

# Cranberry Chronicle

NEWS OF CRANBERRY HOUSE AND GREAT CRANBERRY ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## Campaign for Cranberry House Launched

KELLY SHEETS DICKSON

GARY FRIEDMANN & ASSOCIATES

**A**s we enter our tenth season of operation, it is clear that Cranberry House needs additional attention and investment to ensure it continues to serve as a center of historical preservation and cultural enrichment. Last summer, the Great Cranberry Island Historical Society (GCIHS) carried out a strategic planning process with staff and trustees, and a series of community meetings determined both need and support for:

1. Stabilizing staff funding through an endowment; and
2. Improving the facility for enhanced archival storage and exhibition space.



*Fritz Fernald, Oscar Bulger, Fred Bracy, Maid, Alton Bunker, Wesley Bracy, Sr. at Seal Harbor Yacht Club in bygone days.*

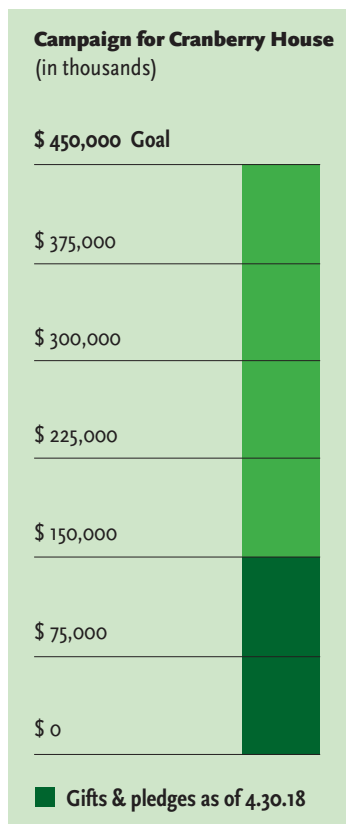
COURTESY POLLY BUNKER

## Cranberry House History

PHIL WHITNEY

**T**his year we are celebrating the 10th anniversary of Cranberry House which opened its doors on June 15th, 2008. How rapidly time has passed – the hundreds of events held, history made, and history uncovered, supporters who have come and gone, facility expansions made, and program additions added. Looking back, it is nothing less than a miracle that the Historical Society found a new home, that Cranberry House was located, purchased, moved, renovated and opened, and has continued moving forward ever since. Many people have participated along the way to reach where the organization is today. But in order to fully understand and appreciate these developments over the years, it is necessary to go back – long before Cranberry House existed – and review how the miracle unfolded:

In August, 1993 summer resident Susan Ward hosted a gathering of interested islanders at her cottage on the back shore to discuss the formation of a Historical Society for Great Cranberry Island. Prior to this there had been no historical preservation organization to ensure that the island's history was safe-guarded. Homes changed hands, new ones were added, the island's history was



We conducted a feasibility study using the firm of Gary Friedmann & Associates in Bar Harbor. Nearly 40 people were interviewed, sharing their thoughts about whether the historical society should move forward with a fundraising campaign to address the above issues.

The results showed that with the support of the community we should be able to raise \$450,000 to establish a staff endowment and build a small expansion on Cranberry House that will provide the temperature and humidity controlled environment we need for our archives. The expansion

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Brad & Lib Woodworth  
Designer

Penmor Lithographers  
Printer

CONTACT US

Great Cranberry Island  
Historical Society  
P.O. Box 12  
Cranberry Isles, ME 04625  
info@gcihs.org

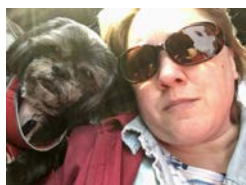
## Notes of Appreciation

*We wish to thank the following individuals  
for their volunteer support of Cranberry  
House and GCIHS this past winter and spring:*

- **Chris Johnston**  
For generous support of GCIHS Housing  
needs with "The Barn"
- **Jim Singerling**  
For assuming the Chairmanship of the  
GCIHS Fundraising Campaign Committee
- **Ric Gaither and Karin Whitney**  
For outstanding support in decorating the  
Cranberry House and grounds at Christmas  
time. Making it the best display ever!

## Editor's Note

Hello! My name is Sharon Morrell and my  
little furry friend is Cosmo. We moved to  
Great Cranberry Island on February 1, 2018.  
I have been a fan-from-afar for many years  
and finally decided to just go ahead and move  
on up to this beautiful place. I came most  
recently from central Pennsylvania but have  
also lived in New York and I grew up in



Massachusetts. I am  
very excited to be  
part of island life and  
look forward to  
being involved in the  
community.

For the last 15 years I worked and volunteered  
as an Emergency Medical Technician at  
several ambulance companies and in a hospi-  
tal outside of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania  
and, just because I cannot generally make  
up my mind what I want to be when I grow  
up, I have also worked as a paralegal, as a  
preschool teacher and in a newspaper office.  
My daughter and son are both grown up and  
still live in Pennsylvania but I am looking  
forward to many visits as they both fell in love  
with the island when they helped me move.

I am a fly by the seat of my pants kind of  
person and I enjoy change and challenge. I  
agreed to take up the reins and be the new  
editor of the *Cranberry Chronicle*. I promise  
to do my best. I hope that I can make a  
positive contribution to the Cranberry Islands  
for many years and look forward to meeting  
you all.

## Milestones

### Passings

- 2.6.18 Kathie Murch
- 2.10.18 Joan Shorey
- 2.12.18 Shawn King
- 2.17.18 Mickey Macfarlan (*see obituary below*)
- 2.20.18 Helen Dudman
- 3.29.18 Janet Roberts

### Transitions

- **Colleen Bunker & Joe Connell**  
Moved to GCI – November 2017
- **Sharon Morrell**  
Moved to GCI – February 2018

## Michael D. Macfarlan, 1925-2018

Michael D. Macfarlan, "Mickey," age 92, died  
peacefully on Saturday, February 17, 2018,  
at his home on Great Cranberry Island. After  
receiving a diagnosis in late December of  
pancreatic cancer, he returned to the island  
where he had lived for the last 55 years of  
his life.

Mickey was born in Philadelphia in 1925.  
After attending Brooks School in North  
Andover, MA, he enlisted in the U.S. Army.  
Mickey graduated from Harvard, class  
of 1949.

He is survived by his two nieces, Ruth and  
Lisa Freeman, and his two great-nephews,  
Ned and Bob Swain. A true gentleman  
with many interests and talents, Mickey will  
be missed by them and all his friends and  
neighbors on Great Cranberry.



PHOTO: PABLO OCAMPO

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## President's Report

PHIL WHITNEY

**A highlight of the season will be the Campaign Fundraising Reception at the Singerling Residence on Long Ledge on July 28th.**



Donna Sondag tending the gardens at Cranberry House

**T**his winter was very cold and windy with a considerable amount of snow falling in February and March. January saw 10 straight days where the temperature hovered between zero and ten degrees (not counting wind chill factors). The passing of Mickey Macfarlan in February further dampened our spirits this long winter. Mickey was a good friend, excellent neighbor, and devoted supporter of GCIHS who will be missed greatly. (*See separate Memorial article, page 18*)

The new generator, which was installed last autumn, continued to provide dependable service through several power outages. Jesse Jameson and Ben Walls completed insulating the interior roof of the Arts Center. The end product was not only visually pleasing but should significantly reduce heating costs. School students held class for over a week in the Cranberry House Arts Center when an episode of frozen pipes in the Longfellow School created a very unpleasant and cold atmosphere for learning. Everyone reported the Cranberry House facilities were warm, comfortable and user-friendly. There was steady activity in the building throughout the winter with weekly movies, occasional karaoke sessions, and numerous meetings being held. Karin Whitney and Ric Gaither decorated the Arts Center, installed a Christmas tree on the deck, and hung Christmas lights on all the buildings to create a beautiful Christmas neighborhood setting. Towards the end of winter Colleen Bunker began holding acupuncture sessions (by reservation) every Monday morning in the Arts Center.

The GCI Historical Society Fundraising Campaign Committee began holding regular meetings, developing strategies and planning events for later this summer. Two areas of fundraising focus will be securing money to continue funding the General Manager and Archivist positions and expanding the Cranberry House Building to provide climate-controlled historical archives storage and additional museum display space. (*See separate Fundraising article, page 1*)

The Events Committee has been meeting weekly since early February. We have a very enthusiastic group this year. They have developed a large and diverse program of events. A highlight of the season will be the Campaign Fundraising Reception at the Singerling Residence on Long Ledge on July 28th. (*See separate Events article, page 24*)

There have been several personnel transitions this spring. After ten years of dedicated service maintaining our gardens and lawns, Donna Sondag and Rodney Wimer will not be returning to the island due to other increasing business demands. Rosalie Kell regretfully departed the island due to health-related reasons. She performed outstanding service as the Editor of the *Cranberry Chronicle*. New resident Sharon Morrell has graciously agreed to become the new Editor, which is deeply appreciated by our team. Also, newly-arrived Colleen Bunker has joined our Events Committee and will also be involved with providing Acupuncture sessions and lecturing

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**Annual Volunteers  
Appreciation Day  
Sunday, August 26th**

**This year we have scheduled the Maine Seacoast Mission Boat *Sunbeam* to transport us to the island paradise of Isle au Haut to tour their community and facilities.**

**Relocation of  
Wini Smart Buildings**

Early this year, the four Wini Smart buildings were purchased by an out-of-state buyer and scheduled to be torn down. They were offered to GCIHS free provided they could be moved by April 15th. Research indicated the cost of moving and situating all the buildings on Cranberry House land was prohibitive. An alternative plan of taking the two smaller buildings and detaching a wing from the main residence proved much less costly. The woodlot site was cleared and prepped, and the buildings were moved up the road and placed on site over several days in mid-April. Cosmetic work to the building exteriors will be completed before Memorial Day. Decisions for utilizing each building will be made later this Spring.



on acupuncture and holistic health topics. Cézar Ferreira will be returning to run Hitty's Café for his fifth season and is hiring several additional personable new faces to support his growing food service operation. New Cranberry Isles Realty Trust (CIRT) General Manager Bill Dowling has established a small rented office in the Cranberry House basement.

This Spring promises much outdoor work and exterior landscape changes around the property. GCIHS has salvaged several of the Wini Smart compound buildings, located at Spurling Cove, which were scheduled for demolition by the new buyers. We cleared a small section of the woodlot inherited from Bruce Komusin, located directly across the parking lot from Cranberry House, and moved the buildings to that site. Plans to utilize the buildings are currently under discussion. (*See sidebar at left*)

Ben Walls and Phil Whitney cleared out extensive dead trees from the Blue Heron Pond and continue to landscape the pond area. Operations Committee members installed a picnic table at Preble Cove Beach. This involved a concerted effort to carry it a long distance along the beach from the Chris Johnston residence. (Bodybuilder Ric Gaither complained of a sore back during the move which caused some (but not all) who were sympathetic, to shoulder more of the load. Was this "fake news"?) There were many tree blowdowns this winter. Ben Sumner is taking charge to reopen the Whistler Cove and Preble Beach Trails with support from Maine Coast Heritage Trust personnel. We also are clearing the Preble Cemetery Trail and the old Woods Road Trail which originates at Schoolhouse Hill off Cranberry Road. There are also on-going efforts to reduce undergrowth on previously cleared areas of the Cranberry House property woods.

I should finally mention that our Annual Volunteers Appreciation Day will be held on Sunday, August 26th. This year we have scheduled the Maine Seacoast Mission Boat *Sunbeam* to transport us to the island paradise of Isle au Haut to tour their community and facilities. Anyone who has volunteered their services in support of Cranberry House this 2018 season is invited to join us. We look forward to another exciting season around the Cranberry House property. I hope you will come and experience it with us.



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## General Manager's Report

BEN SUMNER



Oversize ledger,  
Gift of Michael Macfarlan

**I**t has been a busy winter for the Great Cranberry Island Historical Society. With the help of Lindsay Hancock we have submitted two grant applications for projects so far this year. They include proposals to upgrade the Shaw Cabin for the use of our children's programs in the summer and a project to digitally preserve and share a number of oversized ledgers that record a century of Cranberry Isles history from 1850-1954. Concurrent with this second project, the Board of Trustees approved moving forward with an initiative to continue the process of bringing our catalogue up to digital preservation standards. The Campaign Committee has been meeting throughout the winter months to fine tune its plans and prepare for the Campaign's kickoff event in July. After several years of dedicated service, Donna Sondag has turned over care of our gardens to GCI resident Sarah McCracken. Much of the early spring was spent in efforts to salvage part of the Wini Smart property (and formerly the Cranberry Cove Restaurant) and relocate the buildings in a suitable fashion on GCIHS property.

In addition to the Capital Campaign fundraising initiative addressed elsewhere in this edition of the *Chronicle*, we are constantly working to find additional ways of leveraging our assets to provide for the long-term stability of the organization and our community. Using the highly successful collaboration with Cézar Ferriera and Hitty's Café as a model, GCIHS has recently entered into two other leasing arrangements with GCI community members. In February, GCIHS allocated office space for the Cranberry Isles Realty Trust for use by General Manager Bill Dowling. In March, an agreement was reached with Colleen Bunker, an island resident and licensed acupuncturist, to reserve space in the Arts Center on a weekly basis for her to conduct appointments. Both of these arrangements allow for island residents to conduct business at a reasonable rate in a quality facility without having to duplicate overhead costs. Additionally, both of the Bruce Komusin cabins and the workshop at 300 Cranberry Road are occupied and provide support to GCIHS. We envision pursuing similar collaborations with the newly acquired Wini Smart buildings.

Stop in and visit this summer. We look forward to seeing you.

**I equate this campaign to a man my age planting a sapling tree every year, even though I know I will not live long enough to enjoy those saplings as they become the 60-foot trees that line Cranberry Road or our front yard. There are things in life that I simply must do. Someone had to plant those trees when they were small.**

**Jim Singerling**

also has the potential to expand display space in the Preble Marr Museum on the second floor.

A Campaign Committee was formed at the end of 2017 to lead this campaign. The committee will be led by Jim Singerling. An Honorary Campaign Committee has also been formed to lend their support, which is headed up by Jamie and Jane Wilson.

We are pleased to announce that we have already raised \$150,000 in gifts and pledges toward our goal; this represents 100% participation by GCIHS trustees and members of the Campaign Committee. We hope everyone who loves the Cranberry Isles and cares about our community will consider a stretch gift to ensure that Great Cranberry continues to grow and thrive as a strong, year-round island community. We believe that Cranberry House is central to maintaining our status as only one of 15 islands left in Maine with a year-round population.

The campaign launch will be held from 3 to 5 pm on Saturday, July 28th at Jim and Molly Singerling's house, with entertainment by the MDI High School jazz musicians and canapes provided by C  zar Ferreira. All supporters of Cranberry House are invited. If you wish to attend and have not received an invitation, please contact Ben Sumner at Cranberry House 244.7800 or [manager@gcihs.org](mailto:manager@gcihs.org). We are excited to present our plans for expanding and improving Cranberry House and starting a staff endowment. To support our efforts, please contact Jim Singerling at 244.3037 or [james.singerling@gmail.com](mailto:james.singerling@gmail.com) to discuss how to contribute.

**We greatly appreciate donations of all sizes.**

## Support Cranberry House

### BECOME A FRIEND OF GREAT CRANBERRY ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**FRIEND: \$25**  
**FAMILY FRIEND: \$50**  
**DONOR: \$100**  
**SUPPORTER: \$250**  
**PATRON: \$500**  
**BENEFACTOR:  
\$1,000+**

- Support Special Projects through your extra special contributions.
- Donate in Honor of a Loved One
- Fill the Donation Jars at the museum and on the shuttle, or at movies, lectures, and other events.

Whatever you can afford,  
we will sincerely appreciate it.

- As a 501(c)(3) non-profit institution, contributions are tax deductible.
  - Remember – one forward-thinking person began the process with a single donation.
- Look what's happened in just ten years!

### DONORS

November 1, 2017 -  
April 30, 2018

### FRIEND

Jean Fernald  
Patricia M. Pinkham  
Leslie & Norma Spurling  
Ruth Westphal

### FAMILY FRIEND

Nancy Brooks  
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Astor Street Foundation  
Chris Johnston  
Robert Murch

safe-guarded. Homes changed hands, new ones were added, the residents and old ways were changing, and we were losing the precious and only sources we had of knowing and remembering our past. Many artifacts and documents reflecting the history of the island and the region were being tossed away and lost forever as the processes of this change occurred. Something had to be done to try saving what was left of local heritage. Shortly after this meeting the Great Cranberry Island Historical Society was officially founded as a non-profit 501 (c)(3) organization. Two of its earliest members were Wini Smart and Bruce Komusin.

For seven years, the new GCI Historical Society had no home. Consequently, it was very difficult to accept and preserve historical items which islanders wished to donate, as there was no space available to store them. In 2000, the misfortune of one entity became the good luck of another. The Longfellow School closed its doors, having run out of students after ninety-five years. The building was standing vacant. Ms. Smart and Mr. Komusin saw an opportunity and, supported by the Historical Society members, rented the downstairs spaces and renovated the rooms to establish an Historical Society Museum. The museum opened for business the first week of August in 2000. Charlene Allen was the first receptionist.

The new museum proved popular despite the fact it was a considerable walk for tourists from the ferry dock. After several years, in 2003, the possibility surfaced that the school might re-open, as there were now several small children on the island. There was concern that the Historical Society might have to vacate the building. Discussions began regarding the historical society's acquisition of their own building to house the museum. The first question pondered was: should GCIHS raise money to build a new building or attempt to locate an available historical building to purchase. Both seemed unlikely possibilities on this small island, but the decision was made to undertake a search for a current standing structure.



*The Mountain View Inn*

Then with a combination of good fortune, financial support and dogged determination from forward-thinking islanders a vision began to materialize. Bruce Komusin owned 18 acres of woodland which partially fronted on Cranberry Road at Schoolhouse Hill and in early 2004 he donated two acres of this land to GCIHS. This generous act was the starting point on the long journey ahead to acquire and establish a new home for the historical society. Next, a miracle occurred when the following summer a suitable large building was found behind Eva Galyean's residence that she was willing to sell. The building was structurally sound, sized and suited to our needs and had considerable historical significance. The building had previously been known as the Mountain View Inn. Island resident Annie Spurling had operated a restaurant within between the teens and early 1930s serving guests on the second floor and preparing meals on the ground floor. Since the mid-30s, the building had been primarily used for storage,



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**The building was standing vacant. Ms. Smart and Mr. Komusin saw an opportunity and, supported by the Historical Society members, rented the**

**downstairs spaces and renovated the rooms to establish an Historical Society Museum.**

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*Watercolor (detail) of Cranberry House by Wini Smart*  
GCIHS COLLECTION

lobster trap repairs, and small boat maintenance. By 2004 it was used only for storage. A purchase deal was arranged, and Ken Jordan Movers of Waltham was hired to coordinate the move. During this time, with winter rapidly closing in, a move date was set. November 14th was forecasted as the last possible date before risking snow, high wind and cold weather so November 14th became the day! It took nearly superhuman effort, much cajoling, and considerable luck, to round up all needed support workers on the island that day – movers, electrical, telephone, bargaining, tree trimmers, etc. The move took 2 days to complete. All went remarkably well – so smoothly in fact that only one small pane of glass was broken. In preparation for the move money had been raised and a full basement had been dug on the donated land. The building was backed down alongside the basement foundation and slid sideways onto steel beams across the foundation to its final resting place. Bruce Komusin compiled a 15-minute video of the move which is available for viewing in the present-day museum.

A Renovation Committee was established. It was composed primarily of Phil Whitney (Chairman), Wini Smart, Bruce Komusin and Sarah Newell. Since the building was somewhat larger than originally anticipated, ideas for multi-purpose uses were discussed. Wini Smart was the principal visionary at this stage of the mission. She envisioned the ground floor housing the museum and a café with a deck. The second floor was to be an arts center with public restrooms. The basement would be utilized for archival work and storage. She subsequently envisioned the establishment of a public trail to Whistler's Cove leading from the museum property. Ben Fulves of Heartwood Builders was hired as General Contractor for the project. It was estimated that it would take eight years to complete the work and that \$550,000 in funds would need to be raised. Sprinkler systems, alarm systems, and a lift were expensive, but required, mandates for a public building. Work would proceed as rapidly as donations and grant money flowed in. It was amazing that the work was completed in half the time – just 4 years. It was miraculous that such a large sum of money was able to be raised in such a short period of time. It seemed that every time we were running out of money, a new funding source would be found, or someone else would step forward to help.



*Bruce Komusin, Wini Smart, and Phil Whitney*  
GCIHS COLLECTION

For fundraising purposes, the building had been named “Cranberry House.” Initially referring only to the structure itself, it eventually came to encompass the entire two-acre compound and the multiple future buildings and activities which evolved onto the property. Cranberry House opened for business on June 15, 2008. A formal Ribbon-Cutting Dedication was held on July 4th. Charlene Allen who was the museum's first receptionist was followed later by other receptionists including, Bruce Komusin, Phil Whitney, Karin Whitney, Chris Johnston, Gail Grandgent, Nancy Wood and Neal Corson, among others. The museum's exhibits diversified over the years often rotating each season. Wini Smart initially coordinated the museum set-ups. In later years Anne Grulich took over the job. Some of the most popular exhibits included the *Wall of Fame*, *GCI Farming History*, *Island Businesses*, *Sea Faring Days*, a *Coastal Schooner*

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**The Arts Center on the second floor was envisioned as a multi-purpose events forum and it has provided more educational and entertainment**

**programs than anyone could have imagined. Over the past 10 years there have been thousands of events and meetings held there.**



*Chef Cézar Ferreira*

and *Indian Artifacts*. Later, an audio-visual equipment system was installed in the building. This enabled visitors to experience island history in a multi-media fashion and enjoy various videos, many which had been produced by Ms. Smart and Mr. Komusin. Museum attendance steadily climbed each season, soon exceeding 3,000 visitors, as the shorter distance to walk (or ride) allowed more tourists to easily reach the destination.

Hitty's Café was an instant success. The café was named by Bruce Komusin, who would passionately defend the name when inquiring islanders asked, "Why Hitty's?" Hitty was a fictional character in a children's book. *Hitty – Her first Hundred Years* was written by author Rachel Field a famous former GCI summer visitor and Sutton Island resident. The book had won the Newbury Award for Best Children's Book in 1929. The Preble House, home of Mickey Macfarlan, was believed to be the site of many scenes in the book. From the beginning, the café was leased as a private for-profit business. The café, like the museum, also grew steadily popular over the years. It appealed to locals, summer residents and tourists alike. The deck proved a relaxing and scenic setting for meeting with friends, observing island life, and enjoying a delicious lunch. Lauren Gray intrepidly ran the café single-handed for the first year. She found it a huge amount of work and the daily grind to be exhausting. As with any good business, the customers out front were happy and unaware of the immense amount of work involved. Kasey Burgess took over running the café for the second year, but unfortunately left suddenly mid-season due to health problems. In response to this emergency came Karin Whitney to the rescue. She immediately, albeit somewhat reluctantly, took over with high hopes and enthusiasm but no experience in running a café operation. Although there was turmoil behind the screen doors, the customers outside never seemed to notice any disruption. Fortunately, Karin was a superb cook which helped mitigate any difficulties she faced with her initial lack of administrative and business skills. She was a quick study and soon customers were coming to the café from Bar Harbor, Seal Harbor and Northeast Harbor – specifically to visit Karin and sample her cooking. In the beginning, the café's work area was a cramped, over-heated one room space, which was intolerable some days. Karin nearly collapsed from heat exhaustion on several occasions, but she persevered. In 2011, the café space was doubled with an addition on the south side of the building. This improved working conditions dramatically. After 4 years Karin retired from the café and turned over the reins to Cézar Ferreira. GCIHS was extremely fortunate to obtain the services of Cézar Ferreira, a professional chef. Cézar engineered a smooth transition and has proved to be very popular with the customers. He has employed many of the island's young people over the past several years, training them in providing quality service, and has run the business very professionally. He will enjoy his 5th season at Cranberry House this year.

The Arts Center on the second floor was envisioned as a multi-purpose events forum and it has provided more educational and entertainment programs than anyone could have imagined. Over the past 10 years there have been thousands of events and



*Full house at Peter Eldridge movie*



*Fundraising dinner at Cranberry House*

meetings held there. The room was imaginatively designed to accommodate many varied activities, but no one could have foreseen the breadth of experiences which have transpired there. The “Seaside Playhouse” was created to host movies for locals and visitors alike. Quality movies of classic and newer vintage have been screened ever since. A Summer Lecture Series was created and offering varied historical, political, and artistic programs by both local and regional presenters. Concerts have offered folk, classical, and popular music presentations. The annual week-long “Art of the Cranberry Isles” event has showcased the artistic talents of island artists, both young and old. Individual art exhibits, poetry classes and readings, receptions, parties and numerous meetings of both GCIHS committees and other organizations have filled the Events Calendar. There have been dance classes, kid’s crafts classes, acupuncture sessions, yoga, karaoke, exercise classes and historical slides shows. The GCIHS Open House event in early July has become an annual tradition. Major memorable events of the decade have included but are by no means limited to – Polly Bunker Day, Charlene Allen’s Birthday Party, Wilfred Bunker’s Birthday Party/Historical Slide Show, Maine Tourism Lobster Bake, and the Chamber Music Concert/Dinner. The GCIHS Events Committee has done remarkable work over the years, meeting weekly from February thru August, planning and implementing most of these activities.

The basement has been utilized year-round from the beginning for archival research and storage. The Administrative Offices are also located there, as well as office space recently established and rented to Cranberry Isles Realty Trust (CIRT) for their General Manager. Anne Grulich was hired in 2013 as a part-time Archivist. She has accomplished an incredible amount of work curating our collections, developing exhibits, and uncovering previously unknown GCI history, most significantly involving island cemeteries, residences, and 19th century nautical voyages.

With grant funding, GCIHS was able to hire a part-time General Manager to help ease the ever-growing workload of the historical society’s president. Jessi Duma first came to Cranberry Island in 2015 as a GCIHS Island Fellow in conjunction with the Island Institute and College of the Atlantic to research the history of island farming and generate interest in gardening and farming among the island’s schoolkids. In 2017 this two-year fellowship was completed, and she was chosen as the first General Manager. After one year, Jessi left to pursue a Master’s Degree. She was succeeded by island resident Ben Sumner in late 2017. Ben made a smooth transition into the position and utilizes the basement as his center of operations.

Not everything that has happened at Cranberry House has occurred within its walls or on its decks. Far from it! As previously noted, a trail was established, in cooperation with landowners Bruce Komusin and O.P. Jackson, through Conservation Easement land managed by the Maine Coast Heritage Trust. Over the years thousands of hikers have traversed this trail and marveled at the beauty of the woods and extensive preserved shoreline. Peter Buchsbaum, famed nature trail guide, offers free guided

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*Stocking the pond*

trail walks during the summer, educating people about the flora along the trail. In 2016, GCIHS began negotiations with Maine Coast Heritage Trust and CIRT concerning the Preble Cove Beach and its access trail. When Bruce Komusin died in February 2015, through his estate he gifted Preble Cove, along with other property, to CIRT, but specified an easement be established to permit GCIHS to utilize the trail and beach area for low level activities (picnics, lobster bakes, etc.). This agreement was finalized in 2017 and as a result, Cranberry House is now the trailhead for two separate shore trails – Whistler Cove and Preble Cove. Preble Cove has grown in popularity, especially with families with small children.

Outdoors activities continued to grow. A former mud hole was dug out and expanded over the years to become the Blue Heron Pond, named after a pesky heron who visited continuously looking for fish. The pond was stocked with rainbow trout in 2016. The pond also is home to frogs and both wild and tame ducks. During cold winters, ice skating has been enjoyed on the pond. A smaller pond was dug adjacent to the Sammy Sanford Cabin. Named the Samson Pond, it also contains frogs. The grounds adjacent to the larger pond have an old lobster boat named the *High Hopes* on display. This lobster boat display illustrates a typical example of island generosity in support of

Cranberry House operations. One Saturday afternoon Ric Gaither and Phil Whitney had an idea to rescue an abandoned, decaying lobster boat from behind a CIRT residence and move it to the Cranberry House site for possible future lobstering talks and demos. As they talked, Blair Colby, who was driving by with his usual train of construction equipment, was waved down and the idea was discussed further. Within two hours the lobster boat was in place on the Cranberry House property – for no charge. The gardens around the Cranberry House have gradually developed over the past decade. Donations from the Ted & Linda Madara Family and the Hartley Family have created and maintained the gardens on the north side of the building. An interesting anecdote, again typically representing the generosity of islanders towards the



*Fishing at Blue Heron Pond*

Cranberry House project, occurred in the Spring of 2013. Phil Whitney was entering the Cranberry House when Clay Taylor, who was walking up the road, called to him. She commented that the southern side of the property (the ballfield side) didn't look very attractive. After a short discussion, she offered \$30,000 to install an attractive garden! Within three weeks she had personally supervised completion of the garden – a beautiful addition to the property. For all these years, professional gardener Donna Sondag and lawnmower Rodney Wimer have maintained the gardens and lawns in superb condition. Rodney performed his services for free, and Donna has never raised her contract fee during this time. Thanks to their efforts the gardens have become tourist attractions and a popular spot for photographers.

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**We believe that Cranberry House is central to maintaining our status as only one of 15 islands left in Maine with a year-round population.**

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*Sammy Sanford's cabin*



*Samuel Sanford stands outside the front door of his cabin on Preble Cove, ca. 1912*  
GCIHS COLLECTION



*Northeast Geophysical Services (Bangor) survey the Spurling Cove Cemetery in 2016 with ground penetrating radar.*  
Photo: A. Grulich

Two other welcome additions to the grounds occurred in 2013 when Northeast Harbor summer resident O.P. Jackson donated two cabins previously located on the back shore to GCIHS. One was the historic Sammy Sanford Cabin, where the old hermit, a stepson of William Preble made famous by Rachel Field's book, *God's Pocket*, had lived for nearly fifty years. The other was a newer cabin in good condition. Jackson additionally offered \$40,000 for GCIHS to move the cabins up through the woods over the former ice harvesting road, during the winter. Everything went smoothly, and the weather cooperated perfectly – no snow and frozen grounds. Today the Sanford Cabin is on display as a representation of how Sammy lived many years ago. The other building, now known as the "Shaw Cabin," has done yeoman service as winter storage space and hosted summer art classes and the kids-operated "Whistler Cove Variety Store." In 2016, because of a severe shortage of storage space for larger historical items, a small wooden shed was constructed next to the Shaw Cabin. It was designed to house two antique row boats and a beautiful, recently acquired, rare horse-drawn buckboard manufactured in Bar Harbor in the late 1800s. The buggy had previously been stored in the Red House barn of Chong and Judy Lim for approximately the last 120 years. Without the new shed these precious items would have been left exposed to the elements and disintegrated rapidly.

The generosity of Bruce Komusin in support of Cranberry House, and his vision of its importance to the Cranberry Island community, cannot be overstated. Upon his death he willed a two-acre woodlot adjacent to the Cranberry House parking lot to GCIHS. In addition, he willed three buildings at 300 Cranberry Road, which included his former residence, to GCIHS. The woodlot today is under partial development. The residence buildings are currently rented by Sharon Morrell and César Ferreira. The workshop is rented by Contractor Jesse Jameson. Bruce stipulated in his will that the buildings would always be utilized in support of Cranberry House and all the occupants provide significant support in that regard. There is also a duck pond behind the buildings which lends to an attractive back yard.

In 2014 and 2016 GCIHS undertook two major historical projects outside the Cranberry House grounds. The old Stanley Cemetery, on the south end of the island was in severe disrepair. GCIHS formed a Cemetery Subcommittee and in cooperation with the Church and interested family members Fred Weininger of Milbridge was hired to completely restore the cemetery. Anne Grulich did extensive research on each gravestone and much was learned about the property and its people. The following year the long-neglected Spurling Cove Revolutionary War Cemetery located near the ferry dock was addressed. This was the oldest cemetery on the island and contains the graves of Revolutionary War veterans and a Torie sympathizer. Again, extensive research was performed by Anne Grulich and in conjunction with Northeast Geophysical Services in Bangor that utilized ground penetrating radar, it was determined there were many unmarked graves at the site. A cooperative funding effort between the Town, Church and GCIHS resulted in the hiring again of Fred Weininger. The

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14





*Cranberry Island Explorer  
a.k.a., The Shuttle*

**We have begun an 18 months long fundraising campaign to ensure long-term funding for our Archivist and General Manager positions and to construct additional space for archives and museum operations to protect and display our growing historical collection. We hope, with the community's help, to raise \$450,000 to achieve these goals.**

existing stones were rehabilitated and a beautiful new memorial stone containing the names of all known individuals buried in the cemetery was installed.

A major development occurred in 2013 which exceeded all expectations of success. An idea was proposed by a GCIHS officer to establish a golf cart scheduled shuttle service to transport passengers and freight the entire length of the island, picking up and dropping off passengers anywhere enroute. The idea had been proposed

several years previously with the purpose of carrying visitors to Cranberry House. But no insurance company would support the idea and unfortunately it languished. The idea was revived in 2013 but again insurance companies were unwilling to cover the activity. At the very last minute, before the service plans for 2013 would have to be abandoned, LS Robinson Insurance of Southwest Harbor came through with their support. A six-passenger golf cart was rented for the first season. It proved so popular that the Trustees voted the next year to purchase an eight-passenger "stretch limo" emerald green golf cart. Over the four years since inception ridership has increased to over 5,000 passengers annually (not counting dogs, cats, goats, bicycles, baggage, surfboards, etc.). It has been popular with tourists, summer residents, and even locals who have sometimes hauled trailers attached behind it. It has become a significant tourist attraction modeled after the MDI Island Explorer and known as the "Cranberry Island Explorer" or loosely referred to as "The Shuttle." It currently operates every day mid-June to mid-September between 10-4 with scheduled departures from the ferry dock every half hour.

Looking back over the decade the Board of Trustees have made several major improvements to the Cranberry House property. The heating and air conditioning systems were upgraded to improve use, conserve energy and control costs. When operations first began there could be no cold weather activities planned for the upstairs Arts Center because there was no heating system installed for the second floor. When the Seaside Playhouse movie season traditionally began in early April there was only a small portable old-fashioned heater fan which provided minimal warmth. Movie attendees often wore their coats during colder night performances. Since that time a propane heating system was installed and more recently taking advantage of new technology, heat pumps for both the Arts Center and the Archives were installed. These provide both heat in the winter and air conditioning in the summer. These systems now provide total comfort upstairs and down, summer and winter. The roof has been completely re-shingled on the exterior and roofing insulation was installed this past winter in the Arts Center ceiling. Electrical upgrades were completed in autumn 2017. This made it possible to utilize larger appliances for cooking for larger events. A propane fueled backup generator was installed that comes on automatically during a power outage and provides power to the entire building to prevent frozen pipes

*A bustling Cranberry House  
and Hitty's Café on a beautiful  
summer day*

**We have looked back  
at the historical highlights  
of GCIHS and Cranberry  
House. Now we must  
look to the future to  
preserve what we have  
attained and build on  
that memorable ten years  
under the auspices of  
the Historical Society at  
Cranberry House.**

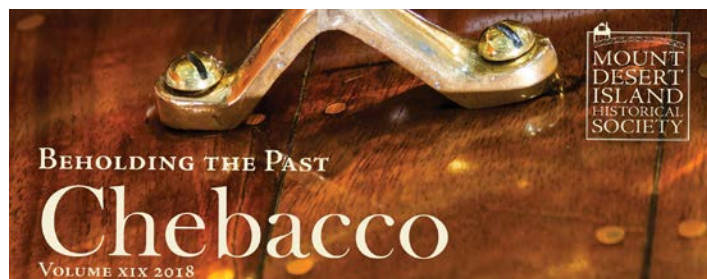


in the winter and spoiled café food and museum service disruptions in the summer. It has proved invaluable since its installation especially as it provides support to the school when they face power outages and frozen pipes emergencies. We have come a long way in enabling us to operate as a year-round facility, hosting events and meetings in the Winter, and providing comfortable conditions on hot days in the Summer.

Today the Cranberry House has approximately 50 volunteers helping out in various ways during the year. A part-time Archivist, part-time General Manager, and part-time Gardener are employed. Snow plowing operations are contracted in the winter as needed. There are fifteen Board of Trustees positions designated. Seven subcommittees currently exist: Operations, Events, Finance, Publications, Publicity, Archives and Cemetery.

Prior to his passing in 2015, Bruce Komusin was the primary philanthropic supporter in the formative years of Cranberry House. Wini Smart was the primary visionary in the formative years. She passed away in September 2017. Others have stepped forward in more recent years to help with financial initiatives and continue planning for the future. Interestingly, there have been only two Presidents since efforts for a museum were first conceived, construction was completed, and Cranberry House has been in operation. Wini Smart served between 1999 – 2009. Phil Whitney has served from 2009 to the present (2018).

The future of Cranberry House, and the support provided by the community, continues to look bright. Recently, GCIHS was offered free of charge the four buildings of the recently-sold Wini Smart compound on Spurling Cove. Research indicated many logistical and financial challenges which proved impossible to overcome for the initial offer. However, GCIHS was able to salvage two of the smaller buildings and detach a wing of the larger residence and save all the furniture. These buildings have been moved up Cranberry Road to the Cranberry House property and placed on a cleared portion of the inherited wood lot from Bruce Komusin. It is ironic and fitting that both the Visionary and the Philanthropist have contributed to this most recent project, even in death.



### **Concealed Shoes and Cape Houses: Artifacts as Agents of the Past**

**W**hen the Mount Desert Island Historical Society (MDIHS) asked for articles about artifacts with stories to tell for their annual *Chebacco* magazine, I immediately thought of the concealed shoes we'd discovered during the 2013 parsonage renovation. As I revisited my research and thoroughly updated my report, I was reminded just how much influence the four 180-year-old fireplace shoes have exerted on GCIHS projects. Since their repatriation, we discovered the cluster of 1840s cape houses, did a dendrochronology survey, and discovered the tombstone of Robert Spurling. My article focuses on concealed shoes as a powerful folk ritual that compelled us to investigate and honour their past. This summer we might take yet another step forward thanks to the shoes. My article has sparked the interest of an architect who is documenting historic rural farm buildings in our area. He plans to visit GCI this summer to see our cape houses. We'll see what happens!

GCIHS will also be part of the MDIHS exhibit in Somesville where the theme "Beholding the Past" uses artifacts to beckon visitors to explore the region's histories. This year's *Chebacco* is full of stories of artifacts with surprising twists and turns. It is available for purchase at [mdihistory.org/chebacco](http://mdihistory.org/chebacco).

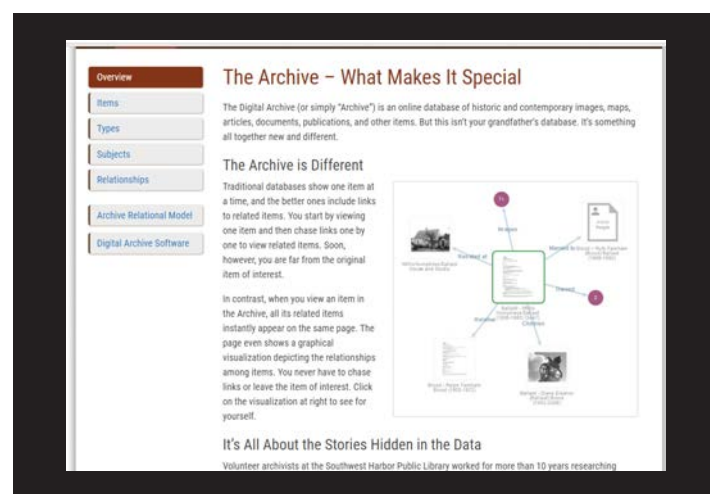
*(My full, updated 23-page 2018 Report of Investigation is available online at [gcihs.org/archives/items/show/12970](http://gcihs.org/archives/items/show/12970) and in the GCIHS museum store.)*

### **Grant Proposal**

We submitted a proposal to the Maine Arts Commission for a grant to digitize several significant, fragile, over-size ledgers that record Cranberry Isles history from 1850-1954. Since GCIHS does not have the staff, equipment, internet capability, or facility to digitize large volumes of material or oversized items we would seek the services of the Northeast Document Conservation Center, HistoryIT, or the Maine State Archives. Our goal is to create archival-quality digital images, then interpret and develop an exhibition of these 19 Tax Valuation ledgers and five store ledgers. If we are successful, funds would become available in July 2018. Online and in-house exhibits would be presented in 2019.

### **Digital Catalogue Improvement Project**

As you may recall, at the end of 2017 GCIHS moved its archives catalogue online using the Omeka software platform. We were quite pleased with this improvement over our old in-house fileMakerPro catalogue, and began investigating ways to correct some faults, strengthen its search capabilities, and make the system user-friendly.



*Behind the scenes – GCIHS Digital Archive*



**Author Cornelia J. Cesari is scheduled to speak at the Cranberry House on July 14.**

**The book is available through the KOBI website ([keepersofbaker.org](http://keepersofbaker.org)) and in the GCIHS museum.**

Knowing that George Soules, AdvantLogic, had developed the marvelous Southwest Harbor Public Library Digital Archives using Omeka, I asked him for some help. Lo and behold, George offered to develop a demonstration website using GCIHS metadata. (Unbeknownst to me, he'd just completed a demo site for the Northeast Harbor Library and is interested in proposing a joint site for History Trust members to consider.)

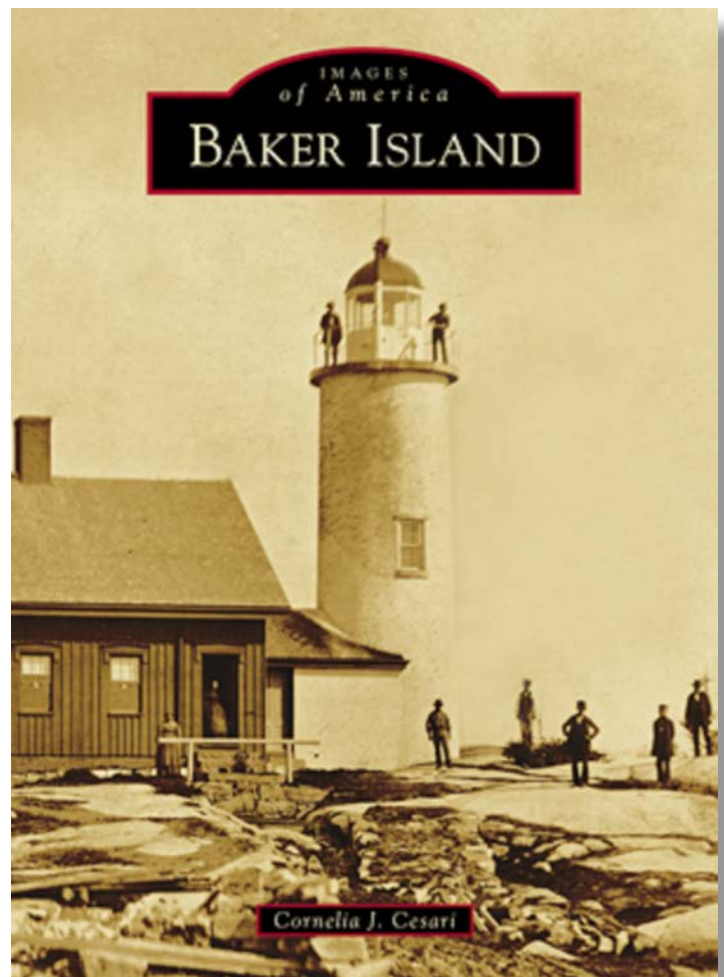
George developed our demo site and a detailed proposal free of charge this spring, and the GCIHS Board approved the project in April. George will implement the improvements, and convert and transfer GCIHS data (with the help of Matt McFarland) into the new solution at his 50%-off non-profit rate, and donate the rest of his services. George's SWHPL Omeka Digital Archives approach offers a dynamic, user-friendly, dp.la-compliant cataloguing system with plenty of safeguards. It's the logical next step in making the improvements outlined in last year's GCIHS archives assessment as the History Trust collaborative moves forward in 2018. I can't thank George enough for his generosity.

*(Here are the links to the Southwest Harbor Public Library digital archive catalogue: [swhplibrary.net/archive](http://swhplibrary.net/archive); and the GCIHS demo site: [gcihs.avantlogic.net/digitalarchive/archive](http://gcihs.avantlogic.net/digitalarchive/archive)).*

### **Images of America: Baker Island**

by Cornelia J. Cesari, President, Board of Directors  
[keepersofbaker@gmail.com](mailto:keepersofbaker@gmail.com)

The first book about the history of Baker Island, the farthest out of the five Cranberry Isles, will be coming out June 18, and will be available through GCIHS. The author, Cornelia Cesari, met with Phil Whitney and Anne Grulich, in the Society's archives and shared some photographs and stories for the book. Her family owns the schoolhouse, one of the two privately-owned buildings on the island; the rest, and most of the island, are part of Acadia National Park. Baker Island's settlement was made up of four generations of Gilleys—beginning



with William and Hannah, in about 1806, and ending with their great grandson Bert Stanley, who moved to GCI in 1930. There were also lighthouse keepers and their families from 1828 until 1955, Coast Guardsmen during wartime, and schoolteachers intermittently from about 1840-1918. Cornelia's research is a continuation of her mother's and has been a labor of love over many years. The journey has taken her to archives in Washington, DC, Boston, Cambridge, Augusta, and all over Mount Desert Island; and she tracked down descendants of teachers, settlers, rusticators and keepers all over the country.

According to Cornelia, it was no surprise that little Baker Island is beloved to a disproportionate number of people, but learning so many specific stories, complete with names and faces, and vivid details of events tragic, mysterious, joyful, and hilarious was a constant cause of wonder. Perhaps most fun (even for a solitary person who spends as much time as possible alone on Baker Island), was meeting so many people who share her passion for this special place. Her hope is that the book will be enjoyed by those who love Baker—and also bring out many more stories and photographs to add to its collective history.

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## Remembering Mickey Macfarlan (1925-2018)

ANNE GRULICH



*Mickey Macfarlan*

PHOTO: PABLO OCAMPO



*Mickey's home*

PHOTO: TOM POWELL



*Mickey's home 1876 -  
Sketch by Alexander Wadsworth  
Longfellow, Jr., 1876,  
LONG 19011.  
National Park Service,  
Longfellow House-Washington's  
Headquarters, Cambridge, MA.*

**M**ickey's family came to GCI through a friend-of-a-friend of islander Barbara Donald. His mother, Dorothy Macfarlan, first rented one of the Storey houses (perhaps today's Frank house) in the mid-1930s. The Macfarlans arrived by boat at the Cranberry Club dock and headed for the house without knowing exactly how to get there. When they finally found the house, Mickey's sister promptly caught a cold and developed an ear infection. The Storeys (living in what is today Susie Espinoza's house) told them to move up to the big empty Storey house as it was drier and healthier. The Macfarlans rented that house until they bought the Preble house in about 1940.

Mickey remembered coming up from Philadelphia in their old Ford when it took three days to get to the island. He recalled they rented Sue Lyman's house when he was a child and didn't move into Preble house until about 1945. The Macfarlans renovated the old Preble house shortly after World War II. Mickey remembers riding in the car with his mother and sister with their German maid, Minna, and the dog in the rumble seat. They drove to Northeast Harbor, put the car in Manchester's garage, and then took Eber Spurling's ferry out to the island. Mickey's father, Dr. Douglas Macfarlan, Jr., came up by train to Ellsworth because he was still practicing medicine.

Mickey moved to GCI permanently in 1963. He served in the U.S. Army right after high school, graduated from Harvard 1949, and taught school briefly. A gentleman of many interests he enjoyed boating, biking, hiking, historical research, listening to the BBC, and visiting Hitty's Café toward closing time. Mickey was very supportive of GCIHS and served on the Board of Trustees, Operations Committee, and Archives Committee.

I got to know Mickey through his artifacts. We met in 2013 when I was new to GCIHS and becoming steeped in the history of Mickey's 1826 home for a Maine Memory Network exhibit, "Great Cranberry Island's Preble House." Over the years Mickey donated dozens of Preble-era artifacts from the sea chests and trunks that had been left behind when his parents restored the old house just after WWII. I once walked Mickey's land with him as he explained each remnant structure, depression, garden, metalworking site, stone wall, and apple tree on his property. Gazing down at Preble Cove with Mickey, the past became the present: he seemed the embodiment of old man Preble himself.

Mickey was on the GCIHS Archives Committee. He donated over 100 wonderful historical artifacts like Hadlock's early-19th-century nautical chart, Preble's ledgers, tools, letters, and court documents. In 2002, Mickey transcribed the 73-page ledger William Preble wrote 150 years earlier. Mickey probably sat in the same room Preble had worked in, maybe even at the same desk (*see sidebar Protestation of Ships transcription, page 20*). Mickey shared his time, intellect, and wit. I could always count on him to bring the Archives Committee members back to the task at hand if Polly, Gaile, and Phil reminisced over a photograph too long and too raucously.



Mickey's joie de vivre is evident in this classic March 1964 photo of Keith Wedge, Sr. asleep under Mickey's woodstove named Dudley.



Mickey and friends



One archives afternoon, Mickey and Gaile Colby laughingly recalled when Carl Hardy, Sr., and William "Bunny" Storey moved the old house from the Moorfield Storey property in the 1940s. They cut a swath of trees down and rolled/dragged the house across the road using a capstan winch around a big stump. Later, they dynamited the ledge and the rock fragments showered down on the roof moments later.



Small things forgotten

GIFT OF MICHAEL MACFARLAN  
(GCIHS 2013.258.1988)

My favorite of Mickey's donations is this collection of small things forgotten because it reveals so much about his sense of beauty and attention to detail. He recovered these fragments behind the kitchen wing of his house between 1970 and 1990. These ceramic sherds of underglaze printed wares include an Indian Tomb pattern fragment (ca. 1830) that would have come from the earliest occupants of the house, as would the pocketwatch key, pipestem fragments, wood button, and bone toothbrush.

A letter from Mickey to his sister Dody (Robin Freeman's mother) about youngster Keith Wedge (in photo above), 19 Nov 1963:

*I said a little ways back that the little people of the Island are constantly stopping by to visit. This is true and one of the most faithful of the lot is Keith Wedge. He sometimes comes by as much as 3 & 4 times a day. I have only to start my power saw going and he appears like a genie out of nowhere. He is good company. And he works hard, too, picking up sticks, piling logs (some as big as himself). But like a little chipmunk, he is very apt to be swinging from the branch just as I am about to cut it. He wouldn't let me saw one tree that was leaning almost parallel to the ground because he said it made a good "teeter." It is a wonder I get any trees cut — I spend so much time plucking him out of the branches by the pants.*



Mickey's lilacs, ca. 2000

PHOTO: BRUCE KOMUSIN

I didn't know Mickey well but we connected through his love of island history. I can't imagine the Archives Committee without Mickey. I will miss stopping by his kitchen door to pick up or drop off the latest tidbit relating to some intriguing item we'd come across. And I'll miss seeing his reassuring silhouette in his kitchen window in the early dark of autumn as I walk to the ferry. We'll still have his lilacs and lupines, though.

## Protestations of Ships Wrecked in the Cranberry Isles

GCIHS 1000.116.1080

**I**n 2002, Mickey Macfarlan transcribed one of William Preble's 19th-century journals full of Protestations of Ships that had wrecked in the Cranberry Isles. He transcribed it in the same house, maybe even the same room, it had been written in 142 years earlier. Mickey thought Protestations like these would make a good video someday. It's full of the drama of winter on Cranberry just after the Civil War.

### Note:

**A sea protest is a notarized statement obtained after a ship enters port after a rough voyage. Its purpose is to protect the ship's charterer or owner from liability for damage to the cargo, the ship or to other ships in a collision, where this was caused by the perils of the sea.**

### Protest of Capt. William Smith of the Schr. C.D. Horton of Parrsboro Nova Scotia

Transcription by Michael Macfarlan,  
with gentle punctuation added for this article

*"By this Public Instrument of Protest made and entered this 18th day of January 1867 by William Smith Master of the Schr. C.D. Horton before me, William P Preble a Notary Public at Cranberry Isles, personally appeared William Smith, master of the said ship or vessel called the C.D. Horton of burthen One hundred & seven tons or thereabouts belonging to the Port of Parrsboro N.S., and Alfred Bennett, first Mate of the said ship or vessel, being laden with Shipping boards Shugar Box Shooks (sic) that on the 14th day of January last past they, the said appearers, set sail on board of the said ship from the Port of St Johns in the Province of New Brunswick and bound to the Port of Matanzas on the Island of Cuba at 8 o Clock A.M. with the wind from N N west we sailed along the coast until Tuesday the 15th day of January Inst. the weather looking bad and all the appearances of a storm we came into Cranberry Island Harbor and came to anchor and furled our sails at 12 o Clock at noon where we laid until 12 o Clock at noon of the 16th Inst. with the wind at N. West we got under way and proceeded to Sea. at 9 o Clock in the Evening the wind all died away and we lay becalmed until 11 o Clock. the wind sprung up from the South with baffling heirs (sic), it then commenced to thicken up with all the appearances of a Storm. not liking the appearances of the weather we bore up for Cranberry Island Harbor at One o Clock at night. the wind shifted to the S S East and commenced blowing a good breeze we continued our course for Cranberry Island Harbor. at 4 o Clock in the morning of the 17th the wind canted East and commenced to snow. at half past 4 o Clock we came to anchor in the Cranberry Island Harbor and furled our sails. it was then a thick snow storm and blowing fresh with all the appearances of a gale of wind at 9 o Clock. in the forenoon of the 17th inst the wind canted to the East N East blowing a perfect gale, the snow very thick and the vessel icing up badly, the gale increasing.*

**“at half past 4 o Clock we came to anchor in the Cranberry Island Harbor and furlled our sails.**

**it was then a thick snow storm and blowing fresh with all the appearances of a gale of wind at 9 o Clock.”**

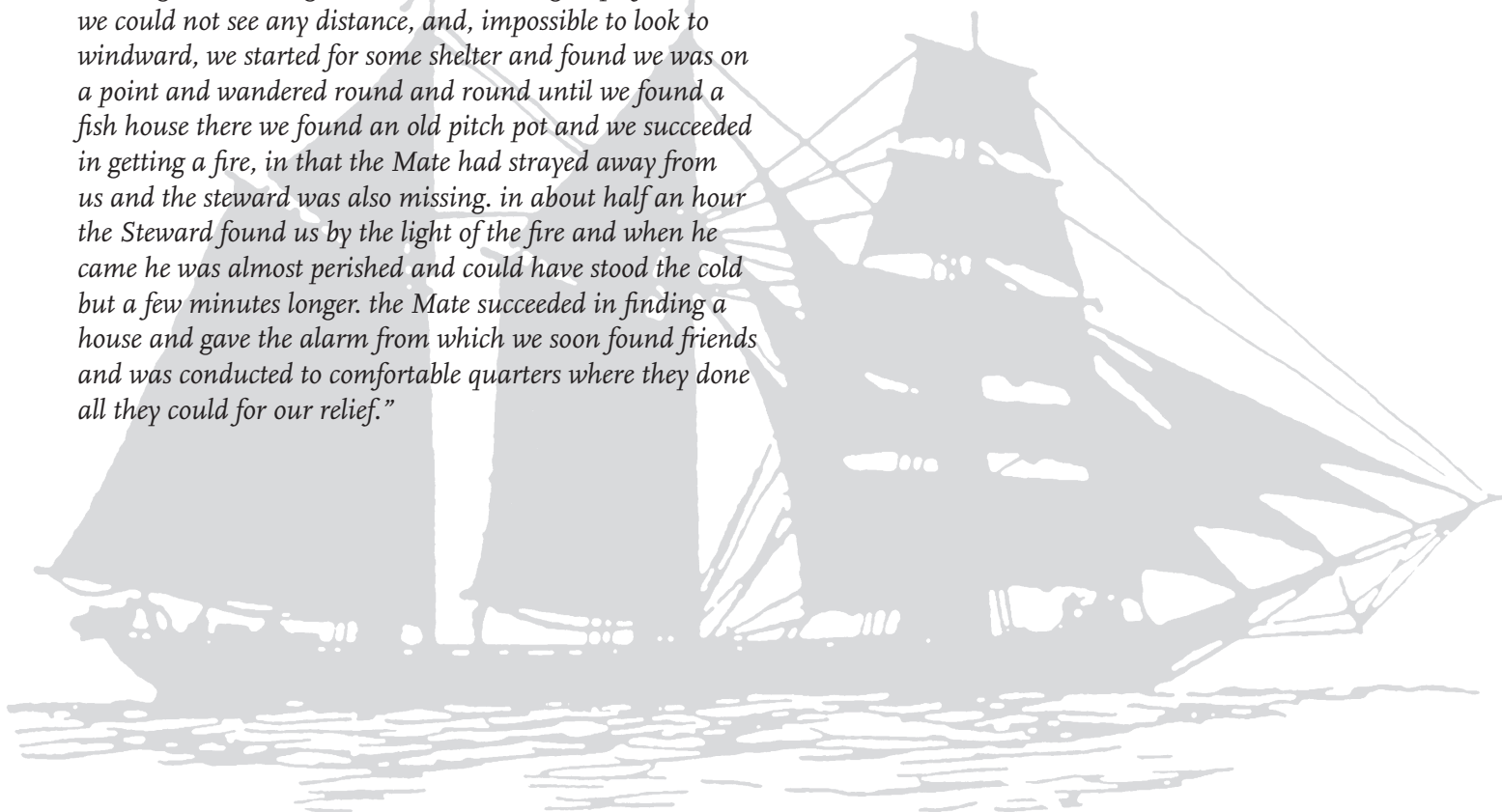
*at 2 o Clock in the afternoon we let go our second anchor and paid out all the chain on both anchors. at half past 2 o Clock we found the vessel was dragging her anchors. the wind still increasing until it blew a perfect Hurricane, the vessel still dragging her anchors until half past 4 o Clock in the afternoon we struck stern first on the rocks for the safety of our lives.*

*We then slipped our sheet chain to let her bows swing onto the shore the vessel so badly iced up that it was almost impossible to get fore and aft. we found she was filling with water and in thirty minutes after she struck, and thumping very heavily, and the Sea making a breach over her half mast high, we cut our boat from the davits and succeeded in getting her under the lee of the vessel. we then jumped into the boat and succeeded in saving our lives, wet and almost perished with cold and boat Stove, saving nothing but what we had on Except the Chronometer in a damaged State. it snowing and blowing and the snow driving in perfect sheets we could not see any distance, and, impossible to look to windward, we started for some shelter and found we was on a point and wandered round and round until we found a fish house there we found an old pitch pot and we succeeded in getting a fire, in that the Mate had strayed away from us and the steward was also missing. in about half an hour the Steward found us by the light of the fire and when he came he was almost perished and could have stood the cold but a few minutes longer. the Mate succeeded in finding a house and gave the alarm from which we soon found friends and was conducted to comfortable quarters where they done all they could for our relief.”*

....[This protestation continued along for several pages and was further signed and sworn to by Joseph Bunker 2nd. Ship Master, Henry L. Bunker Do, and William G. Bunker Shipwright, before William P. Preble Notary Public, after their inspection of the wreck on Jan 18th 1867 confirmed the story]....

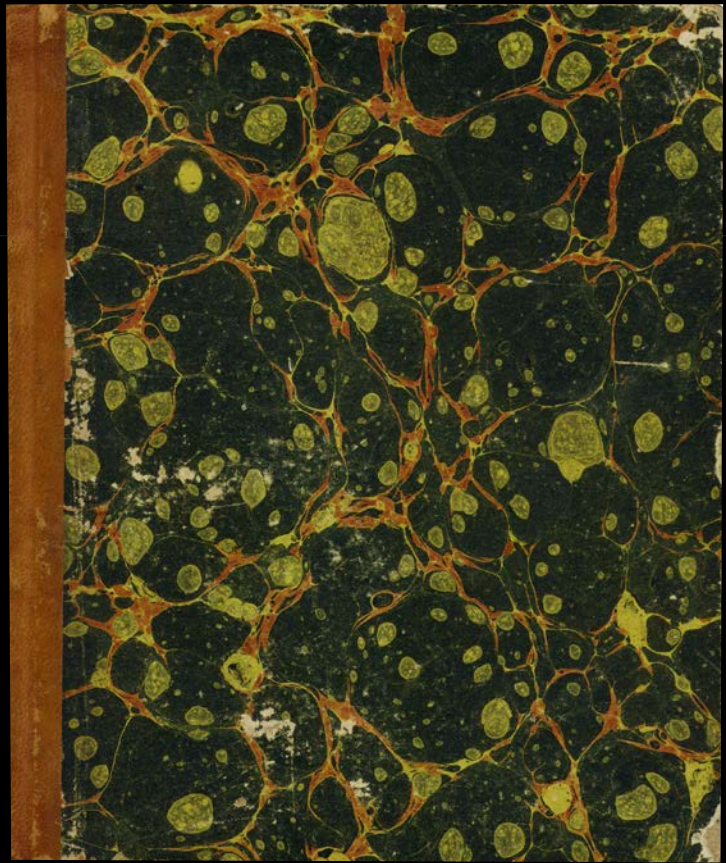
*“seeing her on the Rocks, her bottom badly chafed and bilged, with the Sea Flowing in and out of her, laying in a dangerous situation with one cable and anchor gone and the other cable parted from the appearances as she lay on the chain we could not decide. and she was liable to go to pieces and also if she floated to go to Sea and after due Examination of vessel and cargo for the benefit of whom it does or may concern, as the weather looking very bad and still blowing a gale of wind, and the vessel and riggin completely covered with Ice and very cold...”*

CONTINUED ON PAGE 22





*William Preble's  
19th century ledger,  
cover and interior pages*  
GIFT OF  
MICHAEL MACFARLAN  
(GCIHS 1000.116.1080)



**“...it snowing and blowing and the snow driving  
in perfect sheets we could not see any distance,  
and, impossible to look to windward,  
we started for some shelter and found we was  
on a point and wandered round and round  
until we found a fish house there we found an  
old pitch pot and we succeeded in getting a fire,  
in that the Mate had strayed away from us  
and the steward was also missing...”**

*Excerpt from:  
Protest of Capt. William Smith of the Schr. C.D. Horton  
of Parrsboro Nova Scotia*

*Transcription by Michael Macfarlan,  
with genile punctuation added for this article*



## Protest of Capt William Smith of the

By this Public Instrument of Protest made Smith Master of the Scho. C. & Horton Cranberry Isles personally appeared William C. & Horton of the latter of one hundred Pearsboro N.S. and Alfred Bennett first Shipping boarder and Sergeant Boy Shells appeared set sail on board of the said schooner and bound to the Port of Matanzas wind from N.W. but we sailed along the coast looking bad and all the while but and came to anchor and fasted out 12 o'clock at noon of the 16<sup>th</sup> inst with the to sea at 4 o'clock in the evening the wind blew the wind sprang up from the South up with all the appearances of a storm for Cranberry Island Harbor at one o'clock commenced blowing a good breeze and at 6 o'clock in the morning of the 17<sup>th</sup> the wind calmed we came to anchor in the Cranberry Island Harbor and blowing fresh with all the appearance the 17<sup>th</sup> inst the wind calmed to the East or East being up land the gale increasing at 2 o'clock out all the chain on both anchors at half past

## Schooner C. & Horton of Pearsboro New Brunswick

once entered this 18<sup>th</sup> day of January 1867 by William before me William P. Peble a Notary of Public or by Smith Master of the said ship or vessel called the C. & Horton of one hundred tons or thereabouts belonging to the Port of Matanzas of the said ship or vessel being laden with that on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of January last past they the said ship from the Port of St. John in the Province of New Brunswick on the Island of Cuba at 8 o'clock A.M. with the the coast until Tuesday the 15<sup>th</sup> day of January the strands of a storm we came into Cranberry Island Harbor at 12 o'clock at noon where we laid until wind at N.W. we got under way and proceeded all day and we lay becalmed until 11 o'clock with baffling seas it then commenced to thicken not liking the appearance of the weather we bore up at 11 o'clock the wind shifted to the S.E. and continued our course for Cranberry Island Harbor at 4 o'clock East and commenced to snow at half past 4 o'clock but we furled our sails it was then a thick snow of a gale of wind at 9 o'clock in the forenoon of the 18<sup>th</sup> inst blowing a perfect gale the snow very thick and the vessel in the afternoon we let go our second anchor and paid 2 o'clock we found the vessel was dragging her anchors

the wind still increasing until it blew a winter half past 4 o'clock in the afternoon we slipped our sheet chain to let her bows swing over side to get fore and aft we found she was filling with very heavily and the sea making a broad over succeeded in getting her under the lee of the vessel lines wet and almost perished with cold and boat also in a damaged state it snowing and blowing and distance and impossible to look to windward we rounded rounder and rounder until we found a fire in getting a fire in that the masts had strayed half an hour the steward found us by the light of could have stood the cold but a few minutes the alarm from which we soon found friends as they come for our relief

and the said schooner at the time of her departure from St. John's of fresh and strong and had her hatches well and sufficiently manned provided and for the said voyage and that during the said utmost endeavors to preserve the said ship be borne by the merchants and freighters parties same having occurred as before mentioned and neglect of the said appellants his officers or any

perfect hurricane the vessel side dragging her anchors struck stern first on the rocks for the safety of our lives we then the vessel so badly raised up that it was almost impossible to get out and in thirty minutes after she struck and sheaving her half mast high we cut our boat from the davits and we then jumped into the boat and succeeded in saving our stove having nothing but what we had on except the blanket the snow driving in perfect sheets we could not see any started for some shelter and found we was on a point and house there we found an old pitcher pot and we succeeded away from us and the steward was also missing in about the fore and when he came he was almost perished and longer the mate succeeded in finding a house and gave one was conducted to comfortable quarters where they were

very did further severely declare that the said ship said upon the said intended voyage was tight strong and sufficiently caulked and covered and was furnished with all things needful and necessary voyage the appellants and ships company were their and the goods of her loading are and ought to be paid or whomsoever it is shown or may concern the not by or through the insufficiency of the said ship or of his mariners Signed William Smith Master Alfred Bennett Mate



## The Events Committee Report

DARLENE SUMNER

**T**hanks to the addition of a full-service generator and new insulation the Cranberry House has been able to host an increasing variety of events and functions over the winter. The Arts Center provides a comfortable space for a number of church functions, bible study, and social gatherings. A highlight event from this winter was a lecture by **David Cheever**, the Maine State Archivist, on Maine's role in the Civil War. The lecture was sponsored by the Longfellow School. The Arts Center also hosted regular school classes during a second extended period this school year while repairs were made to the school's heating system.

The GCIHS Events Committee began work on this year's schedule in February and events are being added continually. A complete up-to-the day calendar is available under the Events tab on our website, [www.gcihs.org](http://www.gcihs.org). The annual **Art of the Cranberry Isles** show will take place this year from August 5th-11th (note: the Ladies Aid Fair is August 8th) and the annual **GCIHS Open House** will be on July 1st. We also want to make special note of the **Campaign Kickoff Event** on July 28th.

Among the events returning this year are **Peter Buchsbaum's** informative Trail Walks, **Laurie Dobson's** series of gardening lectures, Youth Dance Classes with **Amelia Dalton** (adding a third week this year!), and Kids Art with **Charlotte Harlan**. New this year is a series of lectures by **Colleen Bunker** on acupuncture and related holistic health approaches. **Darlene Sumner** will be presenting a number of preschooler and kid activities on a weekly basis during July and August. Other recurring events are expected to be added once dates can be confirmed and will be included on the Events Calendar ([www.gcihs.org/events/](http://www.gcihs.org/events/)).

This year's special events include (so far) two showings of the film *I know a Man...Ashley Bryan* on July 1st (right after the Open House) and on August 19th. Director **Richard Kane** and perhaps some other notable guests will be in attendance at both showings. A Youth Art Show will be on display from July 1st - July 7th. **Pixie Lauer** will be in concert on August 3rd. The third **Volunteer Appreciation** day will take place on August 26th when the Seacoast Mission will be taking our volunteers on a visit to Isle au Haut aboard the *Sunbeam*. Other concert events are possible or are currently in the works. Keep an eye on the calendar for updates. (Are three hints enough?)

Have a great summer and please visit and join us as often as you can.

### Cranberry House Summer 2018 Highlights

**GCIHS Open House -  
July 1**

**Film: *I know a Man... Ashley Bryan* -  
July 1 & August 19**

**Cranberry House Campaign Kickoff Event -  
July 28**

**Concert: Pixie Lauer -  
August 3**

**Art of the Cranberry Isles -  
August 5-11**

**Volunteer Appreciation Day -  
August 26**



Cézar Ferreira and Jane McInnis at Heliker-Lahotan's  
"Meet the Artists" presentation at Cranberry House

## Washington D.C. School Trip

LINDSAY EYSNOGLE, PRINCIPAL  
FRENCHBORO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
CRANBERRY ISLES SCHOOL

*Below: Longfellow School  
teachers and students enjoying  
some D.C. sites*

**I**f it seemed quiet on the Cranberry Isles the first week of May, it was because the Longfellow School was on an adventure in Washington, D.C.! The trip began as what seemed like a crazy idea almost a year ago when Great Cranberry summer resident, Jim Singerling, offered to host the school in D.C. and we began wondering if we could make such a big trip happen. After surveying parents and engaging in many discussions we decided to go for it. Thanks to the generosity of the Cranberry Isles community we raised over \$7,000 for the trip.

On April 30th, 14 travelers including students, teachers and parent chaperones headed to the Bangor airport and flew directly to D.C. After settling into their rental house in Columbia Heights, the group walked a block to the metro station to travel to Mr. Singerling's house in Alexandria for dinner. Jim prepared burgers, hot dogs and steaks on the grill and everyone enjoyed the warm summer-like evening.

The real fun began early the next morning, Tuesday, May 1st. After breakfast at the rental house, the group headed again to the metro station and traveled into D.C. Mr. Singerling met the group at the U.S. Capitol where he had arranged a private tour for the Cranberry Isles group. They saw the Capitol Rotunda, visited the Senate gallery and even got a ride on the Senate train! After the two-hour tour the group had lunch in a park and headed to the Thomas Jefferson Library of Congress, the U.S. Botanic Garden, and the National Museum of the American Indian.

Wednesday, May 2nd was a day of museums. The morning was spent at the National Museum of Natural History. During the afternoon the group visited the International Spy Museum where they participated in a workshop on cracking codes and learned all about espionage gadgets used throughout history.

A highlight of the trip happened Wednesday night when the group went to see *The Wiz* at Ford's Theatre. Before the show they toured the theatre museum. The older students read *Chasing Lincoln's Killer* as part of their ELA class work this spring and they were pleased to see artifacts from the book displayed in the museum. *The Wiz* was a huge hit. "The Wiz was really, really funny, especially the Scarecrow," said Kariah Sumner when describing her favorite parts of the trip.

After visiting the National Air and Space Museum Thursday morning, the group headed to George Washington's Mt. Vernon Estate. This was another highlight of the trip. Adele Palmer reported that she enjoyed seeing the sheep and Jessica Sanborn, Ruby Alley, and Wyatt Alley enjoyed rolling down the big hill.



"We sat on George Washington's front porch and watched the river," teacher Lauren Gray reported.

Squeezing every last moment out of their D.C. adventure, the travelers visited the Smithsonian National Zoo before flying home on Friday morning. Exhausted and completely satisfied with their trip, everyone returned home to sleep in their own beds Friday night. It was a grand adventure!

## Coming Full Circle

COLLEEN BUNKER

For more information  
please visit my website  
[colleenbunkerlac.com](http://colleenbunkerlac.com)

**I** left Great Cranberry over 20 years ago after having lived on the island year round for 15 years. During my time “away” I have had many adventures, lived in some wonderful places, and learned a whole lot about myself and life in general. One of my biggest endeavors was to attend the Oregon College of Oriental Medicine in Portland, Oregon. I graduated with a double masters in acupuncture and Chinese herbal medicine in 2008. I then began working happily at a holistic health clinic and my husband Joe worked at Habitat for Humanity for the next nine years. We loved Portland and the west-coast, but city life was wearing us down and last fall we made the big decision to move back to Maine. In September of 2017 we said many tearful goodbyes to friends, co-workers, (and I to my patients) and headed east in our camper. We landed on Cranberry Island in November with the intent of staying for the holidays and then begin looking for a place to live and work on MDI.



Colleen Bunker

When January rolled around we no longer wanted to leave Cranberry. Showing Joe the island and seeing it again “through his eyes” and reconnecting with family and old friends, and making new friends, helped me to remember the reasons I had lived here so many years ago. After having spent so many years in a city (and a wonderful city at that!) I realized that

a deep part of myself missed the small island community lifestyle and the richness it provides.

It is with a happy heart and a deep sense of appreciation that I can now offer acupuncture here on the islands. Acupuncture has been a very supportive medicine in my own healing journey and I first discovered its benefits when I was taking care of my father, Arthur Bunker, when he was dying. It was receiving acupuncture during

that very stressful time that helped me keep body and soul together and planted the seed to study Chinese medicine at a future date.

After nine years of practice in Portland, Oregon I have had the opportunity to treat many people with many different complaints and health issues. It is my own experience, and that of my patients, that acupuncture is helpful in most every aspect of healing. It has the added benefit of being a non-invasive form of treatment and support that can have tremendous benefits. Acupuncture is most well known for the treatment of pain and pain relief treatment is considered the “bread and butter” of acupuncture medicine due to its often immediate and lasting results. What most people aren’t as familiar with is the benefits for other health issues such as digestion, sleep, hormone regulation, cancer recovery and mental health issues.

I am currently offering acupuncture on Great Cranberry, Islesford and in Town Hill. I will be offering talks on acupuncture and holistic health at the Cranberry House twice a month starting in May. For a more information you can visit my website at [www.colleenbunkerlac.com](http://www.colleenbunkerlac.com).



## Roasted Asparagus & Egg Tartine

COURTESY OF HITTÝ'S CAFÉ

CHEF CÉZAR FERREIRA

### Ingredients

- 1 bunch of asparagus, trimmed  
olive oil  
juice of 1/2 of a lemon
- 1/2 teaspoon dijon mustard  
salt and pepper
- 1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil
- 2 thick slices of good quality bread  
(sourdough works well here)
- 4 ounces goat cheese
- 3 hard boiled eggs, peeled and roughly chopped  
fresh minced dill for serving  
salt and pepper to taste

### Preparation

**Preheat** the oven to 425F. Toss the asparagus with a little olive oil and place on a baking sheet and roast until tender and lightly browned, about 18-23 minutes. Toss the asparagus halfway through cooking.

**Whisk** together the lemon juice, Dijon mustard, salt, pepper and olive oil. Set aside.

**Toast** your bread and then spread a thick layer of goat cheese onto each slice.

**Divide** the asparagus between the two pieces of toast (you'll likely have leftover asparagus) and top with the chopped eggs, minced dill and a touch of salt and pepper.

**Drizzle** with a little of the vinaigrette.



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



Spurling Point, Great Cranberry Island, May 2018

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#### Order & Membership Form Instructions:

1. Copy this page, including your address mailing label, right.
2. Add the desired giving level of your Friends Membership.
3. Indicate Newsletters by Email if you prefer a digital copy.
4. Make check payable to GCIHS for grand total.
5. Mail using the enclosed pre-addressed envelope.

Website: [gcihs.org](http://gcihs.org) Email: [info@gcihs.org](mailto:info@gcihs.org)

**Go to [gcihs.org/support/](http://gcihs.org/support/) and click on "Donate" to contribute through PayPal.**



Lobster traps on the town dock, Great Cranberry Island

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#### Friends of Cranberry House Membership *Renewal for 1 year*

Indicate amount corresponding to the various giving levels.

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Friend (\$25 to \$49)        | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporter (\$250 to \$499) |
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2018 Membership Year, if not already paid: \$

2019 Membership Year: \$

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