MAY - JUNE 1968

Summer has finally made itself known, here on the Island. Spring rains and bright sunlight have been working overtime, preparing the Island for a new summer season. Wild flowers are the extra bonus for this time of year, adding that something special reserved for the months of May and June.

WEATHER: The weather for Beaver Island as reported by Bill Wagner, Fire Officer.

Most of April was reasonably warm but wet, windy and foggy. A total of 4.29 inches of rain fell during the month, with 1.08 inches falling during a 24 hour period on the 3rd and 4th. The ground was partly covered with snow on the 4th and 10th but was melted and gone by noon on both days. Fog occurred on the 4th, 6th, 13th, 14th, 16th, 22nd, 23rd, 24th and 25th.

High temperature was 68 degrees on the 12th and 16th. A low temperature of 15 degrees fell on the night of the 5th. Average daytime temperature was 52.2 degrees and the average nighttime temperature was 33.2 degrees. Temperatures were in the 60's for 5 days; in the 50's for 13 days; in the 40's for 11 days and in the 30's for one day.

May Weather - The average daytime temperature was 57.8 degrees. The average nighttime temperature was 39.0 degrees. Total rainfall for the month was 3.98 inches. Total rainfall since March 1st was 8.89 inches.

GAME NEWS: Fishing season is once more in full swing, offering the best in small mouth bass fishing around Garden and Hog Islands. As an added extra this year, large perch are also being taken in these same areas. The planting of legal sized Rainbow Trout in Fox Lake, have also produced good results. A good many 2 and 3 pounders have been taken this spring.
Commercial fishing, also, is worthy of comment. Four and five hundred pound catches have been produced from the pound nets of Charlie Martin and Don Cole. The fishing picture on the Island is getting brighter with each passing year. The lamprey eel is still a menace, however, for most of the Whitefish have the marks of eels on them.

Spring smelt runs really didn't materialize again this year. Suckers, however, have been crowding the streams in great numbers. This provides fun for many who like spearing.

SPRING REMINDERS: Nature's creatures of the wild are coming into the world in great numbers these days, and the Conservation Department issues its annual appeal: "Please, leave them alone".

A stray fawn, a baby rabbit, a cuddly raccoon, a lonesome little squirrel are not alone. Their mothers are near by and they will get along fine if they are not disturbed.

The Department has other reminders: Most wild creatures are protected by law. A cute little cub bear today will probably be a pretty wild and dangerous adult. If you like pets, consider the dog, cat, canary or goldfish; they thrive in captivity and enjoy, not fear your company.

SEASON OPENER'S: Most summer businesses are now open and activity in general has picked up considerably.

American Central Land Development Company is back in operation, preparing for another season of sales promotion. To transport salesmen and Clients, a DC-6 Transport Plane will be used. More trees had to be removed from the ends of the runways to provide a longer approach for landing here on the Island. A bus will be used to transport the people to and from the airport.

The Yacht Dock will be managed by Curley and Kay Hartsell this season. They have been busy getting the grounds and facilities in readiness.

The Beaver Tail restaurant will be managed by Marge Wagner this season, and at this writing, is in full swing.

The Beachcomber Tavern has been re-pointed inside and is now open for the season.

Alvin and Archie Lafreniere have been busy dressing the Shamrock Bar in a new suit of cedar siding and polishing up the interior, preparing for a busy season ahead.

Grace Cole has the Killarney Inn all "ship shape" and is busy preparing fresh baked bread and home-cooked meals for hearty appetites.

The Circle "M" Lodge, though open all year, is ready for the rush of summer.

CAMP-OUTS: As an effort to revitalize the Youth Program on the Island many over-night camp-outs are being planned.

To date, two camp-outs have been held at Iron Ore Bay. Bill Wagner, with Gary Earley assisting, took the first group, consisting of the 4th and 5th grade boys on a camp-out in April. Later, in May, Bill and Phil Gregg, took the 6th, 7th and 8th grade boys on a similar trip. A great time was had by all. The next few times it is hoped trips to Garden and High Island, can be accomplished. In order to keep peace amongst the island youngsters, a similar effort must be made for the girls, also. This, too, we hope to do.

SENIOR BANQUET: On the evening of the 22nd of May, the Junior Class of Beaver Island School feted the Seniors in honor of their graduation.
The seniors, include Joseph McDonough, Gary Earley, Dennis Wagner and Roberta Palmer. The decorations in the hall were hardly less than spectacular, done in a tropical motif.

Guests of Honor, besides the school board and parents of the Seniors were Father Louis Wren, Dr. Christie, Mrs. Hooper and guest speaker Mr. Charles Robinson, Superintendent of Charlevoix County Schools. The banquet was catered by the Circle M Lodge.

GRADUATION: This event was held on the evening of the 24th with a reception held at the Holy Cross Hall afterwards. Delicious punch and sandwiches plus a beautifully decorated cake that was baked and decorated by Judy LaFreniere, Ruth Gregg and Marge Wagner, in an Hawaiian theme.

BOAT PROBLEMS: About a week before the Memorial Day week-end, the clutches had to be replaced in the Beaver Islander. This created quite a problem for many planning visits to the island during this period. The North Shore made two trips to the Island and a fish tug had to be used, also, to bring in some supplies before ferry service was restored. She is now back and running again and will be running an even busier schedule than before this year.

OUT ISLAND DEVELOPMENT: Henry Allen, owner of Trout Island, that lies west of Beaver, has begun developing this little Island. Lake shore lots will be for sale and a landing strip will be constructed soon.

CONVENT GROUND BREAKING: General Contractor, Walter Wojan, was low bidder on the new Convent, to be built toward the harbor from the Holy Cross Church.

Ground breaking services were held the 30th of May with Father Louis Wren officiating. The Convent Building Committee and Sister Rita each took a shovel full of earth from the ground to begin the project. This building will be a real asset to the Community.

COUNTRY AUCTION: On the evening of the 6th of June, a Country Auction was held, sponsored by the ladies of Holy Cross Church and the Beaver Island Christian Church. Many white elephants were disposed of, including a slightly beat-up Stationwagon. This last item was the top money maker for the evening and for all attending was the main topic of conversation.

DENTAL PROGRAM: Again this year, the State and County subsidized dental program is under way. Dr. Nelson Smith and his wife (of a few weeks) Dawn, serving as his dental assistant, have had a busy schedule of cleaning and filling the children’s teeth. Dr. Smith was here last year on the same program and has found Beaver Island much to his liking. Both he and his wife fill their few idle moments with fishing.

BEAVER HAVEN OBTAINS DEALERSHIP: Part of the reason for you Beacon being way late, is due to the fact your Editor had to go to the Johnson Motor’s Service Training School, in Waukegan, Ill. for two weeks. Beaver Haven Marina is now officially an authorized Johnson Dealer in out-board motors, boats and snow machines and will offer complete service on these items.

PLAN NOW TO ATTEND THE 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION ON BEAVER ISLAND PARADE - ENTERTAINMENT - FOOD - FIREWORKS
SERVICEMEN'S NEWS: We have new addresses for some of our servicemen.

Mr. and Mrs. John A. Gallagher have two sons with new addresses:

Danny is on a ship whose home port is Kodiak, Alaska and has the following address:

S.N. Daniel N. Gallagher  
U.S.C.G. Cutter Confidence (W619)  
F.P.O., Seattle, Washington 98790

Arthur will stationed at the following address for the next twelve weeks:

S.N. Arthur R. Gallagher  
QM "A" Class 68/04  
Fleet Training Center  
U.S. Naval Station  
Newport, Rhode Island

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Nackerman have two grandsons with new addresses:

Ken is in Air Traffic Control School and will finish in October. He will have one year's training afterwards either in England or Germany. His address is as follows:

AMN Kenneth A. Huston AF 16943387  
CRM 5 Box 25843  
Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi 39534

Jim has the following address:

James N. Huston A.P.F.A.N.  
B 50-32-94 V-4 Division  
U.S.S. Enterprise CVA (N) 65  
F.P.O. San Francisco, California

OBITUARIES: DANIEL GREENE: On May 10th the body of Daniel Greene was returned to Beaver Island for burial in Holy Cross Cemetery. Mr. Greene passed away on December 27th at the age of 91. He was born at St. James, March 4, 1886 and operated a farm here until his retirement to Charlevoix in 1955. He is survived by a brother, Edward D., of Charlevoix; two sisters, Mrs. Paul Drescher, of Charlevoix and Mrs. Andrew Gallagher, of St. James.

MARY McDonough - ISLANDS OLDEST RESIDENT PASSES ON: Funeral services for Mrs. Mary V. McDonough, 88, senior resident of Beaver Island, were held May 14 at Holy Cross Church with the Rev. Louis Wren O.F.M. (Conv. officiating. Burial was in Holy Cross cemetery.

Mrs. McDonough, who had returned earlier in May to her native island after spending the winter in Mchenry, Ill., died May 12th following a brief illness, at the home of her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Frank O'Donnell.
Born at St. James, Sept. 22, 1879, the former Mary V. Connaghan was married to the late Sylvester V. "Vesty" McDonough in 1898. He preceded her in death. She was a lifelong member of Holy Cross Church and its Altar Society.

In recent years she had spent the winters in Hinsdale with her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Teter and the summers on the Island in her own home.

Surviving are three sons, Robert of Grand Rapids, Lloyd, St. James Township Supervisor, and Lawrence, Captain of the Motorship, Beaver Islander; two daughters, Mrs. (Marjorie) Teter of Hinsdale and Mrs. (Nellie) O'Donnell of St. James; many grandchildren; several great-grandchildren and a sister, Mrs. Mike Cull of St. James.

Mary "Vesty" McDonough will be sadly missed here on the Island, not only by her family but by her many friends.

A DATE TO REMEMBER: The Beaver Island Club of Grand Rapids announces the 3rd Annual Beaver Island Club Party to be held October 12th, 1968 at the Plantation, Grand Rapids, Michigan. More information will follow or contact:

Mrs. Brian Gallagher
941 Ariebill S.W.
Wyoming, Michigan 49509

FAREWELL RECEPTION: On June 7th our Dominican Sisters left aboard the Beaver Islander for the summer. Two of our Sisters however, will not be returning to us next fall - Sister Cletus, O.P. and Sister Wilma, O.P.

A Farewell reception was held at the Convent from 7 to 10 on Tuesday night, June 4th, to bid them farewell. Sister Cletus has been on the Island for 15 years and Sister Wilma for two years.

Our very best to them in their new positions, but we will miss them.

4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION: A Parade is being planned that only children will take part in. If the various business places wish to sponsor a child or children, this would be fine but with the stipulation that the children build the floats. Adults will drive the cars pulling the floats. Anyone desiring more information in this regard, may contact Marge Wagner in St. James. The Parade route will begin at the Medical Center proceed to the County Garage and return the same route.

There will be games and prizes for everyone to take a try at. In the hall, there will be sales booths and a lunch counter. Anyone wanting a booth and to help make this a big success with offers of help, please contact Gladys Schraudigel, Alvin LeFreniere or Marge Wagner.

The income from this affair is for the benefit of the Civic Association.

HOSPITAL NOTES: Arthur Brown is a patient in Little Traverse Hospital in Petoskey for surgery.

Nellie O'Donnell was a patient in Charlevoix Hospital.

Archie Minor had part of his foot amputated following a fall from his ship. His new address is: U. S. Public Health Hospital, 14700 Riverside Drive, Detroit, Michigan.
During the past seven years it has been our usual duty to write up the accounts of the passing of many Island friends, some we knew well and others we didn't, but when it involves your own brother, it moves me to write something other than the usual.

Emory M. Gregg was born on November 2, 1911 and died May 22nd, 1968, at the age of 56 years. Determination was a way of life with him and looking back through his long list of accomplishments pretty much proves this to be so.

A graduate of East Lansing High School, he went on to then Michigan Agricultural College to obtain his Bachelor's Degree. From there he went on the Ohio State University and received his degree in Law. In 1936 he was admitted to the Calhoun County Bar and set up business as an attorney in Battle Creek, Michigan. He married his college sweetheart, Mary Ellen Davis, in 1935 and raised two fine boys, Dave, who is practicing Veterinary Medicine in Rogers City, Michigan and Bill, who graduated from West Virginia Wesleyan College this year and who will be teaching in Virginia this fall.

In 1942, Emory was sworn into the F.B.I. Much of his activities will never be revealed but his determination took him far in this work.

Geographically, it took him to Miami, New Orleans, New York, Europe and the Middle East.

In his job, he attained one of the most sensitive positions of the F.B.I. His title, Supervisor, Espionage Section, Domestic Intelligence Division. In World War II post-war years he had helped crack some of America's biggest sabotage and espionage cases, including the apprehension of atom spies Ethel and Julius Rosenberg.

One day, blood erupted like a fountain at the point known as the macula in his left retina, and in 1951 his right eye hemorrhaged in the same manner. Scar tissue formed, dimming his world permanently, as it thickened. Like the silvering coming off the back of a mirror, his eyes could no longer reflect an image except for a little flashing spec. While recuperating from painful eye operations, he discovered that by concentrating, he could stop that flashing light and gain a pin point of vision in his right eye.

At this point, it meant he would have to change his work, for eyesight is a must with an active agent. Blessed with an amazing memory, his services were quickly put to use conducting all F.B.I. lectures on espionage and counter-intelligence. He also, briefed certain Pentagon and State Department personages.

After 22 years with the F.B.I. Emory retired, he and his wife visited the Island and he helped me repair the old fish dock we were leasing. I had hoped he would consider moving to the Island, for he liked it a great deal but the hills of Virginia held a little more to his liking.

He found what he wanted and purchased the Gravel Springs Farm, overlooking the Shenandoah Valley. To him, farming was fun and restoring the many old buildings on the farm was right up his alley. After four years of work that many had said couldn't be done, he had the farm looking like something out of "Country Gentlemen" and he still found time to be active in Boy Scouts and various other Civic functions.

Something bothered him though and a short while ago he picked out the plot where he wanted to be buried. An old Cemetery adjoins the farm, it's neatly kept, with an iron picket fence around it. It overlooks the farm and Emory picked his lot next to the fence and told his wife...
"This place is for me, next to the fence so I can keep an eye on the farm".
A heart attack took him suddenly, while he was working one of his fields. He tried to get back to the house, but couldn't make it. His work was done.
I had never seen Gravel Springs Farm before but I know why he loved and we buried him in the spot he chose, "just to keep an eye on thin

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

FOR SALE: 100 foot frontage lots on Lake Michigan. Contact Ed Howland, St. James, Michigan 49782

FOR SALE: Cottages completely furnished, 1 bedroom, living, dining, kitchen and bath. Located on the harbor. May be seen by contacting - Perry Crawford, Erin Motel, St. James, Mich. 49782.


FOR SALE: RCA Floor Model AM-FM, 4 speed Stero-Phonograph. A-1 condition. See A. J. Roy, St. James, Michigan

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