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Casco Bay Island Development Association Newsletter : Summer 1973

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WELCOME BACK, CAPTAINS!

Captain Rodney Ross, Jr.

A summer interlude in regular transportation has subsided with the return of three of the four Captains who led a brief walk-out in July.

Neither the CBL nor the Captains have made public terms of the negotiations which restored normal service.

One Captain, genial Bill O'Connell, author of the safety article in our Spring issue, remains absent and is missed by many of his Casco Bay friends. "We hear" that while negotiations may be still up in the air, Bill is appropriately plying his skills at the Scarboro Flight Training School.

CBIDA supported the Captains' request for radar - a position held for a number of years by this organization. The Transportation Committee has been charged with conducting a survey of radar systems appropriate to this area.

PORTLAND'S WATERFRONT - It's booming. Delightful shops in the Old Port historical area; good restaurants, and more in the plans. Official Portland has issued an optimistic planning report which seems as if AT LAST the Portland Waterfront has been discovered. The report highlights the waterfront and islands as potential residential and recreational resources. New hotels and apartment houses are foreseen at the water's edge. Portland has ruled out any consideration of an oil refinery and any expansion of tank farms. They made one exception, however, stating that the Tank Farm on Long Island is "environmentally sound"...whatever that means!

MAINE TO CLAIM ISLANDS - By Phyllis Austin, Augusta - Portland Press Herald
Title to hundreds of forested islands and rocky ledges off the Maine coast is uncertain, and the state is preparing to claim ownership to scores of them.

A new law that went into effect earlier this month established a Coastal Island Registry to determine just who has legal right to which islands.

Senate minority leader Joseph E. Brennan, D-Portland, sponsor of the bill, said: "In many ways the islands are like public lots—a valuable public asset that has been grossly underutilized because the state's legal rights have been unclear and even the exact location has been in doubt."

He said there are more than 280 islands and ledges in Penobscot Bay alone that already have been identified as potentially belonging to the state.
"Hundreds more undoubtedly exist along the rest of our coastline," Brennan said.

The law requires that owners of islands with less than four residential structures file their title with a registrar of deeds in one of the eight coastal counties before Dec. 31, 1974.

If there is no filing within the next 10 years, the island automatically reverts to the state.

The fee for registering an island or ledge during the 18 months is $10. After the end of next year, it is $200.

Brennan said the new Department of Conservation will be in charge of the registry.

"Among the benefits of establishing clear state title should be a lessening of pressure from commercial developers to take over and destroy the character of these islands," the senator said.

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CUSHINGS ISLAND - There are thirteen families who reside in the Greater Portland area and summer at Cushing. Five are households headed by lawyers; one doctor, one banker, one stockbroker, two businessmen, one salesman and one psychologist. As many again, mostly young professionals from out of state, relatively new arrivals - lend an air of exclusive quality to this little independent island.

While technically a part of Portland, it tried to secede a couple years ago since it felt it could make better use of tax moneys untied to Portland. In an air of some levy on both sides, Portland won out, but Cusherings still goes it alone in supporting its own transportation, caretaker, and other services. Recent renovation of the Old Fort Christopher Levitt area is progressing well.

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GREAT DIAMOND Island has published a historical booklet and copies may be obtained from Robert Laughlin at $2.50. The cover note indicates 8000 B.C. to 1972 A.D.: "A further important aspect of this project is to provide a Guide for orderly conduct of all residents in accordance with such rules and regulations as they, themselves, have established in the By-laws of their Association, and by thus being informed, consent to, abide by, or through proper means, amend them."

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Friends of the former Maureen Mulkern of LITTLE DIAMOND ISLAND, will be interested to know that she is now Mrs. Neil Henry, and resides with her British born husband in Thornton Heath, Surrey, England. They met in New York where he represented a British Travel Agency. They were married in Portland last fall.

LONG ISLAND - Long Island Civic Association is an organization of property owners working for the "Protection, preservation and improvement of Long Island. A helpful newsletter is issued listing other organizations on the island, church services, the lending library, regulations on rubbish and garbage collection, litter and leash laws. All of these subjects are in effect for all Portland owned islands and Long is doing well to make regulations known to those from out of state.

Congratulations to the Ivy Class at Long Island for reaching their goal of paying off $1800 cost of their well. And two volunteers have painted Ivy Hall - Capt. Norman Hutchinson and Lloyd Jones.

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CHEBEAGUE ISLAND - Like the man biting dog story, its true that telephone charges on Chebeague and R ustins Islands were LOWERED in 1972. Negotiations were started in June 1970 to produce this result since these two islands were the only ones paying mileage at that time. The reduced charge followed a new set up by the telephone company.
Chebeague Island Library is a going concern with 5,664 books and magazines circulated in the past year. Also it sponsors Talking Books for three residents.

Improvements to the Golf Course have been added with two new bridges, new steps to the Clubhouse and a new Ladies Tee on the ninth hole. Neighboring island golf lovers and guests from the mainland are welcome at this only island golf course.

CLIFF ISLAND has a new business – the B and B Marine does mooring work, diving and specializes in fiberglass work. Operator is Ben O'Reilly, Jr.

BETTER SERVICE FOR THE 766 lines throughout the Bay is expected to result from the complete recabling of the telephone central system covering the Bay and housed on Peaks.

CENTRAL MAINE POWER COMPANY is also doing a major wiring job including new poles.

PEAKS ISLAND is happy to welcome two bona fide policemen – the first in over twenty-five years. Patrolmen Frank Vining and Thomas Conley, are making friends and doing an effective job.

Meantime – a word of thanks to our firemen, public safety protectors and friends who have carried both duties for so long and with the residents, welcome the new police service. These men of mercy are:

Capt. Robert N. Davis, 16 years with the Fire Department, 1 year on Peaks. Lt. Donald N. Burdwood, 15½ years, 3 years on Peaks; Lt. Lawrence G. Hasson, 22 years, 18 on Peaks (a native) Pvt. Louis Napolitano, 25 years, 2 on Peaks; Pvt. Stanley Butkus, Jr., 18 years, 2 on Peaks; Pvt. Glenn Raymond, 6 years, 2 years on Peaks (a native) Pvt. Eugene Phinney, 4 years, temp. on Peaks, native also.

Our thanks to all these public servants.

THE PASTORS OF THE BAY

(Ed. Note: For the first time in a number of years, all island parishes are now with full time clergy. The newest is introduced here in full, and the others listed.)

The Rev. John D. Bachman has accepted the pastorate of the Peaks Island Brackett Memorial United Methodist Church after serving Easton and Mars Hill in Aroostook County.

His formal education was complete at Boston Technical High School, Wentworth Institute, New Hampshire College of Accounting and Commerce, University of New Hampshire, Bangor Theological Seminary and the University of Maine where he specialized in social problems and psychology. He also served eight years as a Navy Petty Officer.

The Rev. Bachman has given 21 years to the Boy Scout movement – an Eagle Scout with Palms, a Scoutmaster and Neighborhood Commissioner and Director of the God and Country Award.

He has held all church offices at the local level and served with the New Hampshire Conference as director of Lay Speaking, Associate Conference Lay Leader, and Director of Youth Ministries.

The Rev. Machman and his wife Jean reside at the new Methodist Parsonage on Church St. They have three children: Jan 11, Janet 9, Jennifer 7.

Rev. Bachman's introduction to the Island was somewhat foggy and during the time of the CBL Captains plight. However, this did not deter him from locating in one of God's paradises, Peaks Island, in a brand
new parsonage made possible by the struggles of so many people. With multiple hobbies, and boating being one of them, the Rev. Bachman states: "Casco Bay is the best of all boating areas I have been in the 15 countries I have visited. Never in my ministry so far," he states, "have people shown such concern for me and my family's well being, and been so friendly. The way of life certainly is different than Aroostook County or just the Mainland. In fact, I wonder if the seagulls aren't laughing rather than crowing at me and others. I pray my ministry here may soar as high and as wide as that leading gull of our time 'Jonathon', or as his Lord Jesus Christ."

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S Parish, on Peaks; Star of the Sea on Long Island; missions on Great Diamond, and now on Cliff Island served by Father T. Lee Burns, who resides at the Rectory on Peaks. Now in his second year this attractive young priest was well introduced to this island community through his publication last summer of a Comprehensive Directory of the church in Casco Bay.

LONG ISLAND'S Methodist Church is served by the Rev. Perley Odell who occupies the parsonage week-ends. During the week, he is Mr. Odell, a social worker for the State Department of Health and Welfare in the Portland Regional Office at 509 Forest Avenue. He and his family live in North Deering.

Rev. Odell has been the pastor at Long Island since July 1971. He was ordained elder at Houlton where he served for sixteen years. He is a graduate of Boston University School of Theology, and recently obtained his masters degree in sociology at B.U.

CHEBEAGUE ISLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH is served by Rev. Russell Ingalls, a graduate of the University of Maine and Bangor Theological School. He is now full time, having completed his college work last year. He and his wife Natalie and 2 children have won the hearts of Chebeaguers and "our church is thriving", says Mrs. Louis B. Dennett.

CLIFF ISLAND - where the church is affiliated with the Seventh Day Adventist faith, continues its custom of inter-denominational guest speakera during the summer months.

Mrs. John Johnson of Peaks Island and Windham has been named Membership Chairman by President W. Russell Edwards. Mrs. Johnson recently retired as assistant to the postmaster in Windham, and for the first time is more available to take part in island affairs. A charmingly friendly woman, Mrs. Johnson is sending membership invitations to all names suggested to her, and she plans to follow up letters, especially to newcomers, with personal calls. She welcomes suggested names from other islands, and while the personal call will necessarily be by telephone, her call will be equally appealing.

CBIDA Membership is open to all who love Casco Bay. Information may be obtained by writing or calling Mrs. Johnson - Ocean View Terrace, Peaks Island - Tel. 766-2562.

ANNUAL GARDEN PARTY

CBIDA's major funding raising event has now become an annual garden party with an international flavor.

Save the date of August 25 for this occasion. An international buffet is being planned by Mrs. Alton Boulton and her
committee. Good used clean garments will be recruited by Mrs. Glenn Haines, jewelry will be handled by Mrs. Samuel Bluestein. Antiques will be gathered by Mrs. Avis Mahoney. Other tables not yet assigned will include silent auction, gifts and imports. A group of shoppers for the Party will be on the way soon to special Maine Crafts and Oriental Imports outlets.

Music and gaiety will add to the day on the lawn of the Chapman residence at Peaks.

NEW STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

All CBIDA officers are renominated (some reluctantly) because many will help but few will lead. However, the addition of new members to the governing body - the monthly Steering Committee meetings - will hopefully produce future leadership candidates.

Expected to be elected at the annual meeting at Great Diamond Island on Sunday, August 5, are the following new recruits:

Capt. Norman Hutchinson, Long Island, Richard Balser, Cushings Island, Bruce Lincoln and Mrs. Johnson, Peaks Island, and Dr. David Fink, University of Maine Director of TRIGOM. (The Research Institute of the Gulf of Maine)

WHO AMONG OUR READERS IS INTERESTED IN WRITING?

We'd like to have the Newsletter edited from different islands. We can take care of production.

Please inquire of CBIDA Editor.
SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAM

Five Peaks Island youths are employed by the Department of Labor to help clear and clean up the land surrounding Battery Steele. Along with some help from the Park Department of the City, the Battery already looks as if it has had a face-lifting. The youth are Donna McIntire, Debbie Hamilton, Roy Hamilton, David Fletcher and Lee Pederson. Their coordinator is John Paris. This is the first step in the hope that youth of the area will become involved in the plans for this scenic area. The project is called simply DOWN TO EARTH.

GOLDEN AGE WEDDING

Chester Graves and Isabelle Frankhauser

Saturday, June 16

Isabelle and Chester first met as classmates at Antioch College, Ohio in the early nineteen twenties. After graduating from college Isabelle went on to graduate school at the University of Michigan and from there to teaching in the same state. Chester returned to his native Stamford, Conn. and to a business career.

At retirement, Isabelle settled in Port Huron - and in 1969 Chester came to Peaks Island. In 1971 Isabelle and Chester had a reunion on Peaks Island and met again in the summer of 1972. In April of this year the "twain" discovered a common liking of the State of Maine and many other mutual interests which contributed to their desire to become one. Isabelle and Chester wish to share their joy with all their friends on the Island and elsewhere and all of our people are invited to attend this happy occasion.

CLEVER LITTLE EMBLEM

Isle of Peaks stickers are being seen on cars, bicycles, luggage and in windows. The slogan was the brain child of Captain William O’Connell and was implemented into a fund raiser by the CBIDA. Proceeds go to the Down to Earth Battery Steele program.

It takes twice over to get it - but quickly it dawns. I LUV PEAKS.

(Not copyrighted. Other islands free to borrow the idea. Couldn’t you appropriately say ISLE OF DIAMONDS, DOESN’T EVERYONE?)