

# The Beaver Beacon



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

## GAME CLUB ISSUE

February 1968

Blowing snow, backed up with icy winds, keep island residents well aware of the fact that we are in the midst of winter. This certainly doesn't mean activities have ceased nor the island's beauty decreased, for winter creates new playgrounds and a cloak of white lavishly draped over the landscape.

**WEATHER:** Beaver Island weather for the month of January as reported by Fire Officer Bill Wagner.

January started out cold and stayed cold until about the 14th when the temperature reached 32 degrees.

Starting about 7:00 p.m. on the 3rd thru 8:00 p.m. on the 5th a total of 11½ inches of snow fell.

The 15th thru 23rd was somewhat warmer with temperatures in the high 20's and low 30's.

There was a short cold spell the 23rd thru 25th and then it warmed up a little.

The high daytime temperature of 41 degrees occurred on the 19th.

Daytime temperature varied from a low of 4 degrees to a high of 41 degrees. Average daytime temperature was 25.2 degrees.

Low nighttime temperature was -8 degrees on the 10th. Nighttime temperatures varied from a low of -8 degrees to a high of 31 degrees.

Average nighttime temperature was 12.8 degrees.

A total of 12 inches of snow fell during the month, plus .25 inches of rain fell on the 29th.

Total precipitation was 1.07 inches for the month. 5 inches of snow was on the ground on the 1st and 3 inches was on the ground on the 31st.

**FISHING NEWS:** A group of fifteen fishing shanties have formed a small village at the north end of the harbor where perch fishing has taken the limelight. Perry Gatliff and Bob Southern, so far hold the lead with the largest catch, with 33 on the stringer and some weighing nearly a pound. Phil and Lil Gregg came off the ice with 27 after their first day. Perry Gatliff seems to keep a steady pace, catching a few every day and serving as a sort of a fishing barometer to the rest of the fishermen. Wigglers seem to be the preferred bait, however Walt and Ronnie Wojan have had some success with minnows and Walt even came up with a good sized pike while fishing for perch.

Lake Geneserath also, has a small compliment of shanties, where the primary quarry is pike. Mike and Perry Crawford have been bitten by the spearing bug and are still in hopes of getting another crack at a

monster that managed to free itself from Mike's spear. Drifting snow has prevented frequent trips to Lake Geneserath, so we fell certain there is an ample supply of bluegills and pike still left.

**RABBIT HUNTING:** Snowmobiles have opened up new horizons here on the Island. Rabbit hunting is opened in areas never before accessible and of course the terrain of the island with the rolling dunes along the eastern shore and old logging trails make the use of these machines especially fun. Early this month Ralph Morrill, resident Game Farm Manager, and Gene Burke, his assistant, hiked across the ice to Garden Island to check game conditions. They remained there three days at the Conservation Camp. During their stay Archie LaFreniere, his son, Alvin, Perry Crawford and two visiting hunters, and Archie Minor, paid Ralph and Gene a visit via snowmobiles, and spend enough time hunting to bag seven rabbits before returning. They reported hunting on Garden Island is great and in a prior trip, rabbits are in great abundance on Hog Island, also.

**TURKEY'S:** A sizeable flock of turkeys have been wintering approximately .6 miles south of town off the King's Highway, where a feeding area has been established in order to help the bird through the winter. This project has been tended by Karl Kuebler. A sad note on this topic was evidence found that two turkeys were killed by violators. Most everyone enjoys seeing the birds and their condition and count could easily be checked at this feeding area but apparently this also brings them within easy range of those who don't much care about their welfare. There are a few other groups of much smaller numbers scattered around the island.

**DEER:** This winter has been easy on the deer herd so far. A recent check of some of the winter yarding areas show they have now been forced into these heavily browsed areas yet, which of course means they can still get plenty of food. March, of course, is the hardest time for deer. Warmer days and cold nights form a crust of snow that won't support the weight of a deer but makes an excellent running surface for the many coyotes on the island. Working in packs, these clever animals can take turns running a deer in circles until it literally wears out and their quarry is helpless. This has been an age old argument between the Conservation Department and Islanders as to just how much harm the coyote actually does. Do they help to keep the herd healthy by cutting out the weak ones? Or do they actually reduce the size of our deer herd in sizeable numbers? We sure as heck aren't going to get into the middle of it but let it stand as is ---open season of coyotes.

**PARTY TIME:** It's getting near that time again when the Annual St. Patrick's Party is held in Chicago. This will be the 14th year for the event and certainly promises to be a good one. The Chicago Party is for the benefit of the Holy Cross Church here on the Island and is always a gala event. It will be held Saturday, March 9th, at 8:00 p. m. at St. Kevin's Church Hall, 10513 Torrence Avenue, Chicago, Ill. Rev. Bernard Scheid, Pastor. Donations are \$2.50 per person and \$1.50 per child (under 18). This entitles you an evening of dancing and entertainment with the Bill Stack Band, also sandwiches and salad, all you can eat and cash door prizes.

There is usually a sizeable contingent from the island that attend this worthy and enjoyable party, plus many ex-islanders and those interested in the island. Those not being able to attend but who would still like to be part of the effort can make contributions directly to Father Louis Wren, Holy Cross Church, St. James, Beaver Island, Mich. 49782.

**BEAVER ISLAND ST. PATRICK'S DINNER:** On St. Patrick's Day, March 17th a Turkey Dinner will be held at the Holy Cross Parish Hall. Serving will begin at 5:30 p.m. Admission will be \$1.25 for adults, 50¢ for children 12 and under and pre-schoolers will be admitted free. Why not plan on joining us for dinner?

**WEASEL TRACKS:** We have all seen various makes of snow machines and basically they are pretty much the same but during World War II the Army developed an amphibious tractor type of snow machine and called it a Weasel.

Don Nelson, of Detroit, purchased one of these machines and brought it to the island a couple years ago. This past week, Don and a couple of companions with Don Cole and Ralph Morrill set out on a trip of exploring some of the otherwise inaccessible areas of the south end of the island. All went well until they were well on their way back and were crossing the frozen surface of a cranberry bog. One of the caterpillar tracks came off on one side and efforts to replace it were hampered by cold, deep snow and lack of tools, so they ended up with a long cold walk back. The recovery of the Weasel is now pending.

**CONVENT TO BE:** After a long but fruitful drive for funds, the actual building of the new Convent will soon be a reality. The site has now been established and it will be located on the Church property between the Church and the water front.

Richard Stromberg, of Geneva, Illinois, is the Architect and has presented the final plans. These have been approved locally and are now in the hands of the Bishop's Building Committee for their approval. If all goes as planned, construction will start shortly after the opening of navigation, at which time building materials will become available.

The new Convent, architecturally, as well as its serviceability, will be a great credit to the Island.

**BIRTHS:** Twin sons, Daniel Ernest and David Lawrence arrived on February 15th to Mr. and Mrs. Lowell (Bernadette Malloy) Moore of Muskegon, Michigan. Mr. Lawrence Malloy is the proud grandfather.

**COUNTRY AUCTION:** On February 14th, the Women's Circle of the Beaver Island Christian Church, held a Country Auction in the multi-purpose room of the school. This Auction was a little different from all others. Each person could buy a bag of chances at the door. Each bag held five numbers corresponding to the number on the outside of the bag, and these numbers could all be placed on one item or on five different items. Everything to be auctioned was on display on tables and everyone could examine them at will. At the end of an allotted time, the numbers placed on each item were put into a box and one drawn out. The drawn number was the winner. If there was only one number on an item, that number won without drawing. A grand time was had by all and the total proceeds were \$71.55. Another Auction is being planned by the Women's Circle and the Altar

Society to be held after Easter. Why not plan on attending the next one.

**WEDDINGS: KANAGA-QUARTERMAINE** - A reception at Holiday Inn followed the wedding of Miss Mary J. Quartermaine and Lance Cpl. Kim R. Kanaga of the U.S. Marine Corps. The 11 a.m. ceremony was in St. Philip Catholic Church in Battle Creek, Michigan on Saturday, January 27th. The bride is the daughter of Mrs. Lloyd McDonough of Beaver Island and the late Harry Quartermaine. She is a 1966 graduate of St. Philip High School and until her marriage was employed as a bookkeeper by Southwestern Regional Rehabilitation Center, a division of the American Legion Hospital.

The groom's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Kent Kanaga of Battle Creek. He is a 1966 graduate of Battle Creek High School and is stationed at Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Mrs. Charles Garland attended her sister as matron of honor and their brother, Michael Quartermaine, gave the bride in marriage. His wife was one of the bridesmaids, with Miss Susan Bacot of Charlevoix and Miss Mary Ellen Everett of Battle Creek.

Richard Hodgden served as best man and the ushers were the groom's brother, Richard Kanaga, Jerry Quartermaine, brother of the bride, and Mr. Garland.

The newlyweds have left on their honeymoon trip en route to California where they will be at home in San Diego.

Attending from this area were Mr. and Mrs. Walter Wojan and son, Edward; Mr. and Mrs. John Adams and Mr. and Mrs. Jack Bacot and daughter, Susan, of Charlevoix.

**RAPSON-SENDENBURGH** - Mr. and Mrs. Augustus F. Sendenburgh announce the marriage of their daughter Susan Jane to Mr. John R. Rapson on Saturday, the 20th of January at 12:00 noon in St. Ignatius Loyola Church, St. Ignace, Michigan.

The reception was held from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the American Legion Hut, St. Ignace.

Joseph Sendenburgh and Charles Martin attended the wedding from the Island.

**HOSPITAL NOTES:** Lawrence McDonough, Captain of the Beaver Islander, is a patient in Little Traverse Hospital in Petoskey, Michigan.

L. A. Reigle is a patient in the Veterans Hospital, 1500 Weiss St., Saginaw, Michigan.

**ANY ONE MISSING A CAT?** Jane and Ed Howland found a black male cat with a white bib, at the south end of the Island. Obviously it is someone's pet, and if you own it or know someone who does, please contact Ed Howland, St. James, Michigan.

**POT LUCK DINNERS:** On January 21st a Pot Luck Dinner was held in the multi-purpose room in the school. The proceeds of this dinner went to the Beaver Island Christian Church.

On Sunday, February 18th, another Pot Luck Dinner was held at the same location with the proceeds this time going to the Convent Fund. A wonderful dinner was offered and we are all looking forward to another dinner next month.

SERVICEMEN'S NEWS: Ernie Martin, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Martin, is home on a 30 day leave. As you read in the last Beacon, Ernie was wounded in Vietnam and has been in hospital in Vietnam, Japan and the United States. He is on crutches, but it is good to see him home and up and around. After his leave he returns to Valley Forge General Hospital, Phoenixville, Pa. 19460.

We have a new address for Paul LaFreniere:

Pvt. Paul LaFreniere US 54972395  
Co. D - 2nd BN School Brigade  
Fort Knox, Kentucky 40121

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Some years ago we told the story of the first airplane flight to Beaver Island. Through the courtesy of the Charlevoix Courier we want to now bring you a poem written by Reuben Hatch on February 7, 1923 about the same event.

#### THE AEROPLANE

From Beaver Island, off the main,  
Three hundred miles by aeroplane,  
As the crow flies from Selfridge Field,  
An injured boy for aid appealed.  
A doctor lived in Charlevoix  
But could not reach the injured boy,  
Because of ice floes in the lake;  
No boat, however staunch, could make  
The crossing from the Michigan shore  
To Beaver, thirty miles or more.  
To cross that perilous expanse  
An airship held the only chance.  
And so to Selfridge Field they came,  
Imploring help in Heaven's name.  
To make that flight meant risk of life  
Along a route with dangers rife.  
Over a country wrapt in snow,  
Where adverse winds are apt to blow.  
Over wide tracts the forest stands  
'Mid desolate cut-over lands.  
Courage to face the dangers there  
And skill to navigate the air  
Were indispensable, to make  
That flight to Beaver in the Lake.  
But Selfridge Field has men to spare  
Always prepared to do and dare.  
So the Osprey hopped off forthwith,  
Steered by Lieutenant Meridith,  
Into the wintry North he steered;  
No danger in his path he feared.  
Swift as an eagle on he flew,  
No matter if the cold winds blew,  
Or snow storms threatened him with wreck;  
Among the clouds the merest speck.  
In due time Charlevoix was sighted  
and the Lieutenant there alighted.

