

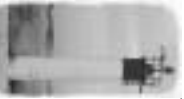
# The Amherst Island Beacon

Newsstand  
\$1.00 / Issue

Issue 303

[www.amherstisland.on.ca](http://www.amherstisland.on.ca)

May 2003



Syke Fleming & Rachel Scott

TR

The Amherst Island Beacon  
RR1,  
Stella, ON K0H2S0  
CANADA



Robert & Marshall Glenn binding oats at the top of the hill on the Third Concession.

-from Vera Hogeboom

## THIS ISSUE

-Ian Murray, Editor

We, here at Beacon headquarters, hope that you like this new format. It seems like the right thing to do given the quality and quantity of written material and photos that are being submitted. There is also a lot of material to re-print from older Beacons (if we run shy of new material).

Tom should now have room to increase the type-size so that those of us with poorer eye-sight can read more

easily. He can also include more photos.

So, we are committing ourselves to producing at least 16 pages each issue, for a few months at least (we discovered that this month we had to go to 20 pages to fit in all the text and photos provided to us)... We do not expect to raise prices - especially if the new format leads to more sales.

\*\*\*

Please remember to send e-mails with written material to me and photos to Tom. I try to acknowledge each e-mail so, if you don't hear back from me in a day or 2, re-

send or phone me. Yes, material can still be left at the store or mailed.

\*\*\*

Notices and advertisements are still free.

I am sorry that I didn't have time (or initiative) to start a directory of services available to the residents of Amherst Island. Perhaps I'll do it in the fall.





### The Amherst Island Beacon

Issue 303  
May 2003  
Published monthly. The Beacon is wholly funded by paid subscriptions and by copies sold at the A.I. General Store.

#### Subscription rates:

Canada \$19/yr  
USA \$21/yr  
Overseas \$24/yr  
May printing:

325 copies.

#### Subscriptions:

Leslie Gavlas  
General Delivery  
Stella, Ontario  
K0H 2S0

#### Editorial:

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#### Layout:

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#### Deadline for all submissions:

19th of each month!

#### Printed by:

Lori & the crew  
at: Kwik Kopy  
Printing  
655 Arlington  
Park Pl.  
Kingston, Ont.  
(613) 634-1311

#### Credits:

CorelOffice 2000  
PageMaker 7.01  
PhotoShop 6.0  
Acrobat 5.05  
Family Tree Maker 9.0

#### Photos by:

DE:Don Tubbs  
TR:Tom R.  
CK:Chris Kennedy  
JH: Judith Harrower  
...others as noted!

## NEIGHBOURHOOD

- Lyn Fleming  
Get Well wishes this month go out to Jack Forester, Donnie Miller, Rachel Scott, Peter Trueman, and Ted Welbanks. Continued good health wishes go to Earl Tugwell, Susie Caughey, Noreen Welbanks, Sally Bowen and Faye Wemp.

Condolences to John G. Mayman and John L.



### The Fleming family farm on the Third Concession

JH

Mayman on the death of John Charles Luscombe, their brother-in-law and uncle, respectively.

It was with mixed feelings that the Anglican Congregation said good-bye to Rev. Andrew Chisholm and his wife Lisa at a farewell dinner held in their honour at St. John's Hall, Bath. They are wished well in their new jobs in Merrickville and Ottawa and with their new home in Kemptville. However, Andrew has left "big shoes" to fill and will be dearly missed by his congregations on the Island and in Bath.

Bobby and Michael Shaw recently returned from their annual trip to England where they visited family and friends. They also went to Rome, spent a month in the Greek Islands of the north-eastern Aegean, traveling by ferry boats on much less regular schedules than ours and doing day-hikes over ancient paths and stony mountain trails. Their fellow-passengers in winter included funeral parties, fully-armed troops, a few goats and sheep and only two other tourists - both Canadians.

Jim, Lynann and Ben Whitton spent the Easter holi-

days visiting family in Arizona; John Gavlas spent a week on the Island visiting family, before returning home to Nova Scotia; and, Syke Fleming spent some time in Peterborough visiting family.

Welcome (back) to Calvin and Sandra Thornhill, who will be living in their home on the South Shore on a permanent basis again.

The College and University students have returned home to the Island for the summer and a few brave

summer people have started to open their summer homes and cottages.

Helen Bulch recently sold her home in the Village and moved to Amherstview and we wish her well there.

Welcome to Sue Toumey, who bought the Back Kitchen and will be living on the Island permanently. Many are counting the days 'til the Back Kitchen opens for the season again and look forward to the changes and additions she will make to the menu, as well as to the favourites she will keep. Good Luck Sue.

Welcome to Lorna Willis, who recently bought and moved into the Albertan home. Lorna works at Queen's. Welcome to Janice Sydoroko, who recently purchased Helen Bulch's home. Janice was introduced to the Island as a child by her father, Rev. Twill, who was the United Church Minister.

Congratulations to Janet Scott, who was recently awarded the Queen's Jubilee Medal for more than 30 years of volunteer work that has benefitted the community.

### News From the General Store:

We would like to thank the members of the AIMS group for helping to remove our old cooler. The manpower was very much appreciated. We have the new cooler in now, a little smaller but it works great. Thanks to all our customers as well for your patience and understanding while we were using our back-up cooler.

Nestle ice cream novelties are back in once again with a few new ones.

Summer hours will be stating once again starting the long weekend in May.

Our hours for **Victoria Day** weekend will be:

Fri. May 16: 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.  
Sat. May 17: 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.  
Sun. May 18: 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Mon. May 19: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Summer hours will be:

Mon - Thurs: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
Fri. & Sat.: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
Sun: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

We have these **new releases** in:

#### Ghostship

1 Spy-Owen Wilson, Eddie Murphy

#### Jackass

8 Mile - Eminem, Kim Bassinger

#### The Four Feathers

Heath Ledger, KateHudson

#### Road to Perdition

Tom Hanks, Paul Newman

#### Blue Crush

Maid in Manhattan - Jennifer Lopez

#### Stealing Harvard

- Jason Lee, Anthony Hopkins

#### Harry Potter 2

Victoria Hall Tea Room

Crafts are selling well, come in and browse. By popular demand, Tea Room **Gift Certificates** are available for 'anyone who has everything else!' Drop by for Island Videos @ \$16.95 ... or just to say 'Hello'.  
**REMINDER:** Afternoon card games please call 389-5389. Open Tuesday through Sunday noon to 6pm.

**Weasel and Easel is opening** for its 8th season on Saturday, May 17, 2003. We are open weekends, 12 noon to 4pm, until July 1st, when we will be open daily. Please come in the weekend of the 17th, have some coffee and a bite of something.

### News from The Back Kitchen:

The Back Kitchen will be open **May 16, 17, 18 & 19 from 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.** with the menu remaining the same as last year. The new menu will go into effect beginning May 23<sup>rd</sup> with new sandwiches, salads and subs. Susan Toumey.

#### Picnic Tables & Weather Vans For Sale

Keith Miller 389-2588

#### Visit Watercolours, Etc.

The studio gallery of Shirley Miller. We are exhibiting the works of several local artists. Paintings, prints & lessons available.

2545 Third Concession...If we are home, we are open! Tel. 389-2588

#### Godden's whole-hog sausage

Made using the finest cuts of pork including hams, chops, loin, etc. Choose from regular, honey garlic, tomato oregano. \$40.00 for 10lb. box. Available at Poplar Dell B&B: Call Susie at 389-2012 or Lori at 705-653-5984.

#### Babysitter available

-After school and weekends.

- Responsible

-Red Cross Certified

-Red Cross Certified

Call Whitney Fleming :389-9869

#### Babysitting

Red Cross Certified Babysitter. Available early evenings & weekends. Torri Phillips: 389-0512

#### Babysitter

- Red Cross Babysitting & CPR certified - available after school, early evenings & weekends. Call Beth Albertan: 389-2662

#### Seasonal Winter Storage for Boats, etc.

right in beautiful Downtown Stella! In-door, reasonable rates. Dayle Gowen, 634-3815

### SIGNS

Computer generated, vinyl lettering for mailboxes, vehicles or small signs. Different styles of fonts and colour choices. Lyn - 634-2509

#### The Lodge on Amherst Island

Rental available for special occasions. Call Molly at: (613) 634-1388 or (416) 533-5997



#### 2 BEDROOM COTTAGE

on Stella Point: By the week or weekend, May-September. Call Molly (416) 533-5997

#### NORTH SHORE COTTAGE

for rent year around. By the week or week-end. Please phone 389-2012.

#### LAKESHORE RUBBER STAMP

Lakeshore Rubber Stamp has recently moved to Amherst Island and would like to inform old and new customers of this new location.

I can provide business and art stamps, daters, signature and similar products. All stamps are custom made on the premises and can be ready in 24 hours. 389-8441 or fax 389-9770. selfc.welbanks@sympatco.ca

We are available most days. Linda Welbanks

#### Summit International Canada

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

#### Father's Day Breakfast

by ISLE Sunday, June 15th, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Please watch next month's Beacon for more details

### Warm Wool for Cool Wedding gifts,

#### from Topsy Farms

Blankets, Wraps, Yarn. Phone 389-3444 for an appointment or visit the Enchanted Shores on Bath Road [www.topsyfarms.com](http://www.topsyfarms.com)



#### Thomas A. Richmond, Certified Electrician

Home, Farm & Commercial wiring and repairs, right here on the island. Ontario Electrical Safety Authority Authorized Contractor Program. 634-1855

**Ted Gow Painting, wallpapering, tiling, home maintenance and repairs.** Free estimates. Island references. 634-5404

#### HAY BALES FOR SALE

on the Island: 40-45lb bales. Wayne Fleming 389-9869



#### THE RECREATION ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL Spring Dance and Fish Fry Saturday, May 17, 2003

\$25.00 per couple (Dinner/Dance) or \$10.00 per person (meal only).

Last year, tickets were sold out and people were turned away, so reserve yours early from any Rec. Association member: Rick Bedford: 389-8434; Bonnie Baker, 389-1579; Tessa Mayman, 384-1783; Jane McGinn, 389-3155; Carol Morgan, 384-0847; Larry or Lyn Fleming: 634-2509.

#### ISLE SPRING FUNDRAISING

Coming in the Spring, students will be selling bedding plants. Please watch your mail for the household mailer with more details and order forms. We would also like to thank the community groups and individuals who have helped out and/or made donations this year.

#### FERRY OFFICE HOURS

Mon, Wed, Fri.: 9-noon & 1-4  
The ferry office will be closed Monday May 19, 2003 and open Tuesday May 20, 2003.

## NOTICES & ADS

### W.I. Bake Sale:

1st of the season Friday 16 May 2003 from 3:45 til sell-out at the General Store

### Public Invited to Open Women's Institute Meeting

Wed. 21 May '03 - 7 p.m. at St. Paul's Hall. Hear Tom Sylvester: "**John and Neal McMullin, Loyal to a Degree**"

The McMullin brothers were not your common, garden variety Loyalists. In fact, there was little in common between them. Thomas Sylvester will reveal all, relating their complex odyssey from the revolting colonies to the welcoming frontier of Amherst Island. Their life experiences included a solid proposal that would have stopped the American War before it started, elopement in NYC, reconciled father-in-law, dotcom business failure, debtors, and Lord Dorchester's personal favour, all before they got to Amherst Isle in 1792.

Amherst Island is still populated with John's family, while brother Neal left on the early boat. Thomas will divulge the extant Neal McMullin Kingston house of 1796 and the McMullin petticoat defense of Sacketts Harbor in 1812. You haven't heard Loyalist Studies like this before. **All broad swords must be surrendered at the door.** (also-Refreshments afterwards). For more information,



tion, call Kirsten Bennick at 389-0636

### Giant Book Sale on the Island-

August 2 & 3, Civic Holiday: Spring cleaning? The Women's Institute are collecting books for our sale this August. Paperbacks and hard-covers in

good condition are gladly accepted (sorry, no textbooks or magazines). Donations can be left with Freda Youell (345 Stella

Forty-Foot in the village) or Kirsten Bennick (8875 South Shore Road), or can be picked up by Judith Harrower (384-0435) or Jackie Sylvester (389-1320).

### PCW Mother's Day Ham Dinner,

Sat. May 10, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

At the Community Centre

Tickets: Adults: \$10.00; Children 5 - 12, \$.50. Under 5, free.

Advance ticket sales only

To order phone: 384-0799; 389-5945; 389-2459 or 384-7480.

### House Tour:

Enjoy the Summer Solstice

House Tour & Strawberry Social

June 21 from 10:30 to 4 PM

384-7830 or 389-5389

### Want To Have Some Fun?

Volunteer 4-H leaders for

Amherst Island are urgently

needed for fall clubs. For more information please call: Freda, 384-

4135; or, Susie, 389-2012.

### Awareness Workshop: Saturday, May 24, 2003.

This workshop is to experience the relationship between a balanced body and stillness of mind, and the beauty of mindful attention.

**Complementary Health:** I offer treatments in Cranial-Osteopathy to relieve pain and stress caused by acute and chronic problems and physical ailments. This is a gentle, non-invasive approach to restore balance and health. For information or appointment for either :

Joelyne Leyton, R.P.P. 384-6488

### Food Bank Blitz, May 14th.

**2003:** The Amherst Island Community Sunday School and the Sparks, Brownies, Girl Guides & Pathfinders will be going door to door after school to collect for the annual Food Drive. The Island always gives so generously but we

ask once again. Please have your food at the door or leave at the store. Thank-you, Janet Scott

389-4608

### Arts at the Lodge on Amherst Island - Botanical Watercolour Workshop with Pamela Stagg



An introduction to botanical painting with demonstrations and exercises and an opportunity to complete one or more botanical paintings. June 14<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>, 2003 Saturday through Monday, 9:30 - 4:30 Daily. Pre-registration required. Contact: Molly Stroyman 416-533-5997 1 2 3 Albany Avenue, Toronto M5R 3C5 [ms@mollystroyman.com](mailto:ms@mollystroyman.com)

**Wanted to Buy:** Canoe Doesn't have to be pretty, Just has to float.

**For Sale:** Air Conditioner (window size)

Not Pretty, But very cool, \$40

For either, Please Call Morgan 389-2046. ...and "Go Sens!"

**A Gift:** I have Llew's water-drawing outfit available free to anyone willing to use it to draw water for Islanders at reasonable rates. (\*This condition makes or breaks the gift - recipient must use at least some of the time to draw water for Islanders at no more than \$35 a load, tops.) Consists of tank, Honda pump, hoses, and truck if desired, or can put it on your own trailer. Call Caroline Yull at 384-4071

### Amherst Island Video sponsored by AIMS. Available in VHS and CD format. You can purchase copies at the Amherst Island General Store, or through Neil Johnston at 389-5389

**Frozen Meals Designed for Seniors** offered by Lennox and Addington Senior Outreach Services. Restricted and special diets can also be accommodated. Contact: Freda Youell at 384-4135 for menus, meal descriptions and prices.

### I am collecting used stamps (any kind) for the guide dogs, clean used clothing and books for the "Cat's Meow." Used towels, cleaning products, A&P tapes &

12" knitted squares. Freda Youell 384-4135

### A website called "The Islands"

Greetings to all Amherst Islanders, and those with connections to the islands. I would like to send out an invitation, and a desperate call to anyone interested in the history and/or genealogy of Amherst Island, and/or Garden, Wolfe and Howe Islands. Since 1999 I have been the webmaster of a genealogy and history site called The Islands. It is now over 450 pages and growing weekly. I am currently in need of more submissions, especially for Amherst Island. If anyone is interested in submitting copies of photos, documents etc, or would like to work on a write up about the island churches, schools, cemeteries, stories, biographies etc please contact me! This is a free website, and credit will be given to the submitter. Please see what's already online at: <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~theislands/index.html>. You can email me at "pjwylie@sympatico.ca". Please put Amherst Island somewhere in the subject line. Or write to Jen Wylie, 1898 Micksburg Rd, RR5, Cobden, Ont, K0J 1K0

### Tim Hicks Plumbing and Heating

Water treatment, pumps, heating; in floor, radiant; forced air; solar. Certified Master Plumber. 545-3541

### Wine Tasting

To inquire about the next Wine Tasting at Madden's Courtyard in Bath, please call 352-3600. This event is in support of the Fairfield-Gutzheit Foundation.

### Country Seats

Repairs to wovven chair seating; Reed & Ash, Splint Cane & Fibre Rush. Call Johanna Mackinnon at 352-7453

Congratulations to Amherst Island Public School for another fantastic musical. This year's Spring Musical, "The Canada Goose", was performed, under the direction of Cathy Secker, on April 23rd to a "packed house" at the school.

Every child had a part, from JK to grade 8 and everyone was amazing! I may be a little biased, so see the center spread in this issue, where Neil Johnston has sent a "review" to the Beacon.

\*\*\*

[Staff: From the Heatts' real estate newsletter: David and Elaine McIlquham have purchased the home of Mac MacCrae and Charlotte Reid. David has ties to the Island that go back some two or three generations: Michael and Linda Joll, of Brampton, have purchased Jim and Barbara Bowman's home.]

\*\*\*\*\*

## WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

- Nancy Dunn

President Joyce Haines welcomed fourteen members of the A.I. Women's Institute to her home for their regular meeting on Wed. 16 April 2003 at 7 p.m. We are glad to have Joyce Brown of Bath as a new member. We were also greeted by the Treasurer, Freda Youell, who provided tubs for our money - this is a new procedure. The collections, however, are not new. Besides our regular givings, "Pennies for Friendship" is a monthly gathering of all our one-cent pieces which we donate to "Water for All" a fund to help provide clean drinking water and to finance basic sanitation projects around the world. This past year (ending on 31 March '03) our branch contributed \$173.00 to this fund. Not only our pennies but the proceeds of our brown bag auctions (see below) go to this endeavour.

After our usual opening ceremonies the roll call was answered by the paying of our annual dues. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved and the Treasurer's report received along with short reports from the standing committees. The Public Relations Officer (PRO), Nancy Dunn, gave an account of the number of hours put in by local members at W.I. functions and on W.I. volunteer efforts. The total came to over 1800 hours.

Several future events were briefly discussed - namely, lunch at Clinton Kilpatrick's Auction on May 10<sup>th</sup>, a wedding brunch in mid-July and the August Book Sale. It was decided to support the Heart and Stroke "Jump Rope" fund-raiser at the A.I. Public School by doing the tallying and counting and by providing cookies for the participants. The date is 23 May. The group will have its first bake sale of the season on the Friday of the May long weekend at the store. That same weekend they will begin the new season of the Farmers' Market with their refreshment booth at the Stella fairgrounds site.

Nancy Henshaw announced that the spring District meeting will be 15 May in Camden East and encouraged any members to attend with her and Joyce. The quarterly magazine of

the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario (FWIO) was handed out. It includes reports and pictures on activities of various branches around the province. There is also a column on the lobbying efforts of the FWIO. Resolutions are passed annually urging government action on such varied topics as: education on enhanced foods, genetic engineering, trafficking of women and children, a pension plan for care-givers and resources for HIV/AIDS counseling.

The annual meeting portion of the evening included a thank-you from the President to the executive and members for all their enthusiasm and support over the past year, as well as the yearly financial report which has been reviewed and was accepted. It concluded with the installation of the new officers for 2003-04: Joyce Haines will be president; Mary Kay Steel, secretary; and Freda Youell, treasurer. All other offices were filled except for vice-president.

There being no other program because of all the necessary year-end business, we ended the evening with a brown (and some not-so-brown) bag auction conducted by Judy Harrower with much hilarity. Some lovely and useful items exchanged hands. And then there were the inevitable scrumptious eats provided by the hostess and Kirsten Bennick.

The next meeting will be at St. Paul's Church Hall and will speak about the McMullen brothers' feud. Date: Wed. 21 May, 2003 at 7 p.m. ALL WELCOME!

**"Will the ice EVER leave?"** the Beacon asked last month.

The previously recorded dates probably were measured against the standards of years gone by, when the ferry tied up for the winter. They probably indicated when navigation could restart in the spring. Those were the days before the hub-pler system, even before the time when the old boat (MV *Amherst Islander* of 1955) was repeatedly run up onto the ice, and a loaded dump truck was driven back and forth on the deck to break the ice up.

By that measure, the bulk of the ice finally left on April 14th. Some ice remained until six days later in Stella Bay, east of the village.

TR



**Judy Roberts with Gavin Ashley, Cody Mayman & Fae MacArthur painting in the Primary class.**



## AMHERST ISLAND PUBLIC SCHOOL

- Lyn Fleming  
Well, the big news this month at A.I.P.S., is that the Spring Musical is over and it was a great success. After months of work and rehearsals, everything came together on April 23rd for our presentation of "The Canada Goose". The following day, Students, Staff and Volunteers packed up sets, costumes, sound system and choral risers and took the show to Bath Public School, where they performed for approximately 200 students and staff. Videos of the play are available for \$10, by contacting Lyn at the school. Many thanks to Jim and Lynann for video taping and donating the videos of the play.  
Grades 3 and 6 Testing will be held during the week of May 12th.  
Jump Rope for Heart will be held on May 23rd this year. Students will skip rope to raise money for the Heart and Stroke Foundation. The Women's Institute will cheer on participants, donate refreshments and help count pledges.

**"The generation in power has the luxury to ignore the debt they're imposing on us. They'll be gone when the bills come due. We won't."**

*Caroline Frederickson,  
recent graduate of Yale University.*

## AIMS REPORT

- Neil Johnston  
The April meeting opened with an excellent re-

past of scrambled eggs and home fries prepared by ISLE. Members thanked Lynann Whitton and Ben, Wayne, Karen and Talia Fleming and Beth Albertan. AIMS members were most appreciative of their efforts.



The meeting, chaired by John Kuti, came to order and Dick Dodds was appointed chair for the May meeting. The following was decided:

- That the 'Lion's Share' of AIMS contributions to Neilson's Store will be not less than 51% of funds raised from an approved activity.
- That the June House Tour and Strawberry Social will be chaired by Hugh Jenney.
- That the New Year's Dance will be operated by a committee consisting of Andrea Cross/Bruce Burnett, Doug and Gayla Williamson, John Munro and Vicki Keith, Neil Johnston and Bernice Gould.

- That all AIMS projects or events would begin with the selection of a chairman whose duty it would be to put together a plan and present it to AIMS with specific requests for budget and volunteers.  
The Saturday Farmers' Market starts May 17<sup>th</sup>. Brian Grace, Doug Williamson and Tom Iverson offered to get this event rolling. A list was circulated for members to sign up to man the AIMS table. Bruce Burnett suggested that a committee be struck to refurbish Brian Grace's hay wagon to facilitate moving 'salable items' in and out IF suitable storage space is available.

John Kuti offered to chair a Perennial Flower Sale event.  
Bruce Burnett suggested the time has come again to clean up the Island and with our growing membership it would be a piece of cake to allocate road sections to all members at the next meeting to pick up the flotsam and jetsam.

Stanley Burke offered to explore with the Township if wild flowers could be planted along the Island roads. Report due at the next meeting.

Based on his Island knowledge Keith Miller told the mem-

Hopefully some of the older generation will remember for all of us. The questions about the electricity, well, I think I know some of it. I have pictures at home of the men working on the poles on the Second Concession, and I think they stayed with Ross and Tena Filson on the Second, our close neighbours. We have pictures of these men in sleighs with a much younger Harry Filson, and a very much younger me, it was in the winter time and I am guessing from the size of me that it might have been around 1947 or 1948. I know the men remained very close to Ross and Tena for years, and always reminded me of how small I was when they first came to the Island. But I am sure that the older generation would remember much better than I.

The second question I hopefully know is about the first television. Now, again, I am working from a child's recollection. It was either owned by Kenneth Miller, or by Joe and Josie Saunders. Joe and Josie were my great aunt and uncle, Aunt Josie being my Dad's (Gordon Glenn), aunt. The only living relative that would still be on the Island would now be Albert Henderson, and he and my Dad would have been first cousins.

I can remember us going to their place, which is now where Ted and Faye Wemp live, and watching the circus on Saturday mornings, on this new TV. My Aunt Josie would invite the village children and my family to come and then she would give us a snack while we were watching the circus. It was a lot of fun and she was always entertaining us in some way. . . .

I really don't know about the first car on the Island, but when my Dad died in 1992, a former Islander, Morrison Scott, sent me a very nice letter, reminiscing about Dad and days gone by. He mentioned in that letter, that years before, he had a new car and it was traveling on the Third, near where my Aunt and Uncle, Marshall and Marian Glenn, used to live. Apparently, the car had stopped and Morrison had no idea how to get it started again. Along came Dad with two horses and a wagon and got under the car and "tinkered" with it, and after some time got it going again, and then got back into the wagon and drove off. Morrison said he would always remember how amused he was by that incident.

Anyway, keep up the good work. . . . I really enjoy the articles that are coming through. I especially enjoy the interviews with the older generations of Islanders. These are the stories that we grew up with, and that is what makes the Island as unique as it is.

\*\*\*

From **Jane Miller:**

Thanks for the reminder sticker! Hard to believe another year has passed. Glenn bought the tax business he was working for and moved it into our home. . . . Jamie gave me a Blue Tick/Walker Hound/Jack Russell Terrier puppy for Christmas. . . and there hasn't been a dull moment since then! . . .

I'm really enjoying the biographies, genealogies, history, and old photos in the Beacon. Thanks to everyone!

From **Tom Rutledge:**

I currently do research on ships (mainly sunken ones) in the Kingston area. Recently I had a look at your site and saw a couple of pictures of the original Amherst Islander that is now sitting in 20 feet of water in the Bateau channel on the Howe Island side. I'm wondering if I can get a copy of those photos and if there are any others available. Any picture or tidbit of information of ships in the area would be appreciated. I use some of the information on line at my website: [www.northerntechdiver.com](http://www.northerntechdiver.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

## THANK YOU NOTES

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all of our family and friends who have supported us through all the beautiful cards, baking, phone calls and kind words, during the loss of my brother, Carl MacDonald. Many thanks as well to everyone who has given a donation to the MacDonald Trust fund, created for the education and benefit of Carl's two surviving children, Ashley, 16, and Krystal, 12. Your generosity is gratefully acknowledged and deeply appreciated. Laurene Kilpatrick

\*\*\*

A big thank you to the Road Crew for keeping the roads clear during a difficult winter. We appreciate the effort that went into getting Dianne to and from work, and the sheep were delighted with all the nice grain that the trucks were able to bring us. The folks at the Head.

\*\*\*

Thank you for the many cards, gifts, and best wishes during my recent hospital stay and at home recovery. I feel truly honoured to have so many friends in such a kind and caring community. Ted Welbanks

\*\*\*

The Amherst Island Recreation Association would like to thank everyone who came out and supported the Community Euchre's this year. We had a great time running the Euchres and hope everyone enjoyed themselves. Congratulations to the high scorers (as well as the low scorers - who persevered and had fun anyways!) We look forward to seeing you January for the next season. We hope to see you all at the Fish Fry on May 17th. A.I.R.A. members.

\*\*\*

We want to thank the First Response Team for their prompt, efficient and reassuring presence. The Island is lucky indeed to have dedicated volunteers who give their time and efforts for us all. Peter and Eleanor Tueman

**"I have something to tell everybody, I've glimpsed our future, and all I can say is- go back."**

*quoted in the book "13th Generation)- Abort, Retry, Ignore, Fail!"*

And to think we do this for very little return . . . raw wool still isn't worth enough to pay the shearing expenses, let alone the wear and tear on people and animals. Ah well, that's farming for you . . . and that's the end of this month's letter home - bye for now.

## OTHER

## LETTERS

From Bob Young, (the man Zander wrote about in the March Beacon):



**The sand beach on the Third Concession, many years ago**

**from Vera Hogeboom**

Many thanks for the March 2003 issue of The Amherst Island Beacon. The news-magazine is professionally assembled and uniquely embraces the Island residents. Congratulations to you and your colleagues. The Harvard article brings back many far-flung memories. I hope there is a positive reaction from Island residents of that era.

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From **Jan Sneep**:

As some of you already know, it is with mixed feelings that I have to tell you that we have sold our house here on Amherst Island and have bought a place in Kingston.

We will be sad to leave a place that has so many special qualities and where we have had so many happy times . . . however after some months of consideration and for very many reasons the timing was just right for us to make the move this year . . . the market for island water front properties has not been so good for years and we decided to strike while the iron was hot.

The kids were at first upset about leaving all their friends behind, but within a day they were looking forward and excited about something different. No question it will be a big adjustment come September going from a small school with 32 students, to class rooms that have 35 plus kids in them.

We will miss the sunsets, having dinner in the porch, the crystal clear starry nights, the deer, the snowy owls, the ducks & swans in the bay, the totally quiet nights, the long walks in the fields, and of course, not least, our wonderful fellow Is-

landers.

Our closing/moving date is August 5th so we will have some time to play on the dock and have a few nice dinners on the porch.

The new owner will be Joyce Reid, who spent quite some time this past winter here on the Island house sitting for Stan & Peg and others and so is known to many already.

\*\*\*

From **Juanita Glenn**:

My brothers and I were the sixth generation of Glenns living on our farm, the first one in on the Second Concession. Wayne Fleming now owns the farm. Years ago in Amherstview, my parents and I started and ran "Juanita's Nursery School and Day Care Centre" . . . . We ran it from 1969 - 1973.

I have wanted to write to you previously to tell you how much I enjoy getting my Beacon in the mail, and then reading what is going on at "home". Amherst Island will always be home to me, many many memories are floating around in my head.

I thought I would try to answer some of Judith Harrower's questions in her new monthly contest. I think it is great to see how many people can recall her questions, and I think it helps people come together in a way, that maybe they wouldn't otherwise. Now, mind you, my answers are probably way off, because the answers would have been when I was a small child, and I have no one here to confirm what I am about to tell you.

bership that the rink at the rec centre needed help to be made functional and that a nature trail on the Island would be a worthwhile long range project.

Following Chris Laffin's speech to members only, the meeting adjourned.

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## JANET'S JOTTINGS

- Janet Scott



The Sights and Sounds of the Marshall Forty Foot on an April Morning

As the dog and I set off on our regular stroll up the Marshall Forty Foot we scare the assortment of birds away from our feeder. A mixed flock of black-birds take to the air. There is the strutting Common Crackle with his iridescent royal purple head and shiny black body feathers. Looks aren't everything because no matter how regally he struts, his voice comes out like a squeaky wheel. You'll be able to pick him out in a flying flock by his keel shaped tail.

The numerous Red-winged blackbirds are feeding as well with their military red epaulettes and boot polish black feathers. Their calls are translated as "Ommeee"; hence the name of the town near Peterborough with its Aboriginal name. The female Red-winged Blackbird is dark brown and streaked, necessary as camouflage when she nests among the tall grasses. The other member of our mixed flock is the Cowbird. The male with russet brown head and black body and the female an all over mousy brown but their call is a sweet almost underwater trill. No nest building for them! Mrs. Cowbird drops her egg off in another bird's nest for daycare and never returns. This adaptation allowed the cowbirds to travel with the buffalo herds eating ticks and other insects annoying the herd and yet still carry on the species.

There is a White-throated Sparrow in the underbrush at the side of the road. Both the White-crowned and the White-throated Sparrows have black and white crowns but the White-throated Sparrow can be distinguished by the yellow spots, lores, on each side of its beak. This bird thrills the North woods with its "O Canada, Canada, Canada" call. The similar White-crowned Sparrow forgets the words and kind of goes "O Canada buzz buzz".

The Cardinal is trilling his heart out on the East side of the road with his clear, sharp whistle. Later Mrs. Cardinal the duller version of this scarlet fellow will lay her eggs in a nest hidden among the scrub and then leave her mate to raise the first brood while she lays a second nest nearby. I suppose this allows two nestings in a short season but creates one frazzled Poppa.



**Michael Shaw & Peggy Coulter, at the Lodge**

**TR**

On the rise as we look to the west the skeleton of a hay loader reaches out of the hedgerow towards the sky. This piece of machinery when pulled along by the team of horses shuffled the loose cut hay up its slope and into the hay wagon. There, expert farm workers stacked the wagon so that a load was built, not with easily stacked bales but with loose hay as it was gathered up from the raked windrows. This hay was then transported by the wagon, no sides, carefully to the barn where a fork pulled by a single horse lifted the hay from the wagon and winched it across the loft to the waiting men who built the loft. This stark memorial to long ago times brings back memories of the creak of harness, the smell of horses, the clunk and swish as the fork released and the shadowy voices of friends past. Avery Brown used to tell me of the farmers starting at the east end of the Island and haying each farm as they worked west along the South Shore. Ed McCormick told me that he abandoned the hay loader years ago when he lived on this property. Dear friends gone but not forgotten.



**The Victoria Hall Tea Room**

TR

My remembrances of summers on the farm are interrupted by the noisy, raucous calls of crows. They are converging on a tree along the hedgerow two fields over. You can see them coming from every direction. This is not a convention or a fight in the schoolyard. What brings them honing in on this spot . . . A Great Horned Owl! By day the crows harass the roosting owls unmercifully but I imagine by night the Owls get their own silent revenge.

A Northern Harrier disturbed by the noisy neighbors drifts across the road and sets up its search pattern on the west side of the Marshall Forty Foot. This elegant raptor glides low across the fields wearing a delicate grey coat with snowy white front and displays a white rump patch. The female, larger than the male is brown streaked but also shows the rump patch. They have yellow legs and long narrow wings.

The new Bluebird nesting boxes that Chris Lyons has placed along the fence have Tree Swallows in all of them. In his research he read that Tree Swallows won't nest in boxes close together and he hoped that by putting the boxes up in pairs he could keep one empty in case Bluebirds stopped by BUT... Island Tree Swallows are sociable and they just moved into both. If you're walking along that road check out the doorways. These have been created to discourage Starlings from using the

boxes. I'll tell you a secret (They don't always work). We got a Bluebird on the Christmas count near David & Betty Wemp's and in the Fall I saw one on a wire near Russell & Jane McGinn's, so keep watching. Perhaps they will nest again on the Island.

In our early days on the Island, almost twenty years ago now, we put up forty Bluebird boxes that a gentleman on Wolfe Island had made for us from barn boards. We waited in anticipation but we had 39 nesting Tree Swallows and one wren. These boxes are falling into disrepair now but for years the Tree Swallows have given us pleasure. Once a male Bluebird spent an hour trying to get the nearby female to enter the box in our northeast fence corner but she wouldn't fall for it.

The Chickadees by the Owl Woods corner are calling with their two note call, similar to a soft Pee Wee, and not their regular Chickadee-dee-dee and the Snipe is making its winning sound as it free falls from a great height with the wind whistling through its feathers as we turn for home but the best sound of the day was last as the Brown Thrasher sings from the tip top of a tree. In summer this russet bird skulks along the ditches and quickly hides as a flash of red brown when you approach but in Spring he sings his duplicate series of trills and warbles and JOY from the very highest point. All is well with our world. I'm back! Good Birding!

## COUNCIL CLEANINGS

- Ian Murray

The Amherst Island Recreation Committee was recognized as being a sub-committee of the Loyalist Recreation Committee.

\*\*\*\*

From the Fire Chief Calver's quarterly report: there were 5 emergency calls on Amherst Island; there were also 7 fire train-



**Wayne Fleming & Tom Richmond on the smoke detector blitz last fall.**  
Laura Gartner photo

which many new Islanders were unaware.

Thank you so much for stimulating one aging mind, and hopefully others.

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## ROOFING

- Ian Murray

The warmer weather should bring plenty of roofing jobs for Amherst Roofing. Covertie, and other local contractors and this will lead to lots of work for Island roofers.

Nick McGinn of Coverite says they expect to be "busy, busy" starting in the next week or so, depending on the weather..

Eric McGinn of Amherst Roofing says that the brutal winter weather and the melting snow in spring has kept some staff busy trouble-shooting and making roof repairs. "There were some days when we'd have 50 calls" for leaking roofs. They also expect a busy season.

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## LETTER HOME

- Don Tubb

'Fixation' - a preoccupation with one subject, issue, etc: ob-session (Random House Dictionary - Second Edition). We could add to the above definition... 'see shearing'.

The job sounds so simple . . . with the aid of four excellent hired helpers (Caroline, Danny, Beth & Danielle), Chris, Ian, Don and Dianne need only to keep three professional (read "fast") shearers supplied with dry ewes: the fleeces picked up; and, the shearing area tidy. Its kind of like the job description for a nuclear bomb tester: be able to press big, red button, and to write down effects on self while being engulfed in a firestorm of heat, pressure & radiation... simple!

When the weather is nice (i.e. no rain, snow, sleet, hail, ice pellets or any other kind of precipitation), it is just hard work - however, when you add cold temperatures, rain/snow and wind into the mix, it becomes an organizational nightmare!

We barely have room in the barn for a day's shearing (upwards of 600 ewes) and certainly not enough room to feed them inside. So, with one eye on keeping the holding pens upstairs full, the other eye on the breaks in the rain (including running into the house to check out the satel-

lite radar), we run the sheep out to be fed and watered. When the rain threatens or, worse, starts, quick action is called for so we bring in our black and white enforcer, Ed (our oldest border collie). He can, with a little help from us, move the flock inside again at a trot.

When enough ewes are sheared, we run them back down to the new barn where they can stay dry and warm. In fact, they didn't come out for a week until it warmed up . . . except, of course, for their grain.

This is all background work . . . the real shearing consists of a very precise dance performed between shearers, roustabouts, and ewes that makes a ballet look as organized as a mosh pit. In theory, every minute and a quarter a sheep is done whose fleece needs to be picked up and the area swept before the shearer can bring the next ewe out, all the while keeping out of the way of the other two shearers. (More than one unfortunate helper has found him/herself sitting on their butt getting a very close haircut when they didn't move quite fast enough!) In reality, three fleeces can hit the floor at the same time or a ewe escape a pen or any other number of complications can arise, all needing instant attention.

Once the fleece is picked up, it needs to be spread out, the dirty bits removed (and bagged), the fleece is then graded, rolled and bagged appropriately. Plus the bags needed to be regularly changed and stored away.

The only respites occur during two half hour breaks and a one hour lunch. Dianne cooks up a storm of goodies and has a steady supply of drinks available. Lunch is tasty and filling plus its spiced with conversation and news.

It is intense, it is long, it is tiring and, at times, it is trying, with the only real satisfaction occurring when everything is cleaned up, knowing that we have survived another shearing.



**A broad side with a barn door**

JH

5680 Front Road and across from the Neilson's store, where a grist mill also existed, run by Sid Pringle. There was one in Emerald located across from what used to be the general store run by John Clyde.

- Carpenter shops were located on Farham property and further to the west across the creek.

- Five sites had local inns, one where St.Albans is, where the Back Kitchen is now, The Amherst Island Store, the north-east corner of MacDonald's lane at Front Road, and the lodge at 320 Macdonald lane.

Some of the names were "The Marksman" and "The Dominion".

- Three General Stores were owned by Thomas Polly, located at 5600 Front Road which later had an ice cream parlor and housed the Weasel and Esael. Mr.Neilson joined Mr.Polly in 1865 in the dry mercantile business, and in 1873 Mr.Neilson started his own general store which remained in the Neilson family for 108 years. The Amherst Island General Store was previously the Dominion Hotel but during prohibition the Island "became dry" and the hotel was sold in 1919 to the Glens. In Emerald the general store was built by Reginald Fowler, run later by Reginald In-stant and his mother, sold to Henry McGinn which burned in 1921. Mr.McGinn rebuilt the store, later sold it to Mr.Klipatrick who moved the store to its present location (the garage at the corner).

On the north side of the road there was a grist mill operated by the Wemps.

- Stella Point originally was the site of the Island's ship building industry until the trees were depleted, then became Camp St.Louis which was eventually bought by the Neilson brothers and run as a holiday spot.

- Over the years many private homes have been the sites of restaurants such as the homes at 155 and 345 Stella Forty Foot.

\*\*\*

This will be the last Quiz time for the summer months as I will be frolicking in my garden (could be wearing a tutu), but I encourage all Islanders to pause, take note and appreciate what they have by living on the Island. Count the number of de-



**The Waterside Summer Series is coming! Above, the Romantic Guitar trio of Pat Hiemstra, Madeline Owen & Pascale Margely practicing in August of last year. For more information, call Bill Harris at 384-2407. BH photo**

serted houses, the number of bridges, the number of marshes, enjoy the wildlife bobbing on the waters, soaring overhead or fleeing across the land. I would like to propose to ALL Islanders to submit what they consider represents what the Island is to them. I will offer to take a picture if you lack the time or a camera, and later on share these with the Beacon Readers. It does not have to be a spectacular view, perhaps a secret spot, people, wildlife, the weather conditions, buildings.

Have a wonderful summer and my gratitude to those Islanders who encouraged a new-comer to appreciate what this Island has to offer.

Finally I would like to thank all the Islanders who shared their memories, information and comments with me, especially Anna Hitchins, Leslie Gavlas, Helen Miller, Laurie and Freda Youell, Marion Glenn and the "Gibson girls". Susan, Cora and Hazel. Listening to them at a large family gathering with their two mainland sisters, gave me the idea, what a wealth of history and human interest there was on the Island, and of

**"People are always talking about how wild and exciting they were, but the key word to remember is "were," because there's a long list of dead, famous wild people."**

*Christian Slater*



ing sessions of 90 personnel hours, and 3 medical training sessions of 55 personnel hours by the Amherst Island station.

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From a letter to the CAO from Fire Chief Calver: "The Emergency Management Act replaces the Emergency Plans Act. Whereas the previous Act gave municipalities the authority to create emergency plans, the new Act requires each municipality to have an emergency management program. The elements of an emergency management program are . . . specified by Emergency Management Ontario (EMO) . . . . The standards set by EMO . . . require each municipality to achieve the following three outcomes within one year of the proclamation of the Emergency Management Act:

- Perform a community hazard identification and risk assessment;
- Achieve the Essential Program standard . . . . ;
- Adopt an emergency management program by by-law." Included with this letter were 2 pages of "program standards" which are beyond the scope of this Beacon report.

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The following was adopted by Council:

1. That advertising signs be approved to be located on the fence located on Township property by the ferry parking lot on West Side of the Stella 40 Foot.
  2. That the advertiser be responsible for covering the cost of the ad signs as well as a yearly rental fee of \$50."
- The sign by-law is over 20 pages so those who want to put up signs have lots of interesting reading to do.

\*\*\*

The 2003 budget has been passed: \$15.9 million. Here are some of the ways our tax money will be spent: council members, \$134.8 thousand; fall municipal elections, \$44 thousand; administration, \$615.2 thousand; by-law & animal control, \$73.4 thousand; crossing guards, \$59 thousand; emergency services, \$845.8 thousand; police services, \$1.63 million; various grants, \$59.3 thousand; recreation & culture, \$1.17 mil-



**Keith Miller on the job for the Township... and mugging for the camera as a double for a certain middle-eastern celebrity (the homemade mustache is a Shirley Miller original!)**

TR

lion; transportation services, \$2.17 million (including \$1.69 million for our ferry service); planning, \$136 thousand; and, solid waste, \$472 thousand.

These expenses are not all paid for by municipal tax revenues as some services are paid for, at least in part, by the user. Other revenues come from tax dollars filtered through federal and provincial governments.

The foregoing is not in any way meant as criticism of the way our money is spent; it is information only. The amount of work that goes into the Loyalist budget is impressive. Anyone wishing to verify this is welcome to go through the documentation. I recall how difficult it was to develop (and understand) the budget for the former Township of Amherst Island, and Loyalist is far larger and more complicated.

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"As part of a long-term project, the Township is continuing to fund improvements to the shore roads on Amherst Island, particularly Front Rd. between Lots 2-9 and the South Shore Rd between Lots 7-20. The 2003 program is aimed at completing land survey and proceeding with Environmental Assessment, as required."

**NEW REPRINT AVAILABLE**

**Amherst Island: A Detailed Survey**

by Thomas Sylvester

**Available for the first time since 1994.**

*Research into land and property lines as laid out for Sir*

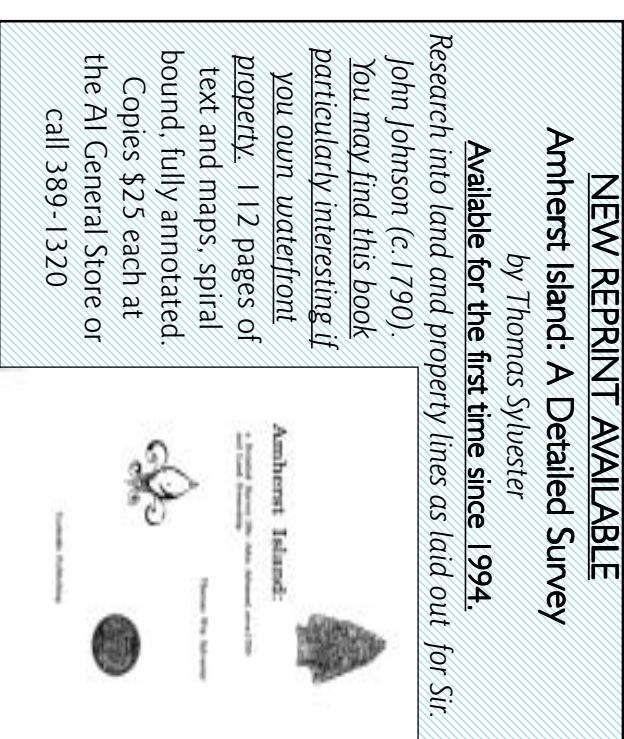
*John Johnson (c.1790).*

*You may find this book particularly interesting if*

*you own waterfront*

*property. 112 pages of text and maps, spiral bound, fully annotated.*

*Copies \$25 each at the AI General Store or call 389-1320*



# An Interview with Helen Caughey

- Zander of DUNN INN

You had to be there. On Sunday, April 13, many gathered to worship God at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church at 11 a.m. More came to share food and fellowship at noon in the church hall. Even more crowded back into the sanctuary to honour Helen Caughey on her 90th birthday.

Prayers were offered in the service - prayers of thanksgiving for Helen and her work among us on the Island. Sandwiches, salads, cakes and squares disappeared as the people congratulated Helen. Love and laughter embraced all who enjoyed the several skits which reviewed Helen's life.

The theme of the entertainment was "The Hats of Helen" because Helen has worn many hats in her life - literally and figuratively. She has worn the hat of a Mother, Teacher, Card Shark, Baker/Cook, Hallowe'en Prankster, Fortune Teller, Gardener/Ganner, Adventurer, Ticket Seller, Musician/Lover of Music. At the conclusion of the entertainment Helen's great-grand-daughter, Abby-Jo Godden, presented her with Air Canada tickets for a trip with her daughter, Beth Forester, to visit friends and relatives in British Columbia. Certificates and plaques to mark her 90th birthday were then presented to Helen from The Prime Minister, Jean Chretien; The Governor General, Adrienne Clarkson; The Premier, Ernie Eves; The M.P. for Amherst Island, Larry McCormick; The M.P.P. for the area, Leona Dombrowsky; and Loyalist Township.

Helen was born on April 13, 1913, Easter Sunday, in the Marshall home, which still stands today, on the South Shore near the Marshall Forty-foot, the fifth child of Robert James (R.J.) Marshall and Elizabeth Miller, affectionately called "Lizzie" - a name Helen hated. Helen has outlived all her siblings - Nessie (Mrs. Art Drumgoole), Ruth (Mrs. Clifford Glenn), Bill, Harold (Had), Jane (who died at the age of 5) and Rhoda (Mrs. Rod Barr).

Helen's grandfather, John Marshall, as the precentor of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, used the tuning fork to lead the singing in the Kirk. When the congregation brought in an organ, he quit in a huff. But he couldn't stay away and returned to continue his service to the congregation as an elder. Helen, who was baptized in St. Paul's, remembers attending



## Helen Caughey at the AIPS performance of The Canada Goose in April 2003

that injury Helen did not start school until she was seven. She went to #2 public school (where Martin and Ulla Hauschild now live). She and her classmates always walked there except in winter storms when they would get a ride from her father or another farmer.

Every school held its own Christmas concert. At one such concert Helen and Rhoda held on to each other for support as they sang their duet, "Barney Google with the Googley Eyes."

The teachers who impressed Helen most were Evelyn Cronkright, Gladys Wemp, Eva Glenn, Nellie Neilson and Nancy Burleigh. When Nellie McDonald became engaged to Fred Neilson she kept her engagement ring in her fur coat. She frequently went to her coat and inspected the ring, to the amusement of the children. On the Thursday before Good Friday Fred picked up Nellie early to get her to the train so she could go home for the holidays. The children were instructed to remain in school until 4 p.m. As Fred and Nellie drove away Rhoda called out, "I suppose Fred'll be driving with one hand today." That remark angered Nellie who gave detentions to all the kids when she returned.

Although Helen encountered her husband, Bruce Caughey, at the Church and Sunday School when they were children,

the church every Sunday for worship and Sunday School. She remembers nothing any minister ever said because she let her imagination roam through the colours, forms and figures of the beautiful stained glass windows.

At four years of age Helen's right hand got caught in a horse fork pulley just when the horse pulled away. Dr. Kennedy, who lived in Stella in the house owned by Doug and Helen Lamb, rushed to the scene. He returned to dress the hand every day. Helen would watch for his horse and buggy coming down the Marshall forty-foot and then run and hide under the bed. Her father had to drag her out for her treatments. Eventually Helen had five operations on her hand - the last one in Toronto. She had to wear a steel-faced glove for a year and a half.

Her mother, every night and morning, rubbed her hand with oil before Helen had to put on the steel plate glove. Because of

level was as low as it was

last year. The islands were uninhabited, but on the middle island one person resided for years, known as 'Hughie The Hermit'. His "home was a small hut built of driftwood". He fished for a living and resided there in 1840's until his death in 1863 at the Kingston General Hospital.

The Upper Gap is located in the North Channel, between the Island and Prince Edward County, with the Lower Gap located between the mainland and The Foot. Most people said these two areas are located where The Island and the mainland are the closest, and most believed the distances between the Island and Prince Edward County and Amherstview were about equal.

The historical event that was to have taken place at The Battery is that during the War of 1812, Royal Artillery soldiers, who were stationed on a cliff overlooking the Upper Gap, had placed two cannons, some say three, to protect this narrow. However, no invaders came and, as the soldiers had no means of getting the cannons back to the mainland when they were posted elsewhere, they buried the cannons right where they stood. They have never been disturbed. The Battery is located west of where Front Road ends, south of Pig Point.

The Island is twelve miles long and three miles at the widest point. The land mass of the Island is 16,543 acres.

Native trees growing when first settlers arrived were Beech, Oak, Maple, Black Walnut, Basswood and were depleted by the ship building industry conducted primarily on Stella Point. These ships were sailing ships and include the renowned 'Jenny Lind' (see picture at right). And, of course, all homes and other buildings were constructed using the nearest at hand material, native trees.

I neglected to add in my next question, 'who gave their lives' when I asked which Islanders served in the armed conflicts.



## Artist Douglas Purdon A.O.C.A. Paints a landscape along the Stella 40 Foot near the Third Concession. Terry Culbert Photo

Boer War- 1902: Edward Filson

First World War: James Bell, Earnest Dennee, Maurice Glass, Thomas Mcfern, Stirling Polley, Ross Pringle, Oswald Wemp, and Frederick Willard.

Second World War: John and Wallace Kearney, and Frederick Wemp

There were many Island men who served in these wars and happily returned home.

Once again I was given a past copy of the Beacon in which A. Bruce Caughey had taken time to elaborate on the "war memorabilia" now located in the back of the Ferry Office/Library building. There is a display case that had "a German machine gun and five rifles" from World War I. These artillery pieces became dirty and members of the Council would take one rifle home, clean it and varnish the stock, but over time, one rifle never made it back to the display cabinet.

The last question I asked was what former commercial businesses were located in both Stella and Emerald, and many have named the following.

- Two cheese factories, one behind the home at 5360 Front Road, and the other located near Emerald at 11945 Front Road.

- Two blacksmith shops in Stella, the one

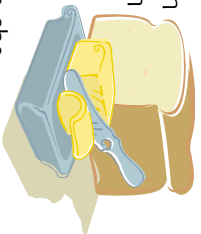


Jenny Lind, "The Swedish Nightingale," had a voice that launched a thousand ships in the mid-1800's.



Sing Along.

St. Paul's had more members then than it has now. Before Church Union in 1925, which produced The United Church of Canada from all The Methodists, most of The Congregationalists and two thirds of The Presbyterians, all members of St. Paul's knew their places in their pews. Actually, only one extended family left St. Paul's for the new United Church - the former Methodist Church in Stella.



After graduating from high school Helen attended Normal School in Peterborough for a year and then taught for four years at her old school - #2 school on the South Shore. When she married Bruce Caughey, Sept 3, 1938, she gave up teaching while she had her three children - Allen, Beth, and Bruce Jr. In 1956 Helen supplied for Florence Gault in The Bath Public School for two days. That began a close friendship which has lasted to this day. And that experience helped Helen decide to return to teaching. She was a supply teacher for 1957 and 1958 in Medoma School, Frontenac County, at Baywood School and Odessa Public School. Then she taught full-time from 1958 to 1965 in Amherstview, from 1966 to 1973 in Asseltines south of Odessa and from 1973 to 1978 at the Amherst Island Public School.

Not only did Helen have a full time job as a teacher - leaving on the 7 a.m. ferry and returning on the 6 p.m. ferry to a busy family and preparation for the next day which kept her up until midnight. - she was wife to Bruce who was busy with farming, school bus driving, St. Paul's Church, The Masonic Lodge, The Board of Education and the Amherst Island Mutual Insurance Co. In the winter Helen's oldest sister, Nessie Drumgoole, would have dinner ready for the family every weekday evening. On Saturdays and Sundays The Drumgooles ate at the Caughey home.

A large part of Helen's life was committed to her church. She was always involved in the St. Paul's women's group and often drove Kate Beaubien and Jenny McCaugherty to the meetings. She taught in the Church School. She was active in the annual Garden Party - as a fortune-teller and a ticket-taker. She was a vital part of the choir for many years.

Everybody has a story about Helen. Here are two of the best. The first story comes from Vera Hogeboom who recounts how Bruce came to pick up Helen for a date only to find she had gone out with somebody else. Bruce was so angry he threw a big box of chocolates he had bought for Helen into the lake. This got around the Island and somebody placed a notice in Glenn's store to this effect: "Wanted: a big box of chocolates, last seen floating in Oswego Bay. Anybody



finding the box of chocolates, please return them to B. Caughey."

The other story is now a legend. One Halloween Helen and her sister-in-law, Bill's wife, Kay, from Buffalo, discovered that Bruce Caughey, Vera Miller's beau, Maurice Hogeboom, and several other men had forsaken them for tricks and treats. Helen and Kay decided to do some tricking of their own. They went to St. Paul's drive-shed, found the keys for Bruce's father's Chrysler and drove it around for awhile before they hid it in the shed of The Roman Catholic Church. On their return they twice heard the men approaching. The first time, trying to hide, Kay got hung up on the top of the barbed wire fence. The second time Kay tried to go under the fence and had her dress and bloomers ripped. Kay returned to the home of Jim Strain, her uncle, who later announced, "When they find out who stole that car those people will end up behind bars." The car was "lost" for two days before it was found. It was years later when Bruce found out who had stolen it. To his dying day he never found it amusing. Helen still laughs about it.

Bruce Caughey died May 17, 2001. Bruce and Helen were pleased that all their children had returned to live on the Island. Allen resides with his wife, Bonnie, in Art and Nessie Drumgoole's old house in Stella - 5530 Front Rd. Beth and her husband, Jack Forester, live at 5355 Front Rd. in the old Caughey winter house now called Harbourview - a Bed and Breakfast. Bruce Jr. and his wife, Susie, are in Clifford and Ruth Glenn's old house at 3190 Front Road which is now The Poplar Dell Farm Vacation Bed and Breakfast. Helen lives on the Caughey farm at 3375 on the Third concession where her husband, Bruce, was born and raised.

Helen has five grandchildren - Julie and Jeff Forester and Bruce and Susie's three girls - Amy, Lori Godden, and Jill. Helen's two great grandchildren are Abby Jo (who calls her "Hockey") and Ryan Kate Godden. Helen will be busy with the weddings of three grand-daughters this year. Julie will marry Laird Leeder on April 25; Amy will marry Marcus Berman on June 28; Jill will marry Mike Walkout on September 6. [Zander: I understand the Gulf is beside Bruce and Susan Caughey's farm now - and between where Duncan and Coralie Marshall live. It was near where Clifford and Ruth Glenn used to live.]

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### QUIZ-TIME

- Judith Harrower

Once again many people took the time and provided me with answers to last month's questions. As well, I received telephone calls from subscribers from the mainland.

My question as to whether it is a sand bar or islands off The Foot, stretching to the Brother's Islands, was answered. General consensus provided was that it is a sand bar. Known as Bush Sand Bar. One is able to walk almost to the nearest Brother Island, the second of the three islands, when the lake water

she never really noticed him until she went to High School



with him on Stella Point (now Molly Stroyman's Lodge). As she explains, she, like most of the girls, didn't have time for boys - then. An area just East of Dick Dodds' house on Stella Point was the venue for the special day in June each year when speakers entertained, games were enjoyed and the band played. Indeed, the Amherst Island band paraded through the village of Stella, leading everybody to the site.

One year, Elizabeth Marshall had dressed up Helen and Rhoda in their best bib and tucker in preparation for their attendance at the great event. She told Helen and Rhoda to wait for her on the porch. When Had brought the horse and buggy up to the house Helen and Rhoda could not wait for their mother and jumped into the rig. This frightened the horse which bolted and ran around the property and over the well until Had grabbed the bride. When Mrs. Marshall surveyed the situation she declared, "We won't go a step. We will go back into the house now." They never got to THE social event of that year.

Many of Helen's other adventures involved horses. While coming through the Gulf, the horse pulling her sleigh simply dropped down. She thought it was dead and went to get help from Clifford Glenn. When Clifford arrived he kicked the horse which persuaded it to get up and carry on!



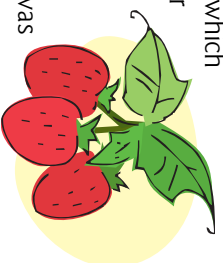
On another occasion Helen, along with others was in a cutter being pulled by a prancing race horse down Marshall Forty Foot. The horse was so fast and erratic one of her fellow passengers, Herb Kilpatrick, was prompted to play for help. The horse went full-tilt down the road past the Owl Woods and hit a bump which threw everybody and everything out into the snow. Eddie and Charlie McMullen, who owned the Owl Woods and were cutting trees there, came to their rescue and helped them get back up.

Uncle Johnny Marshall lived in Ottawa. The day after school closed for the summer he brought his children, Jean and John, in his motor boat through the Rideau Canal to the Marshall home on Amherst Island. After he had off-loaded on the South Shore he moored his boat on the North Shore near Clifford Glenn's home by the Gulf. Many are the memories of games and fun with the Ottawa relatives who came to share the summer.

Helen's mother was a great gardener. She set up a "hot bed" by using storm windows. Under glass she raised tomatoes and cabbages from seed. As the plants grew she would lift the windows in the day time. She never sold any of her plants; she always gave them away. She laboured long and hard as she canned tomatoes,



preserved chilli sauce, pickled cucumbers in brine and made relish. A big rhubarb patch, many apple trees (few of which we know today) and a large raspberry patch provided fruit for her pies and canning. She even picked wild strawberries to provide a luscious treat for her children. In the autumn she enlisted her children to gather hickory nuts which she used to make candy and to bolster cakes. Mrs. Marshall involved everybody in the family to harvest the potatoes in her garden.



A dance nearly every Friday night was held at the Victoria Hall in Stella. Once a year the Sailors' Ball occurred - one of the more formal dances. A list of dances was printed - Rye Waltz, Susannah, The Jersey, The Charleston, The Fox trot. Every young lady had a dance card. All the young men competed for the privilege of being signed up for those dances.

The November Ball, commemorating Guy Fawkes Day, Nov 5, featured not only a dance but also a mid-night meal in the Town Hall which was so popular there were three sittings. Helen still has the dress she wore to the last of those dances - probably in 1926 or 1927. She did not have a partner but went with her sister, Nessie, and her husband, Art Drumgoole.

Another big dance was put on by the Independent Order of Foresters which featured an oyster supper. St. Paul's Presbyterian Church also offered an oyster supper - but no dance! Those who did not want oysters could choose chicken. A second helping of oysters cost 25 cents. The Rev. Robert Cumberland declared there would be no food consumed in the sanctuary of St. Paul's except for the sacrament of Holy Communion. But food was a big issue for the ministers of St. Paul's. They were never paid enough money so the members of the congregation supported them with food. Helen's parents always gave a portion of all their produce to the minister. If ever they visited the manse they carried with them large baskets of foodstuffs.

Helen best remembers The Rev. R.K. Earls who was for 22 years minister of St. Paul's. She also remembers The Rev. Sam Hill who moved from the Island to a church in Chicago. While The Rev. J Vint Laughlin was away at a church meeting his wife produced twins - which upset him because he wondered how he would provide for double the number of children he was expecting. Vera Hogeboom dated one of The Rev. Laughlin's sons for a time.

Once a year The Orange Lodge gave over their Victoria Hall to St. Paul's Presbyterian Church for an evening. The Church used the facilities to enjoy "The Romp" which was a pot-luck supper, followed by the congregational annual meeting. During that time the children had to remain quiet. When business was over games were played while the adults enjoyed a

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# THE CANADA

- review by Neil Johnston



On Wednesday April 23rd a Standing Room Only audience of siblings, pleased parents and very proud grandparents were treated to 'an evening to remember.' Entering the auditorium everyone was impressed by a gaggle of paper bag geese flying in formation over centre stage. The entire west end of the theatre was covered with a coast-to-coast mural of Canada. At 7:00 p.m. Cathy Secker strode to the piano and told us what to expect in the next hour and a half. And then it was show-time. Without missing a beat our kids sang, spoke, danced and acted their way through fourteen entertaining segments.



# GOOSE

The costumes were tremendous. From a goose who could only honk to a wizard who acted like a professional and the seven Good Times Kids who stole the show in their flower costumes.

In as few words as possible, the story line went from grumbling to very positive attitudes about being Canadian. The message came through loud and clear.

After a most successful opening, the cast and crew packed up and went on the road to Bath the following day to repeat their performance for the students over there.

