October 1963

Nature's panorama of color is now settling down over the Island, creating a masterpiece of vivid beauty. It is no wonder that October is the favorite month for many. The pace is slow, the weather clear and refreshing, making all of one's cares seem very minute indeed. At this writing, we have yet to have a heavy frost, so perhaps, the beauty of Autumn will be with us for some time yet.

WEATHER: Vernon Fitzpatrick reports our weather for the month of September.

Highest day
Average Daytime Temperature
Lowest Night
Average Nighttime Temperature
Rain fell on 7 days.
The heaviest rainfall was on Sept. 18th with 1.35 inches.
The total rainfall was 4.08 inches.

BUILDING BOOM: This has been a big year in the growth of the Island, beginning with Henry Allen's development of Donegal Bay, Island Club Woods Resort, including the riding stable and heated outdoor pool with locker rooms, as a starter.
The new Mission Church now stands proudly on the hill across from the Township Cemetery, with services being held each Sunday through December 1st.
New barns have sprouted up on the farms of Perry Crawford and Donus Wilke.
Two motel units and several new cabins are in the serious planning stage.

GROUND BROKEN FOR NEW RECTORY: The Rev. Fr. Louis Wren C.F.M. (Conv.) officiated at the ground breaking ceremony, Sept. 1st, for the new Holy Cross Rectory.
The building is located between the Church and the Medical Center, overlooking the Bay. It will be a frame, one story building with a full basement. There will be seven rooms on the upper floor. A feature of the basement will be a Chapel, where daily services will be held during the winter months.
Richard Stromberg of Geneva, Illinois, formerly of Beaver Island, designed the building, and Walt Wojan's crew of sawdust and shaving manufactures are well on their way with the construction of it.
Father Louis Wren, the pastor announced that it will be completed by late
this fall.
The new rectory will replace the old stone house, a mile south of town that served the parish for over 60 years.

GAME NEWS: October first saw the opening of the 1963 small game season and Bow and Arrow deer season. Even with all the foliage on the trees, the partridge and woodcock have provided plenty of shooting. This will be better yet when the leaves fall. Rabbits are plentiful, but haven't turned white, yet, presenting a difficult target. Squirrels aren't too plentiful this year, yet some areas provide good hunting.

This past week-end of October 5th and 6th was a busy one, with most of the housing facilities filled, as hunters flocked to the Island by plane and boat.

We have no report of game fishing success this month, however, Charlie Martin has been averaging 75 lbs. of White Fish per day from his pound net at Hog Island.

The prospects of a real fine deer season looks excellent this year, as many have been seen throughout the Island. Last week-end a doe was taken by one of the bow hunters at Lake Gennesareth.

For the past three years the Township of St. James has raised a fawn in a pen at the Yacht Dock. This has been a popular attraction for people visiting the Island, and certainly would not have been possible without the efforts of Mary Gatliff and Perry Gatliff, who assumed the responsibility of bottle feeding them three times a day for over four months. This is a job that has been pretty much taken for granted these past three seasons so we want to make a special effort to offer thanks for a job well done.

OBITUARIES: Mr. Stewart E. "Irish" Coleman of Charlevoix passed away at his home on September 29th. Mr. Coleman has been on the faculty of Charlevoix High School since 1926 and is well known to the people of Beaver Island.

Mrs. John P. (Elizabeth) Maloney was buried at St. Mary's Cemetery in Charlevoix, Saturday, Sept. 21. She was preceded in death by her husband, a former Beaver Island school teacher and native of the Island.

Word has been received of the death of E. E. Chase of Grand Rapids. Mr. Chase was the oldest son of Mr. Dave Chase, the engineer, who was killed on Beaver Island.

OLD FRIEND PASSES: John W. Green passed away Sept. 26th ending a colorful life that spanned 92 years. The oldest citizen on Beaver Island, where he was born December 1, 1870 and raised by sturdy parents, who immigrated from the Island of Aranmore, on the coast of Donegal, Ireland.

Johnny was the eldest of twelve children, all of whom preceded him in death with the exception of one sister, Lillian Green, of Chicago. As a young man, he was actively engaged in sailing, farming, lumbering, fishing, real estate and politics. The passing of John Green marks the end of a life that began shortly after the reign of King Strang. He had a keen interest and vast knowledge of boats and sailing and spent many hours delving into the histories and mysteries, surrounding shipwrecks on the Great Lakes. During the intervening years he had witnessed many changes, the first of which was the passing of the sailing vessels, on which he served as a boy under the able ownership and management of the
Bonner brothers, who were pioneers in that era. His brothers, Danial, Peter, Frank and William were all Masters of Steamships during the development and the peak of the Iron Ore Age in the Great Lakes region. As he watched the years pass, he saw the Marine Industry grow and the development of the modern motor ship. His sons, Andrew and Daniel mastered this type of ship.

Now, in the Atomic Age, he saw his grandson, Andrew Gallagher, a crew member of the Coast Guard Cutter, Storis, cross the top of the world, a feat never before accomplished by a surface vessel.

His remarkable memory had been a fountain of information to those interested in history and development of the Island and it's inhabitants. He had over 200 recorded folk songs and almost as many stories.

His strong religious faith, a heritage of the Irish, had sustained him in time of deep sorrow, when death claimed his wife, the former Elizabeth Roddy, a son and two daughters. His kind and gentle manner won the love, respect and admiration of those who survive him, Andrew, of Fort Lauderdale, Daniel and Mary of Chicago, Mrs. John (Lillian) Gallagher, and Mrs. Francis (Stella) Brown of Chicago. Sixteen grandchildren and one great-grandson.

All who knew Johnny Green will miss his passing and cherish his memory. Our deepest sympathy to his family.

TELEPHONE ANYONE? The Beaver Island Telephone Company wishes to announce its plans of expansion. Any person interested in telephone service, anywhere on Beaver Island, write Erwin C. Martin, Manager, St. James, Michigan or call him at the office 448-5111 or his home, 448-5531. The date line on this is November 15th, 1963.

The annual stockholders meeting of the Beaver Island Telephone Company was held on Beaver Island at the home of Vernon LaFreniere. All payments of telephone bills should be made to the Beaver Island Telephone Company, St. James, Michigan.

CONVALESCING: Mr. A. J. Roy, who has been ill for some time, is feeling much better and would like to thank everyone for the notes, cards and flowers he received.

Leon LaFreniere was a patient at the Charlevoix Hospital for a Tonsillectomy operation.

Also, in the hospital for a tonsillectomy operation was Mary Agnes Kenwabikise.

Jewel Gillespie has returned to the Island from a Lansing hospital where he had lung surgery. Jewel spent 10 days in the hospital and is now well on the road to recovery.

Donald "Topper" McDonough has been a patient in the Charlevoix Hospital where he was taken for treatment of a broken hip. Topper has been discharged from the hospital and his family is now living in Charlevoix.

Erwin Martin was a patient in Little Traverse Hospital where he had a piece of steel removed from his eye.

Sister Mary Clare, who broke her hip while visiting the Island this summer, is still in the hospital. We know she would love to hear from you
at the following address:

Sister Mary Clare  
St. Joseph Mercy Hospital  
Ann Arbor, Michigan

SERVICEMEN'S NEWS: On October 9th Jerry LaFreniere left Charlevoix for induction into the United States Army.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Larsen reports that their grandson, Hospitalman Second Class, Arthur Souter has been awarded a Good Conduct Medal. He is stationed on the USS Galveston and is now headed for Japan.

RETURN MAIL: Last Month we printed a letter received from Anna and Ira Hill, 9618 Lawler Avenue, Skokie, Illinois and this month we are printing a letter received in response to it.

"Dear Sirs:
Way down in Miami, Florida I read your Beaver Beacon.
Read that letter Anna and Ira Hill put in and was very interesting as I knew them and have not seen them in 35 years. I have lived in Miami, Florida for the last 10 years as cannot stand the cold up north. I am the only living son of Gab and Julia Cole, the Hills wrote about. About 1920, the airplane came from Charlevoix to land on Lake Genesareth to bring Dr. Armstrong, from Charlevoix, for me as I was injured in the lumber woods, while working for my father, Gab Cole of Nomad, Beaver Island. I was unconscious (amnesia) for 4 months. Then while riding on horseback 6 miles down through the woods to school one day, regained consciousness (his memory).
Have only three sisters left, Marguerite (nurse) in Detroit, Caroline (hairdresser) in St. Charles, Illinois and Garnett in Daytona Beach, Fla. Formerly had 6 sisters and two brothers, Everett and Ray Cole.
Yours truly,
Jesse M. Cole  
5031 N. W. 17th Ave.  
3380 N. W. 17th Ave.  
Miami 42, Florida

P.S. Also any Beaver Islanders coming to Miami, be sure to see me.

SCHOOL & COLLEGE: School opened Sept. 4th with an enrollment of fifty-nine pupils this year.
The teachers are Sister M. Euphrosene, the new principal and Sister M. Florian, high school; Sister Karen teaches 1 thru 4 and Sister Boniface grades 5 thru 8.
The school has many improvements, a new paint job in the interior, the old school removed, new tether balls and softball equipment.
The High School teachers and pupils were given a guided tour of the Sundew when it docked on October 1st.
The pupils are given a monthly conservation lecture and movie by Vernon Fitzpatrick, Conservation Officer. The first of this year's series was on the topic "Parks and Recreation Areas", held on Sept. 27th. Students participate by giving reports.

Colleen Nackerman returned to Marygrove College in Detroit for the second year. Colleen is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Nackerman.

Mary Elizabeth Gallagher returned to Western Michigan College in Kalamazoo where she resumed her senior year studies. Mr. and Mrs. John A. Gallagher
Alvin LaFreniere, son of Mr. and Mrs. Archie LaFreniere, returned to Central Michigan University in Mt. Pleasant for his third year.

WEDDINGS: On September 14th, Miss Rita Aultman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Aultman and granddaughter of Charles (Harlem) Gallagher, and Mr. Robert Skipski were married in Manistee. Mr. and Mrs. Skipski spent their honeymoon on Beaver Island.

BETROTHED: Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Taylor of Grand Rapids have announced the engagement of their daughter, Kay Ellen to Larry Wayne McDonough. The prospective bridegroom is the son of Captain and Mrs. Lawrence McDonough. A spring wedding is planned by the couple. Miss Taylor is a graduate of the Grand Rapids Junior College Division of Practical Nursing at Butterworth Hospital, where she is presently employed. Mr. McDonough is a graduate of Northwestern Michigan College in Traverse City and is employed at Bissell, Inc. in Grand Rapids.

BIRTHS: Mr. and Mrs. Glen McDonough announces the arrival of their first child, Patrick William, born at St. Mary's Hospital, Grand Rapids on September 15th. Patrick weighed 8 lbs. 5 oz. and was 20 inches long. Mrs. Sophia McDonough and Mr. and Mrs. James W. Gallagher are the proud grandparents.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert O'Donnell of Chicago have announced the birth of a daughter. Mrs. Jewell Gillespie of St. James is her aunt.

SUNDEW PAYS VISIT: Early in the afternoon, on the 1st of October, the Coast Guard Cutter, Sundew, steamed into the harbor. Along with the crew came their wives, friends, kids and dogs. They had come to the Island to spend the day and have a picnic. Transportation was furnished the happy throng, which numbered nearly 90. They were delivered to the ball diamond, on the point, where the whole gang had a whale of a time. The men on duty on the Sundew gave the island High School teacher and students a guided tour throughout the ship. Although the day was bright and clear, the wind had picked up considerably by the time the Sundew was underway so the return trip had it's ups and downs.

IT'S ROUND-UP TIME ON BEAVER: With the Beaver Islander temporarily converted to a floating stock yard, the cattle of the Jordan River Ranch, owned by Bud McDonough, Lawrence McDonough and Henry Allen, and the cattle from Russ Green's Green Acres Ranch plus Wm. Schmidt's Hill Top Ranch cattle were herded aboard. The weather stayed fair this year, so the whole operation took place without incident. After the boat returned and the stalls were removed, the Beaver Islander went back out of the harbor and drifted around a bit. Several, not knowing what the trouble was became quite concerned. The Coast Guard started up the rescue boat, but by radio discovered there was nothing really wrong, they were merely washing down the decks after hauling cattle.

SIGNS OF FALL: Not only the turning of the leaves and the crispness of the air, let us know fall has come to Beaver Island. There are other signs to look for like rabbit pelts hanging along the roads around Lake Geneserath and the reduced number of turtles in the live box at Rutt's Landing. Though seldom seen, it shows there has been some activity taking place by our southern most inhabitants, Milt Bennett and Ralph Rutt,
as they prepare for the long winter. The first sign of winter will be when these two move back to the hustle and bustle of the city of St. James.

MUSEUM NOTES: Unnoticed by many is a small burial plot back in the woods behind Elizabeth Gallagher's home. Surrounding the plot is a white picket fence and one tombstone stands inside. Inscribed on the stone is the name Henry Clifton, who died in 1877. Henry Clifton, prior to his death, was the manager of the local merchandise and wholesale fish store, known as the Dormer Store, located on Whiskey Point, just past the Coast Guard Station. An old ledger book at the museum gives a complete list of sales purchased by Islanders from 1876 to 1877. At the time of Henry Clifton's burial, the service was given by George Whitney, this being the first held by a protestant Minister other than the Mormons. In this same area are four other graves, but there are no markers or records to determine who's they are.

A. J. Roy reports that the Museum is now in possession of King Strang's Bible, which is now on display at the Museum.

"CIRCLE M" IN OPERATION: Jack and Eileen Martin, who have purchased the former rectory, announced they are open for year around business, offering meals and lodgings, solving a problem that has existed for some time on the Island. Visiting the Island during the off season, except during the deer season offers a problem of housing and meals. This year the Beaver Lodge will be closed the first of November, as well as the King Strang Hotel. Only Grace Coles' Killerney Inn, will be open during the deer season for meals (and the Circle M), and of course, LaFreniere's Isle Haven and Wojan's Harbor View motels will be open, plus McDonough's and Carlisle's cabins. Those planning an off season trip to the Island should certainly make reservations first.

BRIDAL SHOWER: On October 9th a bridal shower for Pat Martin was given by Eva McDonough, Skip McDonough and Judy Rudolph. The shower was held at the Beaver Lodge, with Pat receiving many beautiful gifts. Pat will become the bride of A. J. Gallagher on November 30th.

NEW PROPERTY OWNERS: George and Norma Eastway of Smyrna and Jerry and Betty Cotter, also of Smyrna, have purchased property on Beaver Island.

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FOR SALE: Christmas Wreaths - made from cedar, balsam and pine. $3.25 plus shipping for 10 inch size. Please order early. Mrs. Vernon Fitzpatrick, St. James, Michigan.


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THE BEST WAY TO BRIGHTEN YOUR LIFE IS TO TRY TO BRIGHTEN SOME ONE ELSE'S.