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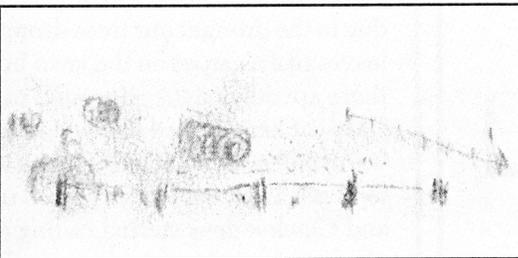
For October
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THIS ISSUE

- Ian Murray

What a relief to have more material submitted this month. There was a bit of a drought at the Beacon last month as well as in the fields.

There's nothing that we can add to what has been written already regarding the terrible events in the United States. In some ways, New York is another world but, without doubt, someone reading the Beacon has been directly affected by the disasters. We wish you well.



NEIGHBOURHOOD

- Lyn Fleming

Belated birthday wishes to Ernest Fleming, who celebrated his 94th birthday with his family, at home this summer.

Congratulations to Councilor Duncan Ashley and wife Kim, who celebrated their 10th anniversary in September.

Congratulations also to Zander and Nancy

Dunn, whose 5th grandchild was born on September 19 in Toronto. Son, Mark Dunn and his wife Elfi Schlegel welcomed their daughter Olivia Frances into the world.

Condolences to Noreen Welbanks and family, on the passing of her brother, Vernon Richards (husband of Leta), this week.

Kelly and Maureen McGinn took a "road trip" to British Columbia this month to visit family.

Doris and Joe Farrington, of Hollywood, Florida, spent a couple of weeks on the Island with Harry and Barb Filson.

The Annual St. Paul's Garden Party was held the last Saturday of July, and as usual was a great success. Lots of food and fun for all ages!

The Waterside Summer Series has finished for another year. This year the concerts alternated between St. Alban's and St. Paul's churches.

The Weasel and Easel is still open weekends for those last minute shoppers.

Welcome back to a great group of teachers at A.I.P.S.

The kids are back at school (please remember the Stop sign in the village!), the "summer people" have packed up for another year, the Back Kitchen is closed for the season and the leaves have started turn colour - it must be fall!

The Pollack family, John, Diane, and Samantha, are moving into the house where Peachy Eves used to live. They plan to live there until their house is built - on the lot on the other side of the road from where Diane's parents', Albert and Phylis Henderson, live.

Get well wishes to Edith McLellan, who recently made a trip to hospital.

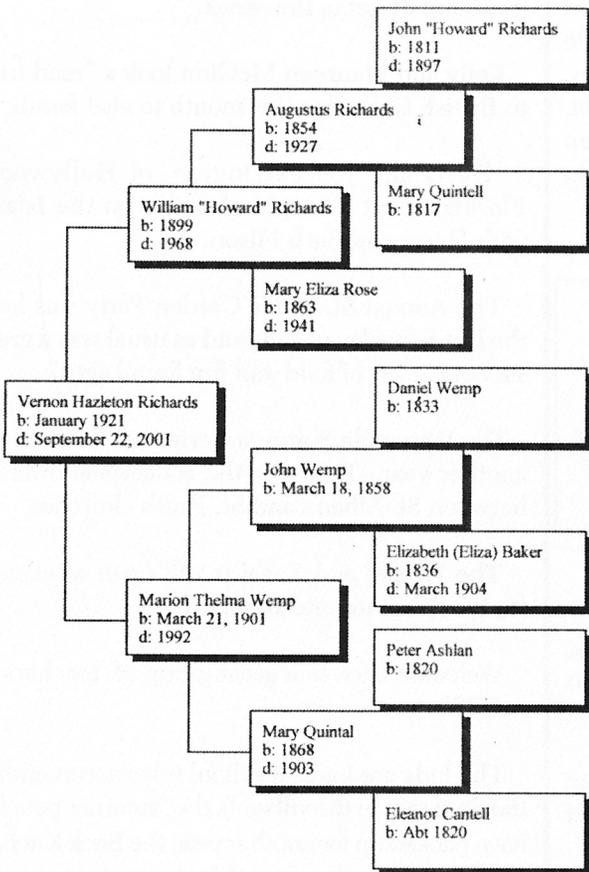
Jan Snee and Bonnie Azulay and family finished up the summer with a trip to the Maritimes.

John and Petrie Gavlas and daughters, of Nova Scotia, spent 2 weeks visiting family on the Island.

Finally, we send our messages of sympathy and support to our American family and friends following the events of recent weeks.

Staff note: Our condolences to the family of William "Billy" Bulch, who passed away on the Island, Saturday 29 September 2001.

Ancestors of Vernon Hazleton Richards



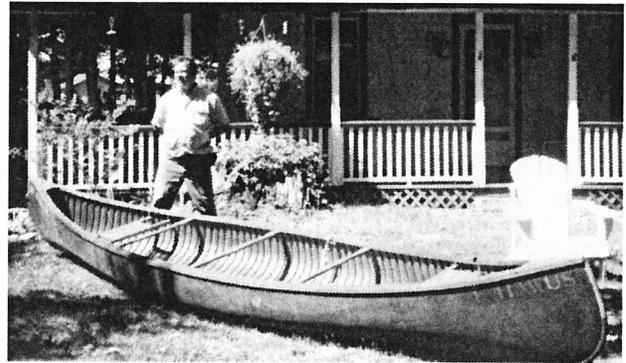
COUNCIL GLEANINGS

- Ian Murray

There was little of import concerning Amherst Island at the municipal level in the past month. The Neilson store project is covered elsewhere.

Council has referred the question of pleasure boats using township docks to the Recreation Committee to formulate some policy recommendations.

Other than that: no news is good news.



Tom Richmond (who is not using his pleasure boat at township docks) and his 18ft Peterborough canoe. This picture taken in front of Steve and Margaret Webb's Cottage on Stella Point.

JANET'S JOTTINGS

- Janet Scott

There is no doubt about it Fall is upon us. Now if you were watching for falling leaves we had that back in August when due to the drought our trees dropped leaves like a carpet on the lawn but there are other signs all around us.



My cat has decided to come in where it's warm and pretend briefly that he is a domesticated and not a feral cat. Then the feeder picked up in activity and Blue Jays and Chick-a-dees started calling and chattering. The male pheasant brought a young one to the feeder that was showing signs of the breeding plumage and there are more geese calling as they wheel and land. The deer have returned to munch on the fallen chestnuts and apples and the fawns have lost their spots and are growing fall coats. The chipmunks are scurrying around building up a store for winter and chattering and bobbing their tails at intruders. Several years ago when Noel McCormick was repairing our water line he dug up the storage chamber of a chipmunk and it was amazing how much food it had carted into this underground larder. Seed by seed it had filled a cavity about 2'x2'x2'; carried probably from beneath our feeder in its cheek pouches. The

swallows flocked earlier and most have gone although our hardy Tree Swallows will stay until the last. The shorebirds have been moving through as they migrate from the Arctic to South America. They stock up on the mud flats and weedy shores before flying on.

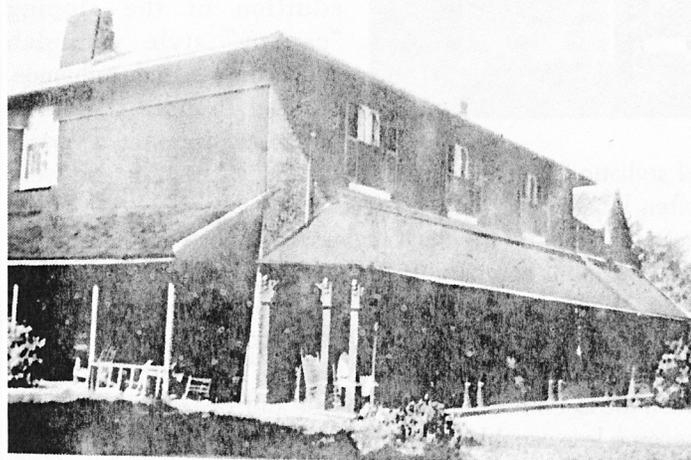
The Black Walnut tree that Bill Coulson planted about twenty years ago has finally produced and the walnuts are falling as the weather cools. The leaves that have hung on and are now changing colour are falling with the rains and soon Amherst Island will change from emerald green to shades of burgundy, browns and scarlets. The final clue that it was really Fall came today as the White-crowned Sparrows appeared at the feeder and AUTUMN WAS HERE!

Happy Birding

FARNHAM: 1853-2001

- A Short History by Janet Grace (nee Apps)

On Amherst Island, near the Eastern end of the village of Stella, sits the century and a half old building known as Farnham. This house has been the demesne of only two



families in its long history : from 1871 until 1970 (the first hundred years!) it was the home of the Moutray family from County Tyrone, Ireland, and from 1970 until the present day it has been the country retreat for the Apps and Grace family.

Farnham was built in 1857-58 for the land agent representing Major Robert Perceval Maxwell of Counties Waterford and Down, Ireland. The surname Maxwell was assumed by Robert Perceval after his maternal uncle, John Waring Maxwell, died without issue. Along with the surname, Robert Perceval also inherited the Maxwell coat of arms and several significant estates thereby united the Perceval and Maxwell families in name and property. Initially, the reason Major Maxwell purchased Amherst Island was to recoup the 30,000 pounds that his wife and her family (the Moores of Mount Cashel) had loaned to Lord Mount Cashel, the owner of the island. Although Maxwell was reluctant at first to become involved in this transaction, in the end he felt it was better to purchase the island than to assume the bad debt! He had every intention of selling the property as soon as a

profit was assured.

He met with Mr. MacDonnell, a Kingston solicitor and partner of John A. MacDonald, in London and proceeded with the purchase of Amherst Island in 1857, receiving title in 1858. Major Maxwell was a very prudent investor and was well known for his business skill. He managed to employ his four younger brothers as land agents and managers of his vast holdings and demanded exacting and up to date figures on the income these properties produced. In 1871 Maxwell's nephew, William Henry Moutray, was given the job of land agent for Amherst Island at the request of his family. A graduate of Trinity College Dublin, it seems that he had fallen in love with the gatekeeper's daughter at their home, Favour Royal. The family considered this an undesirable liaison and William was strongly encouraged to leave!! Love did, however, conquer all and Margaret followed him to Canada where they were wed and lived together at Farnham for the next 52 years.

William Henry Moutray was the third son of the Rev. John Corry Moutray, Rector of Eriglekeviough, County Tyrone, Ireland. His older brothers were the Rev. John Maxwell Moutray and Robert Perceval Moutray (Capt. Royal Navy). His mother was Maria Dorothea Perceval, younger sister of Robert Perceval Maxwell. On assuming the position of land agent, Moutray's duties involved administering the lease of land to tenant farmers. Throughout his tenure as land agent, Moutray was regarded as a kind and generous man, and, according to the meticulous ledgers left in the house, often lent a helping hand (and an interest free loan!) when a farmer came upon hard times. Often payments would be in kind or deferred for a month or a year until prosperity allowed the farmer to pay his debt. He was consulted regularly on legal and money matters and kept meticulous records on each tenant household as well as his own!

Aside from his duties as land agent, Moutray involved himself in many spheres of activity within the growing and developing island community. He was an excellent horseman and owned a stable of horses of which he was very proud. He served for many years as the Township Clerk and was instrumental in the building of the first Stella Cheese factory and the first grist mill on the Island, a community ice house and hay press. Moutray was actively involved in the Amherst Island Agricultural Society and hosted the annual Agricultural Fairs which were held for many years on his farm across the street from Farnham. Land for the fair ground was also donated by the Maxwell estate as well as sites for the Town Hall, Public Pound, 3 schools and the Presbyterian Church.

In 1883, when the need for a new township cemetery was recognized, Moutray granted the purchase of the present site from the Maxwell property for the sum of one dollar. He remained on the cemetery board for many years. He provided wise leadership in both social and religious matters and was a devout member of the Church of England, holding regular Sunday School classes in his own home and taught

by his wife. His foresight enabled the construction of the "cottages" on Stella Point as well as the erection of a "summer hotel" to cater to a thriving tourist trade during the summer. This was the first contact that Islanders had with "tourists" and the hotel was a very profitable venture for many years.

Farnham, during its early years, was home to a growing family and a meeting place for all Islanders. Older Islanders today can still recall an elderly Moutray, sitting at his roll top desk, wearing his "skull-cracker" with an ever present dish of candies close by. Here he would greet Islanders at any time of day for whatever reason! Mr. Moutray used to hold

larger meetings in the "ballroom" and hosted parties on the lawn to the east of the house. Racket sports were a favourite pastime and there are lots of pictures of picnics by the water, posed nicely with a couple of favourite steeds close by. Many of the pictures feature family members and among

those the five daughters and one son of William and Margaret -Mary, Anna Caroline, Elizabeth, Margaret, Emma and Maxwell.

Originally, horse drawn carriages and carts entered the grounds from a public road that was situated directly to the East of the property which explains why the house faces that direction. The gravel drive ended in front of the house where there were posts for tethering the horses and ample room to turn the carriages around. Along the South side of the property there used to be a fence which Mr. Moutray, reputedly, urged his horses over during their daily exercise. A boathouse was situated where the boat-slip now is and there were several other outbuildings to the West of the house including a separate frame structure which housed the summer kitchen, probably in an effort to keep the heat out of the main house. This building was moved sometime in the 20th century to the farmyard across the street (the summer kitchen is the middle building of the three).

When one looks at Farnham from the road, it seems that there are two separate and distinct structures, attached by a short hallway. The main house, with the verandah, was the first part to be built, followed shortly after by the "ballroom" and "schoolroom" addition. This addition was originally a frame structure but was clad in brick shortly after being built. The addition on the north side of the house was built when indoor plumbing became the vogue. This brought running water to the new kitchen and provided an extra bedroom, bath and toilet upstairs. Attached to the North of this was the

coal shed which effectively blocked out any view of the harbour!

Inside the house beautiful maple floors, protected for almost a century by a heavy layer of linoleum, are found in the front hall, dining room and parlour. The original tin ceiling in the kitchen is typical of the era and all woodwork in the house is original with the exception of the family room which was renovated in 1990. Upstairs, economy justified hardwood giving way to pine which was, once again, protected by that wonderful layer of heavy linoleum! The six original bedrooms have now become four and a large bathroom has taken the place of the maid's room. Of the three original staircases, two remain and one of those has been turned around to award us a wonderful view of Stella Harbour.

In style, the house seems to follow the classic formal and symmetrical lines of Georgian architecture, however the addition of the sloping "canopy" style verandah suggests a Regency influence. Indeed, houses like this, which incorporated a variety of stylistic features, were a trademark of the time and were often labelled "Ontario Regency". The continuation of the verandah around the South side of the house was completed in 1999 and is comparable to the original structure.

When my parents, Syl and Molly Apps, took over ownership of Farnham in the 70s, it was certainly not the house you see today. William and Margaret's only son Max had been the last inhabitant of the house and, over the years, as he became less capable of looking after himself, the house sank further and further into ruin. It came as no surprise to learn that many of the village children thought the house was haunted and there was the occasional "dare" to run up and knock on the door! I remember my first step into the house - followed by a hasty retreatthe smell in the house was overwhelming! The verandah had partially fallen down and the grounds were completely overgrown with weeds, trees and brambles. It was actually difficult to even see the house from the street!

The house had been heated by seven pot bellied stoves with accompanying stove pipes travelling at odd angles throughout each room and held by rusty wires to ceilings of cracked and flaking plaster. It was a liability to even walk through the house! But amidst the disrepair there were many surprising revelations - old newspapers under layers of wallpaper offering glimpses of life a hundred years ago; dusty, mildewed ledgers which have provided much of the historical background of Ontario tenancies; ice boat runners suggesting a pleasurable wintertime activity; beautiful plots of healthy



peonies - the remains of a well tended and beautiful garden. Farnham became a challenge of a lifetime and one that was undertaken with great care and hope. This is a legacy we have tried to keep alive. We have another 70 years left in our tenancy- time, I hope, to make the old house even better than it was in the beginning. Certainly our children have wonderful plans for the house ... when their turn comes around. When that happens, I will gladly relinquish the responsibility (I'll have no money left anyway!) and hope that there will still be time for me to sit out on the deck overlooking Stella harbour and watch someone else wash the windows!

NEILSON STORE PROPOSAL

- Hugh Jenney, AIMS

[The following letter was sent to Patrick Beyer, Recreation Director for Loyalist Township, on August 31, 2001, responding to the Township's request for proposals regarding what should be done with Neilson's Store]

This letter is to acquaint you with a proposal by the Amherst Island Men's Society that the township make available to us the heritage building known as Neilson's Store, in Stella, for a professionally organized Amherst Island Museum combined with a Weasel and Easel gallery/gift shop in the same space.

You may not be aware that The Amherst Island Men's Society (AIMS), which already has more than 40 members, was founded in June to be of service to this unique island community. Although we have not been functioning as a society for very long, one of the first things that has come to our attention is that much of our heritage is being trucked away by enterprising antique dealers who have been going door to door with ready cash. Much has been lost already, probably forever. A place to house and display vanishing artifacts seems long overdue.

The AIMS museum committee first met at the home of the Chair, Hugh Jenney, on August 14, 2001, to organize the business proposal which follows. Because time, at least for us, has been so short, we are going to propose an interim one-year arrangement to maintain the status quo while we consult an antiquities architect, further involve the community, conduct fund-raising events on and off the island, and pursue several grant opportunities.

When the year is up, and the necessary funds are in hand, with the agreement of the operators of the Weasel and Easel, we would like to see their arts and crafts operations expanded to encompass the whole ground floor of the old store, mixed in with museum-calibre displays of historic island artifacts such as furniture, tools, paintings, photographs, letters and other documents, dishes, quilts, clothing, toys, tools and machinery.

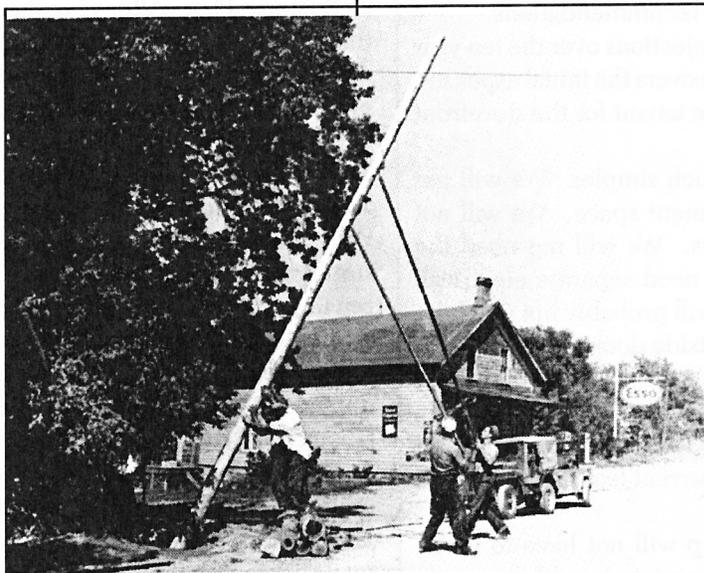
We would, at our own expense, open up the ground floor to its old store configuration and provide some cosmetic restoration of the interior.

Islanders not only have interesting items to exhibit, but have access to the knowledge and experience of two professional exhibit organizers, Andrea Cross and Bruce Burnett, who are both islanders and members of our committee.

Three thousand dollars was raised at the New Year's Dance for the Neilson store, which we hope would become available to the Museum Committee. In addition, we would hope to make the dance an annual fund-raising event to help us with the collection and display of island treasures.

If our application is successful, we plan to run the Amherst Island Museum as a non-profit venture, charging no admission, but encouraging visitors to make donations.

If AIMS becomes responsible for the whole building, which is what we are proposing, we would hope that the Weasel and Easel would divert their annual rental fee to us. It would be used to assist in the painting and refurbishing of the old store area, and for the acquisition, display and



Erecting a Hydro Pole in front of the Neilson Store.
(Note the WWII-era "Jeep" in the background)

restoration of artifacts.

Regarding the space required: we would need the entire building—downstairs for the Weasel and Easel and selected artifacts, upstairs for storage of materials awaiting display, being sorted or whatever.

We will also use some outside space to display large farm equipment and other weatherproof items of interest.

We submit that what we are offering would be a most valuable cultural and educational resource, not just for islanders, but for all the people of the township, and at very little cost to the municipality.

It will enable AIMS to return the building to its historic configuration and to mount displays depicting the history of this island settlement.

Among other things, the museum would seek to tell the story of how the island was first populated, its isolated island

agriculture, the cultural and artistic role of the island's women over the years, the sacrifices made by the island's young in at least four wars, the island's involvement in Great Lakes shipping through fishing, ship-building and the supplying of seasoned mariners, and the religious history of the island community.

The museum would depict island life before the ferry service and before electricity, and try to give present generations a taste of how these hardy people coped with the isolation and educated and entertained themselves in the process. This, we believe, is a heritage that should not be lost, however much the island and its population have changed.

Obviously, some renovations to the old store will be required. We are told that the building will soon need a new roof.

We have read the very thorough study done of the building earlier this year with its attached recommendations.

We have studied the financial projections over the ten year period until the hoped for income covers the initial expenses. There appears to be no immediate tenant for the storefront or apartment spaces.

Our proposal we believe is much simpler. We will not need the rebuilding of the apartment space. We will not need the fire stop between floors. We will not need the suspended ceiling. We will not need separate electrical, heating and water services. We will probably not need the second staircase and the extra outside door.

The roof can be restored to its original configuration without the added on gables which are not appropriate to the original style. This will make it simpler to re-roof and will eliminate the sources of the current leaks and the need to repair these extra gables.

Most importantly, the township will not have to be an apartment landlord with all the associated problems.

We would want the township to continue to do whatever is necessary to maintain the structural integrity of the building for a period of one year, until we are able to arrange funding for repairs, refurbishing, and the display of island artifacts. We would also expect that the township would continue to be responsible for grass cutting and snow clearance during that period.

From the report and our own careful examination of the building building, it appears to be quite sound structurally.

We would expect you to continue to insure the building under whatever blanket policy you have currently for township property. We, of course, would be responsible for the contents.

We are also planning to apply for available federal and provincial grants to return the Neilson Store to its original state. These grants could also be used for such improvements as a furnace and siding and hermetically sealing the basement for storage.

If you should decide to accept our proposal, we would

like to invite a representative from your Loyalist Heritage Committee to join us at our next Museum Committee meeting and to become a permanent member.

We also intend to include on our committee representatives of St. Alban's Anglican Church, St. Bartholomew's Roman Catholic Church, St. Paul's Presbyterian Church and the Women's Institute to assist us in stopping the steady loss of our Amherst Island heritage. With your help we will succeed.

Members of the committee: David Brady, Bruce Burnett, Andrea Cross, Bruce Caughey, Neil Johnston, Hans Krauklis, Gary McDonald, Keith Miller, Don Pepper, Peter Trueman, Ralph Woods, John Wright.

Appendix "A" Specifications

1. Type of Business - Non-profit museum in association with the Weasel and Easel gallery and gift shop.
2. Business Plan - After year one, AIMS would sublet space to the Weasel and Easel and charge \$1,000 per annum rental, would ask visitors for donations and would expect to raise operating, maintenance and display funds by sponsoring dances and other fund-raising events.
3. Space Requirements. We would need the whole building. The ground floor would house the museum proper plus the Weasel and Easel; and the second floor would be needed for storage of artifacts being sorted, awaiting display or needing repair.
4. Renovations Required. We would like to restore the roof-line, the building's exterior and the ground floor to the original dimensions of the old Neilson's Store, and would supply the labour and materials ourselves wherever possible.
5. Expectations re Bidder's Responsibilities - We would undertake all of the above providing funds can be raised and grants can be obtained, at no cost to the township or its taxpayers. We would also undertake normal cosmetic maintenance of the building.
6. Expectations of Loyalist Township's responsibilities - AIMS would expect the township, as an interim arrangement, to make any repairs necessary to the building's structural integrity, and to continue its general maintenance program for a period of one year. This will give the AIMS museum committee time to consult with an architect specializing in old buildings, apply for federal and provincial grants and generate more interest and raise funds locally.
7. Leasing terms including length of lease and anticipated rental fee - One year initially. The Weasel and Easel would continue to pay rent to the township during that period.
8. Insurance coverage - When the time comes, AIMS would assume responsibility for covering contents. We would hope that the Township would see fit to maintain whatever policy it now has on the building and for public liability.
9. References: Letters attached from Nancy Henshaw, President of the Amherst Island Women's Institute; Ian Murray, former Reeve, Amherst Island Township; John Schram,

Canadian Ambassador to Ethiopia; and Harold Redekopp, Vice President, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation.

10. Other Pertinent Information. - AIMS is very anxious that this project proceed, and if Loyalist concludes that any of our terms are unreasonable, or unrealistic, we are more than willing to sit down and try to resolve differences.



WOMEN'S INSTITUTE SEPTEMBER MEETING

- Nancy Dunn

Having had no meeting in August the A.I. Women's Institute began the new season with a "true" pot-luck supper at the home of Jean McIntyre in Kingston.

The meal consisted of half a dozen delicious salads and half a dozen delectable desserts with one casserole thrown in for variety. There were 13 in attendance.

The business meeting was conducted by president Nancy Henshaw and after the usual formalities of minutes, roll call (responded to by recounting highlights of our summer), financial reports etc. there were announcements of anniversaries of Tamworth W.I. (80th) and Grandview W.I. (50th). Several showed an interest in attending these events on Sept. 24th and Nov. 14th respectively. The area annual convention will be in Glenburnie on Tues. Oct. 16th.

A committee was struck to organize the Seniors' Christmas dinner to be held on Dec. 2, 2001. Invitations will be sent in due course but if you qualify (age 65+) and don't receive an invite call Nancy Henshaw to be put on the list.

It was announced that the club has purchased a copy of the inventory of the "Heritage Resource Buildings of Amherst Island", compiled in the summer of 2000, that Anna Hitchins will serve as our representative on the Amherst Island Men's Society's committee to restore the former Neilson's store and that AIMS would be glad to hear from us (or anyone) of persons who are ill or incapacitated and are in need of meals, assistance around the house, shopping etc. on a short-term basis.

Joyce Haines drew to our attention that the government is no longer providing plaques for 4H members to display their awards for the completion of their courses. A motion was made to set aside funds to buy plaques, preferably from an Island artisan.

After hearing a report that the A.I. phone books are still selling well the group decided that, in view of the fact that there have been many newcomers to the Island in the past year, there should be an update published in the form of an addendum. Diane Hieatt is in charge of this. If you wish

your name and number to be included call her at 389-7074 or e-mail her at "dhieatt@kingston.net".

There will be no more bake sales this year. Thanks to all who made the four we had very successful.

The October meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on THURSDAY, Oct. 18th at St. Paul's Presbyterian church hall. It will be an open meeting. The speaker will be Dr. T. Anastassiades, head of the Division of Rheumatology at Queen's University and Director of the Rheumatic Diseases Unit. His topic will be "Rheumatic Diseases". All are invited.

The evening closed with a brown bag auction from which a goodly sum was raised via the sale of some very interesting packages.

A.I.M.S.

- As recorded by secretary of the day Ralph Woods

In an effort to keep the community informed about our work we are publishing our minutes to our members as well as publishing this update in the Beacon.

The regular meeting of A.I.M.S. met on Sat. Sept. 8th after a congenial breakfast attended by about thirty men.

Bob Thompson called the meeting to order and congratulations were expressed to Vicki Keith and John Munroe for their swim as well as to Peter Trueman for his appointment to the Order of Canada.

After a favourable financial report by Jim Whitton the other committees reported as well. John Kuti expressed concern for Island residents who were returning to their homes after a stay in the hospital. A committee was struck to further assist with this particular concern.

The Historical Committee made a proposal to Loyalist Council for the use of Neilson's store as a museum for Island artefacts. This would be in conjunction with the continued use of the store by the Weasel and Easel Gallery and gift shop. The important areas outlined in this proposal are: (a) we be granted a year to acquire the necessary funding to proceed with the project; (b) the township for insurance purposes will still retain ownership of the building; (c) that the museum committee work in co-ordination with the Weasel and Easel Gallery and gift shop and in the same space; (d) our objective is to keep artefacts which are presently being trucked off the Island; and, (e) we would like to restore the old store to its former area and size with the removal of some of the present partitions. We are also suggesting the removal of the dormer windows which have been placed on the roof.

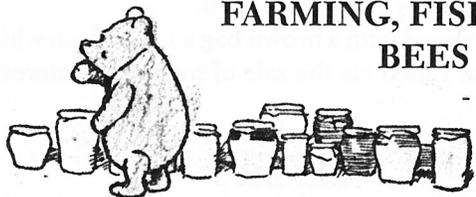
At the time of writing this article the proposal has been accepted and the committee will now proceed with acquiring the necessary funding which will be required to proceed.

Dr. Brian Grace reported on his suggestion of having a Farmer's Market in the village. This market would be for produce or baked goods supplied by Island vendors. It would not be a flea market for yard sales or T shirts. It was the consensus that we would proceed with this market in the spring after Island interest had been assessed.

A suggestion of a perfect pie contest and sale was made to raise funds for the museum or other endeavours.

We are also making inquiries of Loyalist Township for replacement of trees which we could acquire through the township.

The meetings are usually concluded by about 10 a.m. and we invite all Island men who are free at this time to join us on Oct. 20th for the next meeting.



FARMING, FISHING & BEES

- Ian Murray

Hugh Filson
and Raymond

Wemp agree that it has been a difficult year for fishing. Hugh said he's given up on yellow perch but is going to go after white fish in November. The nets he put out earlier in the summer caught mostly moss and weeds. Raymond says that there are yellow perch out there but not in the usual places. He stressed that the lack of spring runoff, the summer heat and winds have made catching fish more difficult than usual.

Mr. Shane who has quite a few bee hives on the Island said that he got a very good honey crop from here - much better than on the mainland. Black bears have become a real problem for some of his mainland bee yards.

Adam Miller reports that his corn yields are probably a bit less than 1/2 of normal. His dry hay tested 13% protein, first cut silage was 16% and second cut was 20%. Vince Eves says their corn is probably a little better than 1/2 a normal crop.

The beef and sheep farmers are hoping that the rain this last week of September will be followed by some good grass growing weather so that pasture can replace the hay and grain that is being fed now.

ARTHUR JOHN WOLFREYS (1927-2001)

- Lyn Fleming

Dad was born on July 4, 1927 in Richmond Hill, Ontario. He always joked that that was why the U.S. celebrated the 4th of July - they were glad he wasn't born there! He was the 2nd of eight sons born to Bert and Mable Wolfreys. At the age of 15, he fibbed about his age so he could join the Merchant Marines. After several trips back and forth across the Atlantic, he returned home following the sudden death of a younger brother (Henry).

He worked alongside his father in a munitions factory in Toronto for several years. At age 19, he "rode the rails" west with a friend to help with the harvest. He went back the next year with brother Lloyd. In his late 20's, he spent a year and a half in a Sanitorium in Hamilton, Ont., until it was decided that he didn't have tuberculosis. It was during his confinement, that he met a nurse, Katie Thiessen, whom he married several months after being released from hospital.

He drove a delivery truck and then worked for Superior Propane, before joining the Vaughan Township Police Force in 1957. During this time, my sister (Gail) and I arrived. In his spare time, he started his own sign painting business, which steadily grew, until he quit the police force in 1966 to work full time as a sign painter. In 1968, he moved his family "south of the border" to Florida. He became the junior partner of Schafer Signs and eventually the sole owner. He and mom spent many weekends traveling around Florida and later around much of the U.S. and Canada, but always looked forward to their annual treks north to Canada to visit family and friends. I was lucky enough to work with dad in the sign business for 6 1/2 years. He was a strict father (much to the chagrin of 2 teenage daughters!) but always had lots of love and hugs too. Dad had a wonderful sense of humour and no one was immune when all the "Wolfreys boys" and their families were together.

His love and fascination with flying was a lifelong passion. It meant family outings on Sunday afternoons usually ended up at Malton Airport in Toronto to watch planes landing and taking off! After moving to Florida he realized his dream of becoming a pilot. He rarely missed a space launch - from the Apollo's to the shuttles. He was an accomplished leather craftsman, making and carving belts and wallets, dabbling in woodworking, ham radios and more. Then came his most recent passion - computers. His was one of the first sign shops in Orlando to have a computerized sign machine, was instantly hooked on his home computer and is responsible for dragging me kicking and screaming into the computer age! Anyone he knew who had a computer, received email from him on a daily basis. There are many of us who don't get so many e-mails anymore.

Dad was the treasured grandfather to 5 grandsons and 2 granddaughters, (Jason and Stephanie and Scott, Todd, Stewart, Christy and Kevin. He had a unique and special relationship with each and everyone of them. He was predeceased by brothers Henry, Don and Ernie and survived by Lloyd, Howard, Leonard and Ellis.

Dad was a special brother, brother-in-law and uncle to so many in the Wolfreys and Thiessen families. He was a much loved father and grandfather. Finally, he was best friend and husband of 47 years to Mom. We miss him terribly.

A memorial service will be held for Art Wolfreys at 11:00 a.m., on October 13, at St. Alban's - Stella.

GENEALOGY

- Ian Murray

The relationships listed below are for interest only and are intended to show some of the relationships between the older Island families. Our Family Tree program has 78 pages of kinships for Stratton Reid - one of the largest I've come across. This is because he has some of the same ancestors on both his mother's and father's family trees and many of his ancestors belong to large and well-documented families such as Glenn

and Wemp.

The following are related to Allen Bruce Caughey: Peter Barr, 2nd cousin twice removed; Garry Filson, 2nd cousin twice removed and 3rd cousin twice removed; Tracey McDonald, 2nd cousin three times removed; David Fleming, 2nd cousin twice removed; Allen Glenn, 2nd cousin twice removed; Annette Philips, 2nd cousin twice removed; Anna Hitchins, 2nd cousin; Scott Marshall, 2nd cousin twice removed; Keith Miller, 2nd cousin twice removed; Ted Welbanks, 2nd cousin once removed; Steven Willard, 2nd cousin twice removed.

The following are related to Robert Stratton Reid: Kim Ashley & Neil deHaan, 6th cousin once removed; Bonnie Baker & Cheryl Hutchings: 4th cousin, 5th cousin, 5th cousin once removed, 6th cousin once removed; Rita Brown, 2nd cousin; Mary Claus, 3rd cousin once removed, 4th cousin once removed, 5th cousin and 6th cousin; Hugh Filson, 2nd cousin twice removed, 4th cousin once removed, 5th cousin once removed, 6th cousin, 5th cousin once removed, 6th cousin once removed and (again) 6th cousin once removed; Larry Fleming & Debbie Scott, 4th cousin once removed; Bob Gibson, 4th cousin, 5th cousin, 5th cousin once removed and 6th cousin once removed; Marion Glenn, sister; Annette Philips, 4th cousin, 5th cousin, 5th cousin once removed; Garry Hitchins, 2nd cousin and 5th cousin; Warren Kilpatrick, 2nd cousin once removed; Noel McCormick, 3rd cousin, 5th cousin, 5th cousin once removed and (again) 5th cousin once removed; Ryan McGinn, grandnephew, 3rd cousin once removed, 5th cousin once removed, 5th cousin twice removed, 6th cousin, 6th cousin once removed, 5th cousin 3 times removed and 6th cousin twice removed; Don Miller Jr., 4th cousin, 5th cousin, 5th cousin once removed; Kathy Reed and David Wemp, 1st cousin once removed, 3rd cousin once removed, 4th cousin once removed, 5th cousin, 5th cousin once removed, 6th cousin and 5th cousin twice removed; Elsie Willard, sister; Steven Willard, 2nd cousin once removed; and Ted Welbanks, 2nd cousin, 3rd cousin once removed, 4th cousin once removed and 5th cousin once removed.

LETTER HOME

- Christopher Kennedy

We can no longer pretend that it is still summer. The kids are all back at school, and some of the older ones have left for university. Quite a step from Amherst Island to Toronto or Ottawa. Many of our summer visitors have gone, only coming back for the occasional weekend. Even most of the cattle from the



Community Pasture have had to leave, as the drought has meant very little fall pasture. Many of the Island farmers are already digging into the winter hay supply. The little bit of rain today, September 24, may be too little and too late to help much. Before winter we will have to count the bales and decide how many ewes we can keep.

It will soon be time for the Turkey Supper at the school and Thanksgiving. Along with the cooler weather the deer start to move around more, with the bucks looking for does, and vice versa, so we have to leave a little earlier for the ferry or we may end up with some very expensive venison. The deer at least seem to have had a very prolific year. It has been a good fall so far for getting jobs done around the farm. It has been dry and sunny for drawing out the manure, and that is about finished. We do have to spend a lot longer feeding the sheep each morning though. Usually at this time of year they should be all out on pasture. Listening to the radio this morning there were interviews with farmers in Saskatchewan, and we seem to be much better off than them, as many of them have no crop at all. Thanksgiving is a good time to remember the people less fortunate than we are.

NEWS FROM THE GENERAL STORE

We would like to thank Winston & Carol Morris for the large fan we have at the store now. It certainly came in handy during the hot, humid days we had this summer. We would also like to congratulate The Amherst Island General Store soccer team. They finished the 2001 season as the A Flight team champions. Way to go team! Congratulations to all.

We will still be operating on our summer holiday schedule until Oct. 14:

Mon - Thu 9am - 6pm
Fri & Sat 9am - 9pm
Sun 10am - 6pm

Greeting cards for all occasions are now available at the store, and are sold for \$2.50 each plus tax.

We have a great selection of movies in right now.

The Family Man - Nicolas Cage, Tea Leoni
3000 Miles to Graceland - Kurt Russell, Kevin Costner
Hannibal - Anthony Hopkins
Exit Wounds - Steven Seagal, DMX
Traffic - Michael Douglas, Catherine Zeta-Jones
Many others to choose from.

STORE HOURS FOR THANKSGIVING WEEKEND ARE:

Fri 9am - 9pm
Sat 9am - 9pm
Sun 10am - 6pm
Mon 10am - 5pm.

Happy Thanksgiving Everyone!

NOTICES



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 Animal 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.

Fresh fruits and Vegetables, in season
Barbara Reid
10850 Front Road
389-0675

WOOLLEN PRODUCTS

From
TOPSY FARMS
Blankets, Wraps, Yarn, Sheepskins
389-3444
or at
The Weasel and Easel
&
Bath Village Gallery

SUMMIT INTERNATIONAL CANADA

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

Thomas A. Richmond

Certified Electrician

Home, Farm, Commercial work,
right here on the island.
634-1855

FOR SALE

Vinyl Windows, various sizes, \$20.00 to \$45.00; 8 foot sliding door - \$75.00. May be seen at 9910 Front Road and by contacting 549-2177 after 6:00pm.

FOR FREE:

Precast concrete stairs- five steps and aprox 4'x4' top landing, with a steel railing built-in. They are hollow and can be picked up with a tractor for transport. In Very Good Condition and in the driveway- the first one to show up and take them wins.

Tom Richmond 634-1855

A.I. Women's Institute invites everyone to hear Dr. T. Anastasiades of Queen's U.: "Rheumatic Diseases", Thurs. 18 Oct. 7 p.m., St. Paul's Church Hall

AMERIKS' SCHOLARSHIP FUND - 2001

- Diane Pearce, CEO Loyalist Township

Applications for the Ameriks Scholarship Fund, in memory of Reeve Frank Fleming, will be received by the Committee until October 31, 2001.

Amherst Island residents who currently attend post-secondary institutions on a full time basis are eligible to apply. Application forms are available at the Ferry Office in Stella during office hours, Tuesday to Thursday. Please forward completed applications to Loyalist Township at 263 Main Street, Odessa, K0H 2H0, or leave at the Ferry Office.

WEASEL & EASEL

Thanksgiving is the last weekend of our season.
10% discount on most items in the store.

Store Hours: 11am-5pm Saturday and Sunday.
and also Thanksgiving Monday.

THANK YOU

Thank-you to our many family, friends and neighbours for the emails and calls while we were down south; for all the many, many comforting and kind words, messages, cards, visits, flowers and food, following my dad's (Art Wolfreys) passing. A very special thank you to Leslie McDonald and Bayridge Travel, who worked into the night to get us on the first available flight home. It's been said many times before how special and supportive the Island community is at a time like this, and it is so true.

Again, thank you so much.

Lyn Fleming.

The family of the late Stratton Reid would like to extend their thanks for the many acts of kindness during the sudden loss of a dear husband, father and grandfather. For cards, visits, calls, food, flowers and donations. To St. Paul's P.C.W. for the lovely lunch after the funeral service. To the First Response Team, Ambulance Attendants, Police, Rev. Zander Dunn, and Paul Payne and his staff for their assistance and comforting words during this difficult time and also to the Pallbearers.

Thank you.

Barbara, James, Sandra, Brooke and Brandon Reid
