open the last Saturday in April. Because of the heavy snowfall this winter, it has been impossible to check on the trout planted there last year. Vernon reported that the Department is going to make every effort to keep records of the trout taken from the lake. Forms will be available at a bulletin board placed at the lake and fishermen will be requested to fill them out stating the hours fished, and the number of fish taken. This will determine the amount of fish to be replanted next year. Records will be kept for three years to determine the use of the lake. After that time, individual seasons will be set up for the lake, and there is a possibility that winter trout fishing may be allowed.

Vernon also noted that the rabbit hunting season had ended on March 31, and that dogs must not be allowed to run loose in the woods until July 15th.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARTIES: The Altar Society of Holy Cross Church on Beaver Island is serving a St. Patrick's Day Supper at the Parish Hall on March 17th. The menu has not been decided at this writing, but we

know the ladies will do their usual good job. Serving will begin at 5:30 P.M. All donations for the Care of the Cemetery Fund must be in by March 17th, as the drawing for the television set will be held immediately after the supper. Later a dance will be held at the Shamrock with music by the same group from Cheboygan that entertained us at our Annual Homecoming Party.

Officers of the Chicago-Beaver Island St. Patrick's Day party have announced their plans for the 8th Annual celebration to be held March 17 at the Eagles Hall, 9231-33 Cottage Grove Avenue in Chicago. There will be dancing, entertainment and a buffet supper. Proceeds will be for the Holy Cross Church on Beaver Island.

Mr. Charles Earley, Secretary of the Beaver Island Association of Michigan at Lansing has announced the second annual meeting of the new organization to take place on March 10. The party will be held at the Dines Terrace, 321 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. Celebrating will begin at 5:30 P.M. at a specially designed Shamrock Bar. Serving will begin at 7:00 P.M. Program will include a report by Henry Allen, featured speaker, on the new boat, land developments on Beaver, and what's in the cards in the coming months for the new club. All those wishing to attend are asked to make reservations by phoning Fred Annand at Lansing, IV 4-2531 or writing to Charles Earley, RFD #2, Box 113, Laingsburg, Mich. Incidentally, in making your reservations, let them know the number of guests you plan to bring and whether you prefer half a chicken or baked ham dinner.

St. Patrick's Day is the time that if you aren't Irish you wish you were! There's an old legend that if you catch a leprechaun, he will grant you three wishes. Perhaps if you look in the right place you will find one of the little gentlemen. Hang on to him tightly and make him grant you a wish to come to all three St. Patrick's day parties!

BEGIN STUDIES ABROAD: Davilyn Wilson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David E. Wilson of Ferndale has started school in Murnau, Germany at the Goether Institute. Davilyn went to France last year to study at the University of Grenoble. In the fall she attended the University of Lyon in France and has just left to concentrate on German until next fall. She is majoring in languages. The David Wilsons are property owners on Beaver Island.

Bill Hannon, son of Mr. and Mrs. John W. Hannon departed for Rome on February 20th, to spend his second semester at Loyola University's new Roman center. In mid-June the semester will conclude with a twelve-day tour across Europe to England. Program of studies will include archeology, classics, history, education, modern languages, philosophy and theology. The John Hannons are Island visitors.

TURKEY TALK: We have received a letter from Mr. Bruce Meixsell of Pontiac, Michigan, which we thought might be of interest to our readers. Mr. Meixsell owns "Dutch Acres" on the Airport Road and is very interested in the wild turkey situation on the Island.

In an effort to assist the Conservation Department in their turkey planting program, he applied for and received a permit to release wild turkeys purchased from the Stromberg Hatchery at Ford Dodge, Iowa. Unfortunately, the birds did not arrive in time for the fall planting and

the permit expired. Mr. Meixsell requested the Department renew the permit or issue a new one, but his request was denied on the basis that there is a question about the "wildness" of the stock supplied by the hatchery.

We quote Mr. Meixsell's letter in part. "Could the death of the wild turkey as reported in the February BEACON, have anything to do with 'inbreeding'? If the original release or releases in Michigan are what your present flock came from, wouldn't this eventually have a tendency to weaken the flock? If so, wouldn't the introduction of birds from another supplier and completely unrelated to those on hand tend to build up the blood line?"

"What would happen...if an individual...ordered Stromberg's wild turkeys, put them in his barn yard with his chickens and one day found they had deserted their happy home?...a permit is not needed for importing 'non-wild fowls', and turning them loose in a barn yard...couldn't be construed as planting the area with questionable stock."

We can understand why Mr. Meixsell would want to question the decision of the Department to refuse his request for a permit, as originally granted. Because of this, his letter has been forwarded to the various Department heads, in the hope they can give him more satisfactory answers to his questions. Mr. Meixsell has received a permit from the Department to release three adult and twenty-six three to four week old Chinese Ringneck Pheasants, purchased from the Stromberg Hatchery. They will be delivered to the Island and released sometime in June or July.

We appreciate Mr. Meixsell's efforts to help increase the Island's hunting potential. At present our hunters have ducks, geese, partridge, rabbits, squirrels and deer to test their hunting skills. The diversity of turkey and pheasant hunting would certainly add to the Island's economy and help to make Beaver Island a Hunters' Paradise.

We hope the Conservation Department will reconsider their decision on Mr. Meixsell's turkey permit. We have had no word from the Department with regard to any progress in their own efforts to trap and release more birds on the Island.

A TOAST TO THE IRISH

Oh, the great Gaels of Ireland
are the men God made mad,
For all their wars are merry
and all their songs are sad.

-Chesterton
(Contributed by Lin Rountree)

Have a gay St. Patrick's Day. See you in April!