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# Amherst Island BEACON



ISSUE 290 [www.amherstisland.on.ca](http://www.amherstisland.on.ca) APRIL 2002

## THIS ISSUE

- Ian Murray

After proofing, the Beacon is e-mailed to Tom Richmond who uses the desk-top publishing technology to get the Beacon in shape to send to the printer. He then sends it back to me for a final look at before printing. I got sloppy last month and didn't catch some scanning errors on the Willard family tree data.

If anyone wants a copy of the original material, send me a self-addressed stamped envelope; or if you live on the Island, I am willing to leave a copy for you at the store. And, as always, anyone wishing to

add to or correct any of the family information is encouraged to contact me.

Elsie Willard lent us 2 missing Grindstone issues and we are still hoping to fill in the missing gaps.

I hope that readers enjoy the older material that we are including in each issue. We are running about 6500-8000 words plus photos and ads... One of our goals is to keep to a 12 page format whenever possible. (Note: to ease any confusion, new Beacon items are in normal type, and Historical items are in this simpler style type)

Christopher's letter home column is missing this month. Rather than writing home, he decided to go home and visit his Mother and family in England.



**SS #5, Third Concession, in 1946.** From an original 1" x 1.25" photo owned by Clinton Kilpatrick, that he carried in his wallet for decades. Clinton is top row, right side, Keith Miller Second from the right in the bottom row, Tom Miller is top Row 4th from the Right, & Elaine (Miller) Wolfreys is Top Left side.

## NEIGHBOURHOOD

- Lyn Fleming

Get Well wishes this month to the following people, who have been sick at home or in hospital: Lillian Miller, Joyce Haines, Elaine Wolfreys and Stanley Burke. Continued good health wishes to Sally Bowen, Earl Tugwell, Greg Hudson, and Phil Silver.

Alan and Cathy Glenn, Ralph and Beula Woods and Chris Craig recently returned from a Carribean cruise; Amy Caughey was home from Scotland this past month; Syke, Stephanie and I made a quick trip to Florida over Spring Break, to visit family. Bonnie Marshall, Sarah Pollock and Jessica Gavlas were all home from assorted Universities for reading week. John Gavlas stopped on the Island for a couple of days to visit family.

Congratulations to Janet Scott on the arrival of her latest grandchild. Bryce William weighed in at 8lbs 3ozs. Proud first time parents are Janet's

daughter Cathy and her husband Drew.

The ACW held their annual Beef Dinner in March and if they didn't set a record for attendance, it must have been close! Word is out and there were many from across the Bay as well as a good number of Islanders attending.

You know we live in a small community when.... a letter comes from B.C., addressed to Grandma and Grandpa Miller in Stella and it makes it to the right Grandma and Grandpa - first try.



## A. I. WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

- Nancy Dunn

The March meeting of the Amherst Island Women's Institute was held on the 20th at 7 p.m. in the back room of the ferry office with 14 members in attendance. The program for the evening "Approach to Active Aging" was the first item on the agenda and began with Mary Kay Steel using a flip chart to introduce us to the benefits and possibilities of keeping active in body and mind. Humorously illustrated with her own art work of fanciful creatures she concentrated on the physical aspects of fitness. Shortly a mystery guest hobbled in, who, under her long skirt, floppy hat, fur stole and hiking boots turned out to be Claire Jenny looking for some hints on staving off the advancing years. She became the willing guinea pig (to add to the birds, bats, snakes etc. of Mary Kay's sketches) for Kirsten Bennick, a physiotherapist, to demonstrate several simple exercises for muscle toning and strength as well as relaxation of tenseness. It was drawn to our attention that exercise opportunities including aerobics with videos and various weights and training apparatus are available Mon., Wed., and Fri. from 9 to 10 a.m. at the old Victoria hall in Stella. After the ode, collect and singing of O Canada, roll call was answered by telling of a favourite form of exercise. The replies ranged from Tai Chi to housework(!!!!) with the most votes going to walking - the brisker the better and preferably for at least 55 minutes, added our experts. The minutes were read and approved, the financial report accepted and correspondence duly dealt with.

Invitations were received to attend a coffee party at Selby Hall, hosted by the Maple Ridge W.

I. on Mon. April 29 from 10 a.m. to noon. An educational workshop on making a quilted tea cosy will be held at the N. Fredericksburgh Hall on April 6.

President Nancy Henshaw informed us that the Napanee Guide is willing to publish upcoming W.I. events for any of the 13 groups in the district. Reports were received from the standing committees with a reminder to all conveners to get their annual reports in to the appropriate district secretary by the approaching deadline. A .I. W. I. will be hosting the district annual meeting on Wed. May 15 at 9 a.m. at St. Paul's Church Hall. The Provincial Conference (Federated W. I. of Ontario) is in Sault Ste. Marie from June 14-16, 2002. In view of the traveling distance involved it is unlikely any delegate from the Island will attend.

Under new business we covered the appointment of a branch photographer (Beth Forester volunteered), and the appointment of two members to act as a nominating committee for next year's executive.

Jackie Sylvester announced that Jan Sneeep has offered the W. I. one of the ten addresses on the Amherst Island web site and in accepting this proposal we briefly discussed the kind of information we would put on our page. Mary Kay offered to be the contact person. Helen Lamb informed us that we have again arranged and paid for the Cancer Society mailing for their annual April canvas. Several projects for raising money have been suggested by members and friends. These are under consideration.

The meeting ended with our collections and the singing of God Save the Queen, a delicious lunch having been served part way through the evening by Helen Miller and Beth Forester. The next gathering, the annual general meeting, will be held on April 17 at 7 p.m. at the home of Nancy Dunn.

## COUNCIL GLEANINGS

- Ian Murray

From a letter to Council by Ross Forrest, Plant Manager of Lennox Generating Station: "Lennox GS is owned and operated by Ontario Power Generation. We are a niche generator, using oil and natural gas as our fueling options. Our prime role is to meet provincial electrical peaking power needs, such as the peaks experienced during air conditioning season and colder winter months.... We employ 147 full time employees.... When we are on-line we can produce 8% of the peaking power needs of the province. However, averaged over the year 2001, we produced approximately 2% of Ontario

Power Generation's total annual output. This low overall output is due to the relatively high cost of oil and natural gas compared to coal and other



**The Beacon at the Head DT Photo**

generation sources.” Mr. Forrest goes on to say that oil and gas produce less air pollutants than coal in the production of electricity.

\* The Nutrient Management By-law was passed by Council.

\* The OPP's R.I.D.E. program from July 2001 thru February 2002 cost \$4730 in wages. In summary: vehicles stopped, 2310; alcotests conducted, 21; 12 hour suspensions, 7; admin. licence suspensions, 3; impaired charges, 3; liquor seizures, 2; and, other charges, 8.

\* From the consultant's annual report on the Amherst Island Waste Disposal Site: area of waste disposal, 1.225 hectare; remaining volume of waste disposal, 13,300 cubic metres; average annual waste volume, 280 cubic metres; anticipated life span, 29 years; estimated cost of closure, \$90,000; and, estimated cost of post closure monitoring, \$4000 per year. It may be possible that licencing can be obtained for another 4800 cubic metres of waste; a further 7 years at the current rate of disposal. Waste diversion programs have diverted a significant volume of waste and thereby

extended the life of the site. There is no evidence that leachate has entered the groundwater.

\* From a memo from the Loyalist Planning Dept. to the CAO regarding 2001 census data for the period 1996-2001: population of Loyalist Twp increased by 39 people, from 14,551 to 14,590; the number of private dwellings increased from 4825 to 5394; and, the number of people per

household dropped from 3.0 to 2.7. The Township's population grew by 0.3% from 1996 to 2001. The population of Canada increased from 28, 846, 761 in 1996 to 30,007,094 in 2001 - 4.0%. Ontario's population increased from 10,753,573 to 11,410,046 - 6.1%. Kingston increased 1.6% while Belleville lost 0.5%. [I am confident that the numbers are reasonably accurate but does anyone actually believe that there were exactly 30,007,097 people in Canada at a certain hour of a certain day. If the count came within several thousand, it would be remarkable when one considers those without a permanent home, illegal immigrants, and just plain forgetfulness.]

## AIMS

-Peter Trueman

The Amherst Island Men's Society (AIMS) held its monthly breakfast meeting March 9 at St. Paul's United Church Hall. For the first time, breakfast was



**The Old Road Grader**

**DT Photo**

catered by the senior class at Amherst Island Public School as part of a fund-raising effort for a class trip to Montreal. At the conclusion of the meal, members gave the visiting kitchen staff heartfelt applause.

Brian Grace reported that the Amherst Island Flea Market will open May 25. There hasn't been very much feedback from prospective produce producers, but Brian is still hopeful that people with bedding plants, baking, maple syrup, pickles, baking etc., and later fresh vegetables, will set up tables. Brian would appreciate hearing from anyone interested in participating. His number is 384-0912.

Hugh Jenney reported that the Loyalist Council has approved the expenditure of \$1,500 from the money raised for the Neilson Store restoration to pay the consultant AIMS has hired, Andre Scheinman. The consultant is drafting an application for a grant from the federal government's Cultural spaces program to assist in renovating and setting up the Neilson Store Museum and Cultural Centre.

Hugh also reported that AIMS is hoping the Women's Institute will see fit to stage a House and Garden tour of seven Island homes as a fund-raising project for the museum. Anna Hitchins, a member of the museum committee, is proposing the tour as a W.I project. An existing Cobourg tour charges \$25 per ticket, and it has been suggested that the Island version might end with a strawberry social at Farnham, the village home of Brian and Janet Grace. AIMS members agreed by consensus that Hugh Jenney would be the President of the incorporated Neilson Store Museum and Cultural Centre being set up in order to be eligible for government and other grants. Paul Henshaw is Treasurer, and Paul Lauret will serve as Secretary.

Peter Trueman recommended the purchase of a book called "Where to Turn", as a tool for the AIMS Care giver/Companion committee. The book, compiled by the Kingston District Community Information Centre, contains contacts and telephone numbers for a variety of organizations specializing in everything from Adoption, Adult Education, Alzheimer Disease, Animal Welfare and Assaulted Women to Diabetes, Deafness and Impaired Hearing, Health Services, Home Support, Literacy, Physical Disabilities, Volunteerism and Workers Compensation. (Peter now has a copy of the book. If you have a question and don't know "Where to Turn", feel free to call him at 389-3548.) Islanders are reminded that AIMS has three committees designed to help the elderly and others who need assistance, free of charge. There is a manual labour committee headed by Allan Glenn which specializes in small repair jobs around the house, and yard work; a

transportation committee, chaired by Ralph Woods, which transports those without cars to doctors appointments and the like; and a care giver/companion committee, designed to relieve caregivers. The contact for that committee is Peter Trueman. Call one of the above or any other AIMS member for more information.

At each monthly meeting, two members of AIMS are asked to speak briefly about their lives and what brought them to, or kept them on, Amherst Island. This month's speakers were Ken Albertan and John Schutzbach.

Ken began by noting that he is often asked about the name of his family, which he suggested with a smile lent its name to a western Canadian province. He said his father came to Canada from the Ukraine as a boy of 10 or 11. Ken grew up in a little town just outside New Westminster, B.C. He decided he wanted to be a policeman and applied to the RCMP. Accepted, he trained at Regina and Penhold (near Red Deer), Alberta. His first posting was to Morris, Manitoba, and he was later sent to Portage-la-Prairie. While there, Ken was chosen to take a course on drug enforcement, and spent 9 months undercover. When the drug unit was disbanded, he applied for a riding course and later became part of the Mounties' famous Musical Ride, and toured Europe. He met his wife-to-be, Ann, at an Ottawa embassy party. She was doing post graduate work in Saskatchewan at the time, and after they'd known each other 10 days, they got married. That was a Saturday. On Tuesday the RCMP posted him to Brandon, Manitoba. Ken had begun to realize fairly soon after joining the force, that he wasn't suited to be a career cop, so eventually he put the red coat in mothballs. Ken kept a sailboat on Big Rideau Lake, and during 1978 or 1979, after coming down through the Rideau system, stopped off at the Amherst Island dock. He remembers thinking then that the Island would be a nice place to live. After a southern cruise in 1980, Ken and Ann found themselves back at Amherst Island. They spent a week or so wandering around the village, and on the way to Ottawa decided that Kingston would be a better place to live. They stayed in Kingston during the winter, and bought a cottage on Doug Martin's property, in which they spent two summers. Then they bought their current property on the Front Road, and now they've had 13 winters here. Both children were born and raised in this area, and the fellowship and friendship the Albertans have found on the Island have made it home.

The second speaker, John Schutzbach, said he'd realized that he must be one of the luckiest persons in the world -- lucky to live on an Island,

lucky to have “the best” wife, and both lucky to have six of the best children and eight of the best grandchildren between them. John’s mother was English and his father was an Alsace German. Thirteen years after they’d had their last child, in Pittsburgh, Pa., John’s mother developed a “tumor”. The “tumor” turned out to be John. His father was a builder, and John’s first job, at the age of 11, was to install all the plugs and switches in a 12-storey apartment building. His father later moved to north western Pennsylvania to build cottages. The work was seasonal and John says he didn’t realize how poor they were. Later, John applied for a scholarship to Penn State University, but didn’t get it. While shingling roofs, “a guy took me off... and got me signed up for the state teacher’s college”. He later became a teaching assistant in a city housing project with 10,000 people, 90% of them black.

Pittsburgh was really a good place to live, John recalled. The rent was \$45 per month, all utilities included, and he could walk to the lab where he worked. But he found himself married, trying to raise three children on \$300 per month, and also going to graduate school. So he quit graduate school. A family member got him a job as a lab technician and he got sponsored for a doctoral fellowship and moved to Milwaukee. There, he got caught up in the environmental movement (halting thruways in the process) and Democratic party politics. He had to decide, finally, between science and politics, and science won. “Science is great”, John says. He spent 25 years in Birmingham, Alabama. He met Inka Brockhausen at a meeting in Puerto Rico. A man who knew Inka kissed her on both cheeks in greeting. “It looked like a good idea”, John recalls, “so I did too”.

After spending eight or ten days together, they decided to get married. The choice for a place to live was between Birmingham, Toronto or Amherst Island, where Inka owned a property on the south shore. They chose the Island, or maybe the Island chose them.

The next meeting will be held Saturday,



**2 Ferry Crews, 1966** Photo owned by Harry & Barbara Filson  
 Top Row, Left to Right: Frank Fleming, Sterling Glenn, Eldon Willard, Norman Brooks Frank Welton, Aylsworth Cole, Edwin Hogeboom  
 Bottom Row, L-R: Earle Willard, Edward McCormick, Albert Mulders

April 13, at 8 a.m. Every Island man is welcome. Breakfast is \$5. If you decide to join, the annual membership fee is \$20.

## THE HEAVIEST WALK OF MY LIFE

- Zander of DUNN INN

It was great to see Les Glenn’s “ice car” in your March 2002 issue. Many will remember that not only “ice cars” but good cars and trucks often followed the Christmas Tree road from Stella to Millhaven in the olden days of winter. Sometimes people skated on the ice from the island to the mainland. One year (it was probably 1963) the ice was perfectly smooth - a magnificent skating rink for miles and miles. One afternoon I donned my skates, roped my brief case over my neck, opened my overcoat and let the south wind sail me to the mainland in one of the most enjoyable and memorable crossings I’ve ever made.

I discovered on that trip that part of the boot of my left skate had become separated from the blade. When I arrived at Millhaven I tossed my skates onto the ferry tied up there for the winter and

drove on to Kingston in our "good car" which we left near the ferry dock. When I returned, there were my skates - repaired by the engineer, Stirling Glenn, (Les Glenn's brother) who stayed on the ferry during the winter. I skated back, but this time against the wind. I cursed the same wind I had blessed on the way over. It took me much longer to get to Stella than it had taken me to get to Millhaven!

I often walked across the ice too - sometimes because I wanted to; sometimes because I had to. One night I left Millhaven in our old '52 Ford only to run into rough ice which caused the motor to go off its mounts and ram into the rad. Steam and water everywhere told me the old car would go no more that night.

I was so steamed up I figured I'd let the car go down when the ice broke up. But Art Drumgoole (the mail carrier) knew better. The next day he hitched up that old car to his horse and sled and dragged it home. Somehow we got it up to Clinton Kilpatrick who performed auto surgery and restored the car to working order.

One Sunday in the Spring, I walked over the ice early to take the 9:30 a.m. service in Amherstview. By 11 a.m. I was ready to walk home. But the ice was three feet from the shore! I ran and jumped onto the ice. I was almost half way across to the Island when I saw the ice had cracked leaving about fifteen feet of open water between where I was standing and the other side. I didn't want to walk back so I looked for a narrower separation. I didn't find one but I did find a "raft" of ice floating between the two sides. I threw my brief case over to the other side, ran onto the raft, and jumped off safely onto the other side. Buoyed up by that success I plodded toward the Island. I got to daydreaming. When I was almost at the Stella dock I went under water! I had forgotten the farmers cut a hole in the ice for the cattle. When I came up I was covered in cattle dung and must have weighed 400 pounds dripping wet.

It was the longest and heaviest walk of my life from the dock to St. Paul's manse. I didn't catch a cold but the dry cleaning bill for my

overcoat, suit and gown was astronomical! At the time I couldn't tell anybody about my adventure. My wife was away and any Islander I told would have considered me crazy for doing such a foolish thing - and would have probably scolded me, too.

## FARMING, FISHING & ROOFING

- Ian Murray

Raymond Wemp told me that the nets went in the water for the first time this year on March 27. They are fishing for yellow perch.

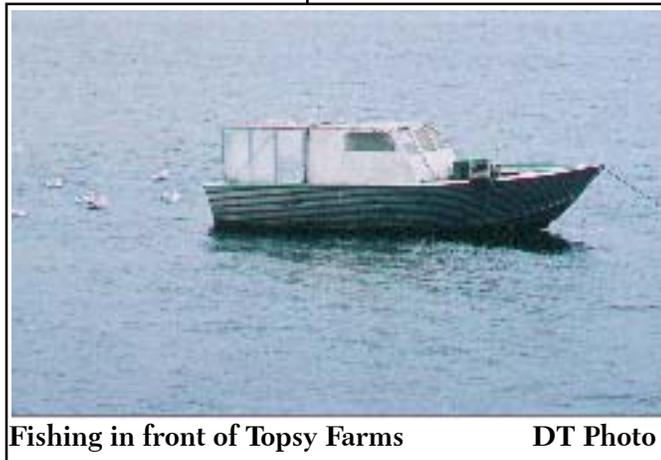
Most of the Island beef farmers have cows calving at this time of year. Many of the Island sheep have been shorn - by the end of April they should all be done.

Its perhaps a bit early, but the Island farmers are already concerned about lack of moisture in the ground. When one gets below the surface mud where the frost is coming out, the ground is fairly dry. Perhaps we'll get some nice warm rains in the next few weeks to give the plants some moisture to grow on, as well as warming up the soil.

The roofers are looking forward to less windy weather this spring. Eric McGinn says that Amherst Roofing has had a very good winter with lots of work when weather permitted. Projects included the Casino in Gananoque and construction at Queen's. Reg Hitchins of Covertite reported that things were a bit slow for them over the winter but they will be busy enough when the weather improves. The Ontario SuperBuild program is encouraging a lot of new construction projects so the Island roofers should be busy for quite a while to come.

## APRIL IS CANCER MONTH

There will be no door to door canvas but there has been a mailing to all households. The W.I. encourages you to respond to that mailing as there is an identification mark on the envelopes to indicate the area of the donor and we will receive some credit.



Fishing in front of Topsy Farms

DT Photo

## READIN', RITIN', AND ROCKIN'

Amherst Island Public School would like to invite you to this year's Spring musical. On April 18th at 7:00 p.m. at the school. Join us for this spoof of school life and enjoy the musical and acting talents of the students at A.I.P.S. There is no admission cost, but a gift basket will be raffled off to raise funds for the Senior Class "end of year" trip to Montreal. So mark April 18th on your calendar and we hope to see you there.

## THANK YOU NOTES

Earle and Jean Tugwell wish to thank relatives, friends, and neighbours for their expressions of sympathy in the loss of Earle's brother Chester. You have all shared your strengths with us through many acts of kindness, prayers, phone calls, visits, beautiful cards, floral arrangements, food, and donations to the cancer fund. Our thanks to Rev. Andrew Chisholm for delivering a comforting and meaningful address. We appreciate his visits to Rideaucrest. Chester enjoyed these visits immensely and often prepared Biblical questions to discuss with Rev. Chisolm. A special thanks to St. Alban's A.C.W. for preparing, setting up, and unfortunately having to take down, their beautiful lunch. Thanks to all who brought in the lovely food we found when we finally reached home - it was really appreciated.

We also thank Chester's nieces, Betty Windsor and Norma Wing for ably and quietly carrying out Chester's requests and wishes, and being with him whenever needed through the years. To all our nieces and nephews who, as always, gave us their attentions - doing what we now can't do and taking us where we should be.

Thank you to the pallbearers, Donald Miller, George Windsor, Perry Windsor, and Robert Windsor.

Earle and I have experienced the support and kindnesses of Amherst Island for many years. Thank you and God bless,  
Earle and Jean Tugwell.

## Old Time Gospel Music

by John Reid & the Eagle Band at St.  
Alban's Church Sunday April 28 at  
7:30pm

## FERRY SERVICE

To those who haven't already heard: the M. V. Frontenac II will be out of service between April 15 & May 15. It will be replaced by the renovated



DT

M. V. Quinte-Loyalist for this period. If you have questions please direct them to Jim Guest, Loyalist Township staff, at 389-7351 ext 117 or email "[publicworks@loyalist-township.on.ca](mailto:publicworks@loyalist-township.on.ca)"

## From the NAPANEE EXPRESS

March 2, 1937

**AMHERST ISLAND-** The ice harvest has been completed and all the ice houses have been filled to capacity. The Young People's Society of Trinity United Church presented their play "The Girl From Out Yonder" in Victoria Hall to a capacity audience. The parts were exceptionally well taken. The cast and members of the Y.P.S. were entertained at luncheon. Those taking part were: Lulu Glenn, Edith Scott, Mary Scott, Ida Brown, Stuart Brown, William Glenn, Doug Glenn, Harris Filson, Tom Cochrane, Norman Eves. During the brief intermission between the acts Rev. J. Whyte contributed several vocal numbers accompanied by his guitar.

Word was received here a few days ago of the passing at Waldrou, Sask. of a former well-known resident of Amherst island in the person of Mrs. Badgar formerly Annie Reid, after a lengthy illness. Mrs. George Brown of the Island and Mrs.

Brown of Richmond, sister of the deceased, left some time ago to be with her during her illness....

Royal Wemp suffered a painful accident a few days ago. While unloading hay in his barn the trip rope broke, throwing him to the floor, injuring his neck and giving him a severe shaking up. Dr. Burleigh attended the injured man. Clifford Reid, assistant teacher in the Continuation School is confined to his home at Odessa with mumps. During his absence Mrs. C. R. Hogeboom is teaching. Mrs. David Caughey has returned from Montreal, where she spent three weeks with her mother, who suffered a painful accident some time ago.

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from **BORN ON THE ISLAND**

- L&A County Museum and Archives

...Excerpts from the Napanee Beaver...April  
26, 1895

**EMERALD.** The measles have again broken out on the Island, people in whole sections being sick with them. Many farmers of this locality have commenced spring's work. They report the land very hard.

The new Emerald dairy is about to be introduced to the public in the form of a ball, which takes place in it on Wednesday evening next. The football practice is well attended by the young men of the Head, and it is ludicrous to watch the maneuvers of some of them as they try to kick that "bouncy thing".

The discussion, etc., at the Emerald Mutual Improvement Society rooms on Friday evening still continue to be of great interest to both young and old, and the membership is steadily increasing.

**STELLA.** Mr. Editor, again my pencil finds a few notes for your columns or your waste basket, from our pretty little town of the prettier name.

We are in this particular locality, and in fact all over the Island, to a greater or less degree suffering much affliction from sickness. The measles have been propagated to such an extent among the children that school No. 1 has been closed for a week. Mrs. Gormley is very ill and is under the doctor's care. Mrs. Moutray is slowly recovering, while two of her children are confined with the measles. Mr. Hugh Filson is around again after his late illness. We have no very favorable reports from Mr. R. Filson, who is still in the hospital at Kingston. Amherst Island is generally

a healthy place, and it has been long since it was visited by so much sickness.

The bay is clear of ice, the last of it disappeared on Saturday. The land is drying out fast and the roads are in very good condition. As navigation has opened on the lakes, the sailors are leaving to resume their summer work. A scow from Kingston loaded oats from Neilson's storehouse on Saturday. The Hero was expected up on Saturday also, but she was detained. She will likely begin the regular trips this week.

A party took a drive out in the country on Friday evening last in a lumber wagon. They carried two violins along, but they left the dance at home. A very enjoyable evening was spent at Mr. Wm. Fleming's.

The cheese factory at Stella will open on Tuesday, with Mr. Spowart as maker. The new factory at Emerald will be ready on Monday, April 29th, to begin operations.

The football team is practicing on the ridge at the Head. We hope the boys may win some trophies during the season.

It was with deep regret we learned on Monday, the 1st. inst., of the death of Miss Ann McCormick, of Oshawa, formerly of this place. She was 25 years of age. Her death was caused by consumption. The bereaved family have the sympathy of the entire community.

Mr. F. J. Tighe, of Trinity College, Port Hope, spent his holidays with parents here.

Miss M.A. Gorman is ill with inflammatory rheumatism. Miss Meta Moutray, Messrs. G. Chown and W. Neilson, of the Kingston Collegiate Institute, spent their holidays with their parents here.

Captain H. Saunders left last week for Detroit to prepare his boat for the opening of navigation.

Mr. Ed. Patterson, attending the Deseronto High school, is home for a few days.

W.H. Moutray, Esq., will sail shortly for Ireland, where he intends spending a few months.

**[Beacon Editor's Note: It appears that there is a Stella reporter and an Emerald reporter. I have heard from older Islanders that in previous generations that Emerald and Stella were separate communities. I wonder what kind of football was being played then; likely a blend of ruggie, soccer, and North American football. In the days before TV and radio, there was clearly a lot more social interactions within a community. And, on the Island, a lot more people to interact with.]**

from the first  
Issue of  
***the Beacon,***  
Thursday, April  
16, 1970

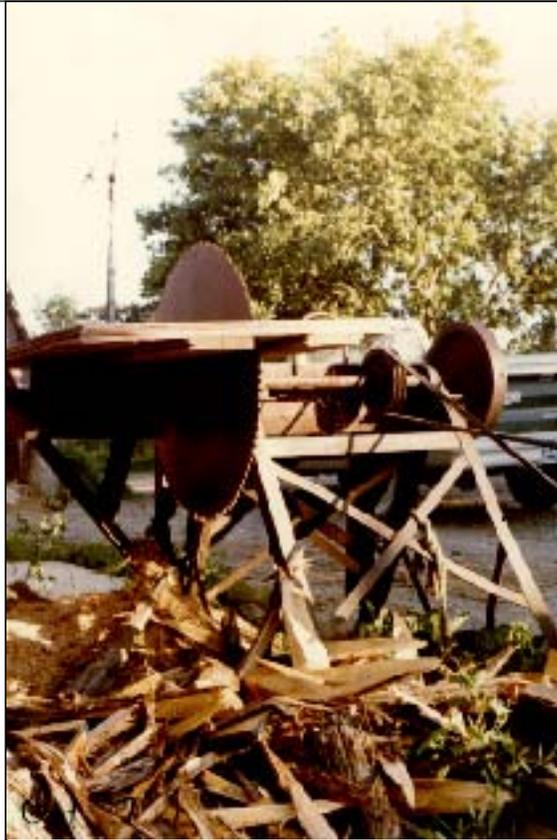
**Births:** The Islanders welcome two new members to the community. Steven Richard, infant son born recently to Capt. and Mrs. Earl Willard and Teresa, infant daughter of Mr. & Mrs. John Burt. A new arrival at the Vance home, George Peter, is interesting news to us as Mrs. Vance was a former teacher on the Island. **Wedding Bells:** Mr. Garry Hitchins was recently married at Stratford, Ontario to Miss Anne-Marie Rickarby, in St. John Anglican Church. Mr. Robert Gibson and Miss Debbie Daney, of Napanee

will be married in Napanee, Sat. April 18. The Amherst Islander has started bringing to the Island the usual large crowds of visitors on its Sunday trips. Now that the mainlanders know that the danger of heavy ice interference is practically over more and more of them will be coming to enjoy a Sunday with friends and families....Marion S. Fleming.

**Highschool Happenings:** I am sure I speak for all the highschool students when I say, we are glad to be traveling once again on the ferry. No more lugging suitcases or being late for classes! I feel we owe a great deal of thanks to our principal, Mr. Froud for the interest he has taken in our "case" and the kind manner he has shown in dealing with us.

There is going to be a lot of new changes at N.D.S.S. next year. One, as most of you know, is that Mr. Froud is leaving and our new principal will be Mr. Thompson. The second change will be in the school system itself. Starting next fall there will be no failures, and no names, just numbers. For the first few weeks I expect there will be a lot of confusion.

On April 4, one of our Island girls, Judy Bierma, placed 2nd on the uneven parallel bars



Trimming Fenceposts SM Photo

in the Bay of Quinte Gymnastics meet held at our school. Last Saturday she went to compete at COSSA, the Central Ontario division.

The annual Variety Night is coming on May 1st and 2nd and the theme this year is "Space". Be sure to be there for good entertainment and to see the blast-off of "Starship N.D.S.S." ... Laurie Kilpatrick.

\* Chalk Talk: (Public School Report)

Hello Fellow Islanders; The staff of the Public School would like to contribute this section to inform you of school happenings. We hope this will encourage you to take an active interest in the education and events concerning the students.

We (Miss Abrams and Mrs. Murray) are happy to have joined the staff and to have made the island our home since we have found both a great boss and wonderful children to work with. Where The Action Is: The Dew Drop Inn. This combination library, study and display room was the brainchild of Mr. Sheil. The following comment sums up the way we all feel about the Dew Drop Inn: "The Dew Drop Inn is a beautiful room set off for special purposes only. It has new metal bookshelves, work tables that are hand-made, a science cupboard and lots of other useful furniture. There are special projects and all in all it is a very extraordinary place. The children of the school are responsible for the room."(Debbie Gibson)

Part of the school program is devoted to Red Cross. Red Cross has been progressing very well this year. David Fleming is the Senior room president. The school sent a large donation to the Red Cross. To raise money for it, we have had rummage sales, candy sales and others. In the near future we hope to have a car wash.(Kathy Wemp)

(The Junior and Primary rooms have also contributed to the donations made.)

Sports: The staff encourages active participation by students in competitive and skill sports in free time. Last fall, the House League was created for this purpose. It is composed of the following teams:

Team Name	Team Captain
Jaguars	Peter McCormick
Tigers	Larry McGinn
Pipers	Darcy Timms
Pirates	David Fleming
Phantoms	Danny Emerson
Bombers	Vincent Eves
Lions	Andy McGinn

Some of the captains comments:-Vincent Eves: "My team is very co-operative and works hard for wins".Larry McGinn: "My team is obedient and co-operative and give me little trouble."Darcy Timms: "Some of my team members are quite small but they all try." David Fleming: "Even though they are sometimes unorderly they make a good team." Keep up the good work, teams! The teachers and students anxiously await the installation of the new backstop purchased by the board.

Coming Soon: On Monday, May 4, the staff will be engaged in a Professional Development Day to discuss the education of your children. It will be a holiday for the pupils.

Spring Time:  
Spring time is a very nice time. Flowers come out. The sun comes out too. It does not snow like winter. And the leaves are nice and green. Then you can play games and sit in the sun too. In the spring the grass is very green. It is too nice a day to go in the house.(Debbie Fleming)

Please note: Any suggestions for the use of this space by the students or parents would be readily considered by us. Questions: What would you like to learn concerning school activities?...Mrs. Murray & Miss Abrams.

## Down The Lane

*This column will take us down the lane to the past, as a nostalgic reminder that we are making progress in our culture on the Island, though we sometimes get discouraged at our seeming out-of-date means of winter travel, and other commodities. Through the kind assistance of Mrs. Ernest Filson's diaries, this column will continue to keep us in touch with yesterday.*

Mid-April, 1933: Mild, rainy day. Billy Cochrane moved into his own house today. The mail came by Emerald. Ice is still in at Stella. The ferry made its first

run April 18. The Press Bros. launched R. Smith's big boat.

Mid-April, 1939: Born to Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Taylor on the 19th, twin girls. The next day, Mrs. Secker and Margaret McKee came home from the hospital with new babies. Dr. Burleigh is sending them medicine. Men are seeding on the Saunders' place. Snow fell later in the day but didn't stay on the ground. Potatoes planted at Mrs. Filson's. The ferry has just started to run and ice is still in the bay. Men are drawing hay to Moutrey Wemp's.

Mid-April, 1944: Mrs. Joseph Beaubien came home from Kingston Hospital by boat to the head of the Island.

Mid-April, 1949: Ice still at village of Stella. A party was held in the hall on Easter Saturday night for the Piet Witteveen family. Art Drumgoole is taking cream and passengers over by boat from Epstein's, as ice is moving. Men working in the fields....Marj. Aitken.

## A (historical) Editorial

: The Island Beacon, in its initial edition, has attempted to bring to the people of Amherst Island a medium of communication of which they can be proud. Current plans are set up so that the newspaper will be published every second Thursday and we have endeavored to ensure that as many as possible will receive a copy. It is our ambition that the "Beacon" will, in large measure, become an integral factor to Amherst Islanders - and to this end, we have directed our efforts. With this in mind, the "Beacon" will attempt to communicate to the people of Amherst Island the news, information, and developments which are pertinent to our municipality. Your suggestions, involvement, and encouragement are invited and welcomed for the success of the "Island Beacon" ....G. F. Sheil.

Your Questions Answered:

1. How can I get a copy of the Beacon? A. Each of the retail outlets has been supplied with copies, and the families sending students to the public school may have their copies picked up at the school. People on the mainland might have a copy mailed to them by friends or relatives.
2. Who is writing the articles and how are they edited? A. In most cases the author's name is shown and every effort has been made to ensure the reliability of information through editing by Glenn Sheil and other persons to be named in future issues.
3. Will articles appear which are covered in other newspapers? A. No. However, there may be comments or interviews on the broader news

fronts, but The Beacon will report that news which is important to us as Amherst Islanders, but would receive little or no space in other papers.

4. How do I put an article or announcement in the paper? A. To do this you should contact the person reporting that news or information. A list has been published for your convenience and in any event you could contact Mr. Sheil.

5. Will space be available for advertisements? A. If no objections to such a column arise, I anticipate a demand for advertisements and would hope to make this accommodation in the Beacon.

6. Do you find it necessary to schedule meetings for the organization of the paper? A. As yet, no, and hopefully not.

7. How are you financing the operation? A. The Beacon is currently being published on a voluntary basis and it is hoped this will remain so. However, a minimal price may be necessary to help defray operating expenditures that may arise.

8. How do I lodge a complaint? A. Gently, very gently.

9. What are your plans, as far as future issues are concerned? A. We have long range plans. Also we do not wish to make news but only to report it, to the best of our abilities.

10. Can people write to your paper with suggestions, stories, news, advertisements, etc? A. Yes. Please address your mail to The Beacon, Stella, Ontario....The Staff. Burning Questions: (To be discussed in future issues)

1. How do we stand with amalgamation as mentioned in the Whig-Standard?

2. Is a pipeline for milk transportation a joke or is such a thing possible?

3. How seriously has pollution affected fishing in Lake Ontario?

### Over The Line Fence:

\*Can you imagine what would have happened if a man and wife team of astronauts had gone to the moon? They'd have returned to earth, and as they were climbing out of their space capsule he'd have said, "Okay honey, let's have those moon rocks you packed", and she'd have answered, "The Rocks? I thought you packed them."

\*Son.. "Dad, will you buy me an encyclopedia?"Dad.. "No, by George. I walked to school as a boy and it's good enough for you."

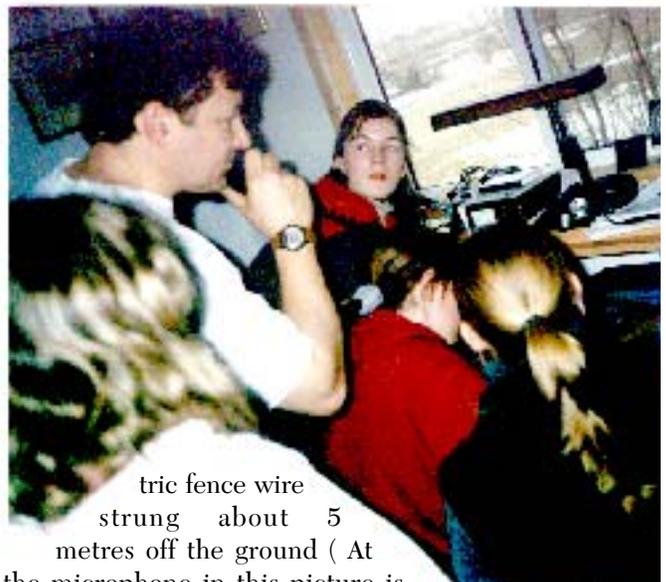
\*Dead Joke.. What has thirty-six legs and lives in the cellar? Answer.. The Boston Bruins.

\*Judge.."That will be \$30.00 or thirty days!"Defendant.. (holding out hand) "I'll take the \$30.00."

\*One Sunday morning a sign in front of a large church proclaimed the service was entitled, "Liquor, The Enemy of Man." Across the street another church bore a similar sign announcing the minister's message "Love Thine Enemies."

## Amherst Island Girl Guides On-The-Air.. February 16, 2002

An international event that puts Guides, Pathfinders and other girl groups in contact around the world via Ham Radio. Here the Guides of Janet Scott and Val Wolfrey's group on the island, plus others from the mainland, congregate to chat it up through the ether. They got to talk with other Guides in England and Quebec. All this while using a radio the size of a cigar box and a 100 metre length of elec-



tric fence wire strung about 5 metres off the ground ( At the microphone in this picture is host operator Tom Richmond, VE3IEY). Following this event on Saturday, the girls went on an overnight winter campout on the South Shore (cooking a turkey in a trash can), and then served a pancake breakfast the next morning at the school for a fund-raiser. A very busy weekend to be sure!

## NEWS From The GENERAL STORE

We've got some great movies in right now.

Jay & Silent Bob Strike Back

Training Day - Denzel Washington & Ethan Hawke

Rat Race - Rowan Atkinson, John Cleese, Whoopi Goldberg

Heist - Gene Hackman, Danny Devito

Hardball - Keanu Reeves

Curse of the Jade Scorpion - Dan Akroyd, Helen Hunt

Don't Say a Word - Michael Douglas

The Hunchback of Norte Dame 2

Disney Cinderella 2

Disney Balto 2.

And for those of you with DVD players,  
we have started getting in some DVDs also.

## WOMEN'S RECREATIONAL VOLLEYBALL

Monday Nights, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. at the Community Centre, starting Monday, January 28, 2002.

Come out and join for fun and fitness. Encourage a friend to come along. Teams change each week, so you are not obligated to attend every week. For more information, call Susie @ 389-2012 Sponsored by Amherst Island Recreation Association (AIRA).

## PAINTING LESSONS

Pay as you paint lessons.  
Phone Shirley Miller at 389-2588.

## EUCHRE

Friday night Euchres will be starting soon. Watch for the household mailer announcing the dates and times. A I.R.A.

## EMERALD SOCIAL & ATHLETIC CLUB

Info wanted... I'm interested in learning about this club for a future Beacon article. Sally Bowen at 634-3841.

## Cottage for Rent

3 bedrooms on North Shore Good swimming, very private. Call 634-1212.

## Two Cottages for Rent

North Shore July & August by the week Off season rentals can be by the week-end or short stay.  
Phone Susie, 389-2012

## Picnic Tables & Weather Vanes for Sale

Keith Miller 389-2588

## BABY SITTER AVAILABLE

-After school and weekends  
- Responsible  
- Red Cross Babysitting Certificate  
Call Whitney Fleming at 389-9869



## BABYSITTING



Torri Phillips  
Red Cross Certified Babysitter  
Available early evenings and weekends  
389-0512

I am collecting used stamps - any kind for the guide dogs, clean used clothing and books for the "Cats Meow". Used towels - cleaning products - A&P tapes and 12"x 12" knitted squares for the Napanee Ani mal shelter. Donations may be left in my front porch or call for a pick-up. Freda Youell - 384-4135 . The animals really need our help.

## SHEEP PRODUCTS From TOPSY FARMS

Blankets, Wraps, Yarn, Skins, Hats, Slippers & Insoles. Lambskins, \$60-\$70 Sheepskins, \$100.  
Phone 389-3444 for an appointment or visit the Bath Village Gallery [www.topsyfarms.com](http://www.topsyfarms.com)

## Summit International Canada

Carpet Manufacturer and Distributor  
Gord Forbes, Sales Agent ...389-8516

## Thomas A. Richmond, Certified Electrician

Home, Farm & Commercial wiring and repairs,  
right here on the island. 634-1855

## Phone Book Update

Please contact Jackie Sylvester at 389-1320 to add new names & or numbers to the AI Phone Book

## THE ONLINE Amherst Island BEACON

is readable with Adobe Acrobat 5.0 Reader, which is available FREE OF CHARGE at the website: <http://www.adobe.com> If you have an earlier version of the free Acrobat reader (such as 2.1, 3.0 or 4.0), you will not be able to read the newer PDF file type that the Beacon has been formatted in. So join the twenty-first century and get your free 5.0 reader now!