6-1981

Nor' by East, Summer 1981

Casco Bay Island Development Association

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Recommended Citation
Casco Bay Island Development Association, "Nor' by East, Summer 1981" (1981). Nor' by East. 49.
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The ISLAND ADVENTURE, seen in Maine this summer only on the TV screen, is shown here at St. Petersburg, Florida, last winter. Sent south and refurbished for dinner cruises without the permission of the FUC and at a cost of some $80,000, the ISLAND ADVENTURE continues its Florida operations with the temporary permission of Bankruptcy Judge Johnson. The original plan implied that the boat would be returned to Maine last spring.

JOKER'S LANDING
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A Rooster Opens the Season on Great Diamond

Stuart Laughlin

Usually the 4th of July events open the summer season on Great Diamond, but this year a rooster stole the show on June 13th.

It seems that Mary, the local taxi driver, didn’t like getting up early in the morning to take customers to the first boat. A neighbor decided to solve the problem with a never-fail alarm clock.

A rooster was deposited under Mary’s cellar one Saturday night. At 4:30 a.m. the rooster did what all roosters will do.

Mary sent her husband, Bill, to investigate the strange noise under the house. The rooster avoided capture, however, and escaped to the nearby woods.

For one week the rooster faithfully awakened Mary every morning - and all of her neighbors as well. Empty egg boxes began to appear on Mary’s porch and then a sign appeared on the Island wharfhouse:

Extra Large Rooster Eggs

30¢ a dozen
Contact Mary Loveless

The rooster’s brilliant career came to an end when a local dog caught him in the woods and Mary lost her alarm clock.

FIFTH MAINE GALA

The 120th anniversary of the beginning of the Civil War will be observed at the Fifth Maine Regiment Center on Peaks Island, local Civil War Museum and reunion headquarters, with a 19th Century Entertainment Gala, a fashion show of authentic period clothing, and formations of a Color Guard.

These events will all take place at the Center, on Shore Drive on Peaks Island, on Sunday, August 23, beginning at 10:30 a.m. and concluding about 2:30 p.m.

Portland’s Centennial Brass Band, led by Jon Hall, an aggregation of a dozen players using antique instruments, will play fanfares and three portions of a program which will be moderated by Mr. Artemus Ward (Charles Browne, Jr.), Maine 19th Century humorist, portrayed by David Webster. Other musical selections will be offered by Leslie Cheney of South Portland, soprano, singing typical parlor songs, and by Peter Sargent of Peaks Island, 'The Last Banjo Minstrel'.

The celebration will begin with drills and gun salutes by Company F Color Guard, Twelfth Massachusetts (Fletcher Webster’s) Regiment, Sgt. Allen Fisher, in charge. Following their morning presentation, the audience and performers will enjoy a picnic lunch which may be brought or purchased at the Center.
After lunch, the audience will assemble on the Center's deck for the musical and humorous entertainment. Concluding the afternoon's festivities will be a fashion show featuring local models wearing a collection of 19th Century women's and children's clothing chosen for the occasion by Cynthia Snow and Kathy Autunno of Plymouth, Mass. Music and narration will accompany the fashion show. Special refreshments will be served by members of the Fifth Maine Center.

Guests to the Gala can obtain water transportation by Casco Bay Lines and island transportation on foot, taxi or by a fleet of hospitality cars which will meet the ferries. The charge for Gala tickets is $3.50, adults; $1.50 from 6-12 yrs; under 6 are free.

Tickets may be purchased by mail from the Center, or in person at The Open Book and Arts Forum, 114 Commercial St. in Portland; Port Island Realty, Fore St. in Portland; or the Senior Center on Peaks Island.

The day's events are presented with the assistance of Westbrook College, Casco Bank & Trust Co., Open Book and Arts Forum, and many friends of the Center.

Families are urged to pack a picnic, take the boat to Peaks, and step back into the 19th Century for a wonderful Gala entertainment.

FISHERMEN'S FAIR ON CHEBEAGUE

Saturday, July 18, was a Whale of a Day on Chebeague Island as the Island Hall Community Center sponsored its first Fisherman's Fair. A true carnival spirit prevailed, both outside and inside the hall as the young of all ages tried their luck at Pin-the-Claw on the Lobster, Fish Bowl Toss (and win a goldfish), Ring the Buoy, Trap a Lobster, and other games. A white elephant table and a gift table lured buyers as well as popcorn - from a machine - and helium balloons.

Hot dogs, chips, and sodas were available for lunch for those who had not made reservations for the Lobster Dinner served outside at 1 P.M. At 2 P.M. a food auction attracted bidders for home-baked goodies and fresh picked garden produce.

In combination with a Mackerel Derby held on Sunday, July 19, the Fisherman's Fair made about $700 for the Community Center's current project - improved bathroom facilities.

Good things to eat all year long!

shaw's SUPERMARKETS

NEW BOOK BY PEAKS AUTHOR

There's a new book out for children 3 - 9 with a real Maine flavor: "THE LITTLEST LIGHTHOUSE", published by Down East in Camden, Me. was written by Peaks Island author, Ruth Sargent, and illustrated by Marion Litchfield, long time summer resident there.

Year rounders will enjoy it and it makes a delightful souvenir to take back home or to mail out to grandchildren. Autographed copies may be obtained from either the author or the illustrator. Price is $4.25.
THE CONTINUING SAGA

"A standing vote at the close of the hearing showed the islanders unanimously in support of the bill permitting a transit district."

So reported the April Nor­By-East. The legislature proved to be nearly as enthusiastic as the islanders when it passed the emergency legislation unanimously in the Senate and with only one dissenting vote in the House. On April 17, Governor Joseph Brennan signed L.D. 1351, an Act to Create the Casco Bay Island Transit District.

Early in May the voters of each island went to the polls staffed by volunteers in a special election to choose a Board of Directors for the district — three from Peaks Island, one each from Little Diamond, Great Diamond, Long, Chebeague, and Cliff, and two at large.

Each candidate had previously filed a Nomination Petition signed by at least 20 eligible voters on the islands. The Board of Directors, in turn, met and elected its officers and committees.

Acting for the Transit District, Peter Murray, attorney, filed the District's plan for the reorganization of Casco Bay Lines with the Bankruptcy Court, now moved from Judge Cyr's court in Bangor to the Portland court of Judge Johnson.

At first the plan had the support of the major creditors, including Depositors Trust and Roger Hale, as well as the City of Portland.

Richard Poulos, attorney for Casco Bay Lines, under whose advice the Line is being managed, persuaded these creditors to withdraw their support from the District's plan, leaving the standing of the District in question.

Other creditors, however, expressed their support by selling their claims to the District or to individuals supporting the District, or by assigning power of attorney to the District's Council. The standing in court of the public, served by a Public Utility, seems to be legal enigma since Public Utilities are not normally in a Bankruptcy Court.

In June the Public Utilities Commission held a public hearing on Mr. Poulos' request for an emergency summer rate increase of 25% for Casco Bay Lines. The purpose of the increase was to enable the Line to start paying lawyers and accountants' fees owed to himself and Mr. Stillman. The City of Portland joined CBIDA and the Transit District in opposing such an increase and, as in 1980, the PUC denied it.

The PUC also refused its permission for Casco Bay Lines to borrow $175,000 more from Depositors Trust to finance its reorganization plan. On the grounds that a Bankruptcy Court decision supercedes that of a state commission, Judge Johnson allowed the borrowing, subject to his approval of the CBL reorganization plan.

The PUC has given the Transit District permission to borrow the $700,000 needed to finance the purchase of the assets of CBL. This borrowing will be through tax-free bonds.

Public meetings have been held on all the islands with Peter Murray and different members of the Board of Directors to explain the situation and answer questions. Individual island news letters have contained updates that often were out-of-date before they could be read. Sometimes with overnight speed, sometimes with weeks of waiting, the saga of Casco Bay transportation continues.
**CBITD SEASIDE CHAT**

with Henry K. Adamson, Jr., President
Casco Bay Island Transit District

Islanders and Friends of Islanders, lend me thine ears.

Although we have met with some reverses in our endeavors to rectify the problems confronting us on Island transportation we have experienced a number of pluses that keeps our courage up and still gives us hope for the future.

1. The District is well established and functioning in a professional manner.

2. Paul Husted is forming a Finance Committee that gives promise of solving an urgent need for money to pay mounting bills from legal and other related expenses. Our legal costs are high but our Counselor is doing an excellent job and in many instances is donating time and effort at no cost to the District. I am sure that the generosity and dedication of Peter Murray will influence the citizens of the islands both summer and winter to furnish the needed dollars to see the task through to a successful conclusion. At the moment a great big THANK YOU is in order to Johanna von Tilling and the people of Cliff Island who have set a pace that spells success if followed by the remainder of the Bay.

3. Bear in mind that the game is not over even if our reorganization plan is not accepted by the Bankruptcy Court. The CBL Plan is not sound and, in this writer's opinion, CBL will be in further trouble within a few months. For this reason alone, the District must be in sound financial condition to meet such a situation when it occurs. We also have the choice, under the District legislation, to establish our own system in competition to CBL.

This would cost considerably more but with the necessary financial support, it is not beyond the realm of possibility. In fact, if we get the operation, a new Ferry will have a high priority. Greater car and passenger capacity is sorely needed right now and with such a vehicle the majority of Peaks Island trips could be handled with one vessel. A committee headed by Bill Fernald is looking into the availability of vessels for when or if we have to go that route.

The Directors of CBITD are confident that we will eventually be operating boats in Casco Bay. We are also confident that the people of the Bay are a determined group so that we can move forward with a loyal citizenry behind us.

Remember, regardless of who says differently, RIGHT WILL PREVAIL!

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**THE VERY LATEST!**

On August 5, Judge Frederick A. Johnson ruled that the residents of the islands served by Casco Bay Lines "have a genuine and personal stake in the outcome" of the bankruptcy case and granted the Casco Bay Island Transit District standing as a "party in interest" in the proceeding. The Transit District's reorganization plan will, therefore, be sent to the creditors, as well as Mr. Poulos' plan for the debtor, and the District's plan will be submitted before Judge Johnson at the confirmation hearing at the end of August.

Judge Johnson's ruling reportedly states that the U.S. Bankruptcy Code leaves the court discretion to determine in each case who shall be a party in interest.
From the Editor:
Nor-Bay-Dast notes with regret the retirement for reasons of health of Win and Mary Deane from the offices of Treasurer and Business Secretary of CHIDA, and respectfully requests that the first new boat of the Transit District be christened Mary-Win

Jean Dyer

CASCO BAY FORTS - Jewell's

The two concrete towers, by which Jewell Island may be recognized from the back shore of Peaks, are relics of WWII when the island was an observation outpost of the Casco Bay Naval Refueling Station on Long Island. But Jewell's military use goes back to the Indian wars.

Its garrison house was built on orders from the Mass. General Court in 1676. Capt. Joseph Donnell, who carried Casco Bay fish to Mass. Bay markets in his coasting sloop, carried back the orders that in the face of the depredations of King Philips War, the settlers were to build a strong garrison house on an outer island. Capt. Donnell's father owned Jewell Island. Within a week, settlers from Harpswell Neck were on Jewell, building the ordered house and planting crops on the Green Islands, where the soil was well enriched by the seabirds who nested there. During the summer added survivors of Indian raids, from Falmouth and Harraseeket, were added to those who had gone there earlier.

Richard and Margaret Potts, with their children, from the point at the tip of Harpswell that now bears their name, were among the early comers. On the second of September everyone who could be spared went in the longboats to gather the harvest on Inner Green. The women, keeping an eye on the smaller children, did a washing. Nine-year-old Tom Potts was left to man the garrison, and keep an eye out for the Indians no one had reason to expect.

When Tom saw the eight sea canoes, they were less than a quarter mile away between Cliff and Jewell. With remarkable steadiness and nerve, he loaded his father's musket and fired the alarm.

The Indians had, meanwhile, reached the shore, to be held at bay by the women. The men were rowing home from Inner Green all but John Damarell who sailed his sloop for help to Richmond Island. The others headed for Long Cove, out of sight of the Indians. When the men burst out of the woods, the Indians fled for their canoes and paddled rapidly behind Cliff Island.

John Damarell returned from Richmond Island with several sloops. All the settlers were at Richmond Island that night.—Gretchen Hall
AWAKENING

Soft, softly now comes night's quiet slumber
The song of the bird is faint on the breeze
Vague shadows grow deep and starts without number
Shine forth in their brilliance through the
Leaves of the trees.

Slow, slowly now the thoughts of the daytime
Become overshadowed by dreams of the night.
The action and thrill and joy of the playtime
Soon are forgot with the passing of light.

But morning wakes. Her golden streams are flung
Across the somber sky. 'A songbird sings
In every changing song and having sung, bids
people rise'
Then on his way he wings.

Robert Laughlin
Great Diamond
Written about 1920

ANNUAL MEETING
of
CBIDA

CBIDA members will
gather at the Fifth
Maine Regiment Community
Center, Peaks Island, on
August 39, for the Annual
Meeting of the Association.
A lobster roll
luncheon will be served
at 1:00 P.M. Reserva-
tions at $5 each should
be sent to Mrs. Helen
Johnson, Peaks Island,
by August 25.

Following the lunch-
eon the yearly business
meeting will give the
Steering Committee an
opportunity to learn the
concerns of the members
and receive guidance
for the coming year.

After the business
meeting, members are
invited to an Open House
by the STAR community

at Battery Steele. Trans-
portation will be provided.

By special arrangement
with Mr. Langlois the 11:15
boat from Chebeague (11:35
from Cliff; 12:05, Long;
12:20, Great Diamond, 12:25,
Little Diamond) will stop
at Peaks and the 5:20 P.M.
down-the-bay boat will also
stop at Peaks to pick up
members for the trip home.

Anyone interested in the
program of Casco Bay Island
Development Association
is invited to attend.

Peaks Island had two
entrants in the United
Teen Pageant held August 8th
in the University of
Southern Maine Gym.
Contestants were judged
in gowns, group singing,
and a 100 word speech on
'My Country'.
Congratulations to
Patty Callo
and Gail Laughlin

Both are students at
Portland High.

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THE SEAGULL

LIKES TO MESS AROUND
AND SCREECH AT PEOPLE ON THE
GROUND—A HAUGHTY, OVERBEARING
BIRD, DEMANDING THAT HIS VOICE BE
HEARD. HE LAUGHS AT ME, WITH RAUCOUS STYLE, I NEVER ONCE HAVE
SEEN HIM SMILE, OR SHOW A SIGN OF
EASY GRACE, TO GLADDEN UP HIS FURTIVE
FACE, HIS ATTITUDE IS MEAN AND CROSS—HIS
MANNERS ARE A TOTAL LOSS—HIS MIND, LIKE ANY COMMON
SNEAK, IS CROOKED AS HIS UPPER BEAK—A PUSHY, GRABBY, UNTAMED
SOUATTER, DEVOID OF FRIENDS—THE TEEMING WATER IS ALL HE NEEDS, TO
ZAP ASUNDER DEFENSELESS FISHES, SWIMMING UNDER. HIS BEADY LITTLE YE
APPROVES, AS DINNER FARE, WHATEVER MOVES. HE'LL STASH A BONE OR GREASY
RAG INSIDE HIS CRAW, AND NEVER GAG, WHAT MAKES HIM THINK HE'S SO RESPECTED, ENGORING GARBAGE I'VE REJECTED? HOW DARE HE LOOK SO DAMNED
ALOOF, WHILE STAINING SHINGLES ON MY ROOF?
WHAT MAKES HIM STRETCH HIS WINGS TO FLY,
THEN BITE HIS BUDDIES, PASSING BY?
A SEAGULL PLAYS A SILLY ROLE—
NO PURPOSE, THERE—
NO INNER GOAL—

AND WHEN HE'S
HE'LL STRETCH
AND PECK AT PLASTIC
WITH JAUNDICED EYE,
DESPOILER OF ORGANIC FORMS THAT GLUT THE BEACHES AFTER STORMS—POSSESSED
OF RUBBER FEET THAT CLACK ACROSS THE WEATHERED BOARDS, AND BACK—
I THINK YOU'VE MADE ME SEE HOW DULL
THE WORLD WOULD BE
WITHOUT A CULL!

from the Cliff Island
Sea Gull
(by permission
and with thanks)