

Number 24-December 2012

Cranberry Chronicle

News of Cranberry House and the GCI Historical Society

The Cranberry House Complex

The two historic cabins, (Shaw and Sammy's cabins, pictured above) add handsomely to the Cranberry House Complex. These buildings were the generous gift from O. P. Jackson, NEH, and included the funds to move them. This gives Cranberry House a great historic display with the tiny home of Sammy Sanford which formerly was located at Preble Cove on the northwest shore of Great Cranberry Island.

The Society has decorated Sammy's cabin with furniture, clothing and artifacts to look as though old Sammy still lived there. The gift of a small wood stove has made it complete. Last summer a garden of squash, zucchini, tomatoes and blueberries was planted in the front to make it look even more authentic. Bruce Komusin kept the garden watered all summer, and harvested the bounty.

Sammy was the grandson of Capt. Samuel Hadlock Jr. Capt Hadlock took a traveling Arctic show, with Eskimos, stuffed animals and artifacts to Europe in the mid 1800's. He kept a log of his journeys and adventures. Sadly on a second trip to the Arctic his ship was frozen in and all were lost, including his two older sons who were among the crew.

Sammy Sanford loaned the diary and logs to

the author Rachel Field, which resulted in her writing the book, *God's Pocket*.

The second cabin was an early kit house which Gordon Shaw had erected for a summer camp. The building had been barged over in pieces and was bolted together. This building, with the addition of a deck, has proven very useful for classes. It is private and well ventilated and enables the Cultural Center to be free for other activities.

In the summer, Sammy's Cabin is open on special occasions or by appointment.

Story continued on page 5



Gordon Shaw's photo, "Unloading the kit cabin at Preble Cove." This photo was taken about 1980.

GCIHS Board

Officers

Phil Whitney	President
Bruce Komusin	Vice President
Beverly Sanborn	Vice President
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Wini Smart	Secretary

Trustees

Elaine Bushbaum	Ted Madara
Malcolm Donald	Kitty Pierson
Michael MacFarlan	Owen Roberts
Charlotte Harlan	Leslie Watson
Vicky Johnston	Nancy Wood

In Appreciation

The GCIHS Board of Trustees would like to thank all the many volunteers who gave their time and energy to Cranberry House this year. Opening, cleaning and mounting the new museum exhibit, grooming the grounds and ponds, hosting the museum and art shows, supplying and serving refreshments, planning and arranging shows, trips and events, working the "cabin yard sale", teaching classes, archiving historic papers, and in general making this a successful and beneficial year for Great Cranberry Island.

Membership Benefits: Increasing membership in the GCIHS is an important objective. The annual dues - \$15 for individuals, \$25 for families - are major factors in offsetting our substantial operating costs. It is equally important to have a large, supportive and diverse roll of members. Many volunteer to help out in numerous ways: serving on subcommittees, devoting time to special projects, or hosting at the museum, among other activities. Beyond the personal satisfaction of volunteering, there are several tangible benefits to becoming a member: The Museum Store offers a 10% discount on all items. Family Membership entitles you to select a free historical photo of your choice from the GCIHS archives. Members are entitled to discounted priority reservations on limited seating special events (such as last season's Baker Island Home & Lighthouse Tour.) Future excursions will offer similar discounts for members. So tell your friends, relatives and neighbors to join our crew, and don't forget to renew your own membership when it expires. You will be providing a valuable community service by helping preserve the history of the Cranberry Isles, and you can enjoy some neat benefits at the same time. -Phil Whitney

Milestones

Deaths: Ruth Newell - 7/10/12 Carl Hardy, Jr. - 9/9/12 Joyce Bunker DePalmer - 11/10/12

Birthdays: Annie Alley - (80) - 10/5/12 Louise Strandberg - (80) - 10/18/12

Clara Wedge - (80) - 12/24/12

Current Members

Dues of \$15 (individual), or \$25 (family) or any donation \$25 or more starts or extends your GCIHS membership for a full year

Alson, Allan, Sue Ann Glaser	Donald, Malcolm	Kinsley, Rona	Ott, Emiline & Marvin	Southwest Harbor Hist. Soc.
Avery, Richard & Marianne	Dunbar, Charles & Nelia	Kneeland, Sheila	Pierson, Jr., Dr & Mrs Richard	Spurling, Leslie & Norma
Bailey, Patricia, (Heliker-LaHotan Foundation)	Dunn, Eric & Susan, (Susan A. Dunn Charitable Fund)	Kourakos, William	Polky, Adrien & Diane	Stanley, Ralph & Marion
Bancroft, Alice & Bill	Dwelley, Hugh L. & Shirley.	La Montagne, Deborah D.	Priest, Ron & Deb	Stone, Gregg & Lisa
Banks, Renita	Encarnation, Dennis, & Kathryn Graven	Liebow, Dr. Paul	Polshek, James & Ellyn	Storey, Joan A.
Beasley, E.B. & Lorrie	Fernald, Anna	Lim, Chong & Judith	Quackenbush, Fred & Wini	Strandberg, Louise B.
Bennett, Charles & Nancy	Fitch, Dorothy Peterson	Little, David & Mikki Jones	Quandt, Stephen & Thom H	Sullivan, Richard & Ann
Bertles, Helen	Freeman, Robin	Little, Carl & Peggy Beaulac	Raup, Henry A.	Trotter, Mike & Sue
Bileck, Emily Nelligan	Fuerst, Richard, Jr & Joanne	Little, Juliana	Rich, Louise Spurling	Tyrrell, John & Veronica
Bourbeau, Katherine	Gertmenian, Jim & Susan King	Lyman, Lincoln & Ruth	Richardson, Amy & Christina,	Uihlein, Lynde B.
Bradley, James & Virginia	Glidden, Suanne	Macfarlan, Michael D.	& Steve Mathew	Valenta, Jerry
Bradley, Stephen	Goldberg, Mark	Madara, Edward S Jr & Rosa	Richman, Michael	Wallace, William & Lena May
Bryan, Ashley	Grandgent, Gail	Linda	Roberts, Owen & Janet	Wallace, Debra
Buchsbaum, Elaine & Peter	Gray, Ed & Jane	Marsoobian, Armen & Fulvia	Robinson, John & Barbara	Ward, Susan & Rodman
Bunker, Pauline	Gulino, Daniel & Jacqueline	McShea, Naomi	Rome, Abigail	Watson, Thomas & Leslie
Bunker, Wilfred & Louise	Guth, Polly W. & John	Methot, Claude & Janice	Rome, Nathan & Bonnie Alpert	Westphal, Gretchen
Bunker, Allison & Mary Anne	Hall, Margaret	Michalski, Susan	Rose, Dr. Dan & Martha	White, Chris & Susan
Bunker, David & Wendy Rackliff	Harlan, George Jr. & Charlotte	Miles, Robert & Nancy	Saltostall, David	Whitney, Phil & Karin
Carter, Alice G. & Katrina	Harris, Nancy	Millar, Louise	Schmidt, Kenneth	Whitney, Katherine
Colby, Gaile, & Arvard Savage	Hartley, Holly & Oscar	Moore, Caryll (Beal)	Selim, Tarek, Elizabeth, Sarah	Wilson, James & Jane
Cole-Will, Rebecca, (Acadia National Park)	Anderson	Moss, Jan	& Laila, (CDM International Inc)	Wood, Cameron & Nancy
Comiskey, Elsa	Hook, Janet A. & Bill Patterson	Mountain, Ronald	Shaw, Gordon & Joy	Zimmerman, Sarah & Steven
Cooper, James & Joyce	Ingham, Jim & Cathy	Murray, Virginia	Shoemaker, Paul & Susanne	Zirkilton, Jane
Corley, Karl & Mary	Jackson, Jr., Mr & Mrs Orton P.	Nevius, Mary	Shorey, Ev & Joan	
Corson, Neal & Candace	Jeffries, Mary Beth	Newell, Sarah	Silvers, Damon & Elissa	
Craig, Karen	Jordan-Fernald	Newell, Morrison & Johnna	McBride	
Cranberry Club, c/o Mrs. Lawrie Harris	Kane, Cap, & Annie Eldridge	Newman, Susan & Jarvis	Singerling, Jim & Molly	
	Keegin, Stafford & Susan	Olson, John	Singerling, Chris	
		Oppenheimer, Jonathan & Jennifer	Singerling, Abigail	
			Singerling, Hannah	

President's Message

We are settling in for another quiet winter here on the island. The long, sunny days of summer are gone, replaced by the short, darker days of the approaching Christmas season.. The property is mostly dark, except for on-going archiving work in the basement. Donna Sunday can still be found checking out the gardens and yours truly spends time daily clearing brush and dead trees from the woods.

2012 was another enjoyable season replete with good food, fascinating historical displays, fun-filled events, programs and classes, and outdoor recreation on the shore trail. I have often remarked that the success of Cranberry House is due to the many people of varying interests and backgrounds, who have lent their time and talents throughout the season.

New café personnel Peggy Hall and Izzy McCafferty ably supported Karin Whitney (her 4th season!) at the Cranberry House café. Occasionally lunchtime music was provided by visiting Heliker / LaHotan Foundation musicians, making a lively addition to the dining experience.

The museum displays never looked better, as designed by Wini Smart. The new Baker Island exhibit attracted much attention and included photos from Baker Island residents too. The museum staff included Ruth Westphal, Gail Grandgent, Katherine Whitney and "Sunday Regular", Nancy Wood. On cold, rainy or foggy days we enjoyed having folks drop in, sit by the fire, and chit-chat with the staff.

Outside, the grounds were always beautiful and properly manicured due to Rodney Wimer and Donna Sunday and received dozens of compliments. A welcome addition this summer was Mary Beth Jeffries (Peg Hall's sister) who came to visit and stayed all summer, hosting a very popular tri-weekly Yoga class in the Arts Center.

Gail Grandgent must receive special mention, as a museum receptionist, and for her extraordinary efforts coordinating the Cranberry House events from April to October. Several events were her original ideas, and she encouraged talented people to perform, lecture, and teach. The end result was a wonderful potpourri of movies, lectures, concerts, poetry events, art exhibits, classes, meetings, and special events such as the 'Pirate Show', the Baker Island Tour, and the 'Sea Chantees' performance. Gail's enthusiasm, dedication and love of local history were a winning combination.

The addition of the Sammy Sanford and Shaw Cabins to the compound proved most welcome. Contractor Jesse Jameson devoted many hours remodeling porches, adding decks & ramps, painting and roof repairs. The end results were attractive, functional buildings. with the porch overlooking the new pond.

We also welcome Ted Madara to the Board of Trustees. Ted and his wife, Linda, have been very supportive of Cranberry House in recent years. Both have helped out with events, and Linda hosted a very successful photography exhibit in the Arts Center in 2012.

We were pleased to host an Outward Bound student group (ages 14-16) for a day in August. They are a service-oriented group in an outdoor classroom setting, sailing the Maine coast, and helping out with environmentally-oriented projects. Their main project here was cleaning the Whistler Cove shore of trash and debris. After completing their tiring assignment, the kids were rewarded with free ice cream at the café by Karin. The group had such a good time on the island that they hope to return for a longer support visit next year.

Another new partnership which began surfacing this season involved the Bar Harbor Whale Watch Company who provided a grand boating experience for the Baker Island Tour day. We hope to take advantage of possible future trip excursions with them to local historical sites, as well as hosting their tour groups to Cranberry House which would originate from Bar Harbor.

I should also single out Peggy Hall for her dedicated work with archiving our backlog of historical documents. She spent many hours after her café job, working on the computer. She has recently been traveling down from the Bangor area volunteering two days each week to continue the archiving work.

Finally, no mention could be made of our volunteers and staff, and the good work they have accomplished, without mentioning the legendary Bruce Komusin. Without Bruce there would have been no Cranberry House. His daily presence here and support in all aspects of the operation since our opening in 2008 have been invaluable - and irreplaceable.

I think you, the readers, can now understand why Cranberry House has been such a community success these past five years. If you are not a member, I encourage you to join. If you would like to contribute your talents and energies in some way towards our activities, I encourage you to contact me or any of the Trustees. You will be glad you did.

We look forward to hearing from you. Merry Christmas and a Happy 2013 from all of us at Cranberry House.

Phil Whitney - President

Bruce Komusin

The Cranberry Chronicle has a new editor this month. Bruce Komusin, former editor, has asked to be relieved of many of his duties at Cranberry House due to his recent serious illness. We all need to thank Bruce for his tireless efforts for the Historical Society. He was active right from the beginning of GCIHS.

Bruce has always been willing to help in any situation. In 1998 Bruce asked me to paint a backdrop for a play that Hugh Dwelly had written about Sammy Sanford and Rachel Field. It was to be performed at our church. We agreed a scene by Sammy's Cabin would be appropriate. Edna Andrade donated a large roll of canvas for the project. I hung the heavy canvas on racks on my deck, since it was about 10 feet long and too large for my studio. I used acrylics, a water based paint, and had finished several layers of color, the final coat on a Saturday night.. Early Sunday morning I awoke to a steady rain. To my horror, I saw the final layer of paint running down, staining all the mural and my deck. It was very early and there was no one around to help me. I jumped into my car to get Bruce. He willingly came to my aid and we stood in the rain for hours mopping and sponging off the streaks of unwanted paint and finally dragging the wet canvas to a dry location. We were both drenched but the mural was saved!

While living in Venice, Florida, Bruce's mother was a neighbor of Andy and Dot Mc Sorley, who had a large holding of land on the western shore of Cranberry Island. Dot, (sister of Louise Marr) had inherited this from her parents. They often spoke of the beauty of Cranberry Island. Mrs. Komusin decided to see the island and rented a house on Cranberry Road (where Bruce now resides.)

Bruce had been living in Monaco, where he did computer installation and programming for companies in many European countries, and in Russia and China. When he came to visit his mother on Cranberry Island he bought land on Preble Cove from the McSorleys in 1988. After an early retirement, Bruce designed and built his house overlooking the cove.



Bruce has worked endlessly for the success of the Historical Society. From mounting panels to create our first museum display at the Longfellow schoolhouse, to hours writing grants to raise necessary funds to buy, move, and renovate Cranberry House. The list goes on: fixing nearly anything, painting walls, cutting trees, making posters, printing and binding our publications, projecting the movies, making videos, and just being there as host or helper. Bruce's theory was "Information is not Knowledge until it is accessible" so he created his very informative web page: Cranberryisles.com So thanks Bruce, we couldn't have done it without you

.Wini Smarti

2000- Bruce Komusin hanging panels at the new GCIHS Historical Museum at the the Longfellow School





Gorgon Shaw's family repairing Sammy's cabin after the chimney was removed, 1976.



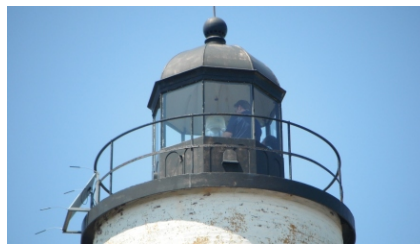
Current Interior photos of Sammy's Cabin, the kitchen has an iron sink, water pail and ice tongs.



Notes from Gordon Shaw

Shaw's cabin: " I carried the cement for the foundation by my small Whaler from Seal Harbor. The kit came over in a truck, on a barge from North East Harbor on Memorial Day weekend. It was beached in the morning, unloaded and re-floated empty by afternoon tide. The kit was laid out in sequential order. By the third day we went home having put up the framing, floor and roof! Not bad for three friends and a few kids!"

Baker Island Trip



It was a great trip on a perfect day to a beautiful island. Ralph Stanley told stories of his ancestors at the Gilley grave site. Many enjoyed picnic lunch at the lighthouse, explored the keepers house and climbed the tower. It was fun to see the interior of the houses thanks to our gracious hosts and the Park Service. The stronger visitors helped carry up lumber for our host's new deck. Everyone enjoyed the visit and want to go again.



Photos by Bruce Komusin & Wini Smart

Great Cranberry Island Historical Society
P.O. Box 12
Cranberry Isles, ME 04625

Order & Membership Form

Instructions:

Copy this full page, including your address mailing label, right.
 Fill in the quantity & subtotal of the item(s) you want.
 Add a desired level of membership renewal.
 Add donation(s) to any Cranberry House Sustaining Fund(s).
 Make out check for grand total, payable to GCIHS.
 Mail using the enclosed pre-addressed envelope.

Item	Price	Q'ty	S.Tot
Balsam Pillows, 6-in. wide	\$10 ea., 3 for \$25	_____	_____

VIDEOS (DVDs in USA format)

Interview & Fishing with Wesley Bracy, Jr	\$14	_____	_____
Interview of Robert Cumming	\$14	_____	_____
Interview of Marjorie Phippen	\$14	_____	_____
Interview of Ada Rice	\$14	_____	_____
Interview of Charles Wadsworth	\$14	_____	_____
Moving Cranberry House, Nov. 16, 2004	\$14	_____	_____
Great Cranberry Island: Hitty's Home	\$14	_____	_____
Rachel Field Recites: Fantasy by Daniel Maslan	\$14	_____	_____
Once Upon an Island, D. Jackson & K. Blodgett	\$14	_____	_____
Spinning Sheep Tales with Gail Grandgent	\$14	_____	_____
Manset Ribbon-Cutting, May 15, 2003	\$14	_____	_____

Night of Poetry and Music 2002	\$14	_____	_____
Night of Poetry and Music 2004	\$14	_____	_____
Ralph Stanley and Friends, music	\$14	_____	_____
Carrie Richardson of Big Cranberry play	\$14	_____	_____

PUBLICATIONS

A Cabin in the Woods	\$24	_____	_____
House Histories of Great Cranberry Island	\$32	_____	_____
Cranberry Road	\$22	_____	_____
Winter: The Other Season	\$22	_____	_____
Artists of the Cranberry Isles	\$27	_____	_____
Enterprising Islanders	\$22	_____	_____
If It Were Yesterday... GCI Coloring Book	\$17	_____	_____
Boatdog Bess	\$22	_____	_____
God's Pocket by Rachel Field, hardcover	\$28	_____	_____
Hitty Preble booklet & flat wooden doll	\$25	_____	_____
The Construction of Road "I-95"	\$ 8	_____	_____
Salvaging Cargo from the Emily F. Northam	\$ 8	_____	_____
The Asa D. Stanley House, ca. 1857-1863)	\$ 8	_____	_____
The Heraldry of GCI: lobstermen's colors	\$ 3	_____	_____
The Fairies, a poem suitable for framing	\$ 3	_____	_____
Contributions For Cranberry House 2004-2008	\$ 7	_____	_____
Riding with Tud, interview Mar. 18, 1993	\$12	_____	_____
An Interview with Tud Bunker, Oct. 1992	\$ 8	_____	_____
Interview with Ralph Stanley	\$ 8	_____	_____
GCI Maine Artist Sketchbook by S. Michalski	\$20	_____	_____
A Taste of Cranberry art of Susan Michalski	\$12	_____	_____
Surf, Stone, & Spruce by Ted Harlan	\$12	_____	_____

TOTAL FOR ITEMS _____

Copy of TOTAL FOR ITEMS (from left column) _____

Membership renewal for 365 days	Individual (\$15)	_____
(fill in one)	Family (\$25)	_____

Donation to a Fund	Events	_____
(fill in one or more to help	Operating	_____
sustain Cranberry House)	Endowment	_____

Cabin Renovation item _____

GRAND TOTAL _____

Shipping Name & Address (if different from mailing label)
 Name _____

Addr _____

Notes _____