

Cranberry Chronicle

NEWS OF CRANBERRY HOUSE AND GREAT CRANBERRY ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY



The Dancing Rock & Wini Smart's Contribution to the Great Cranberry Island Historical Society

ROSALIE KELL

Wini Smart
Dancing Rock, 2001
Oil on canvas
(GCIHS 2014.302.2056)

Wini did it all – collections, interviews, videos, playwriting, fund raising – with flair. Wini Smart, artist and philanthropist, donated her *Dancing Rock* painting to the permanent collection of the Great Cranberry Island Historical Society. The painting, inspired by a group of dancers she accompanied to Baker Island, was only one of many gifts that reflects her devotion to the organization.

The Dancing Rock of Baker Island, an integral part of the history of the Cranberry Isles, has captivated the imaginations and hearts of generations. Although the mists of time have obliterated the early pre-colonial history, we can only imagine the possibility of early island visitors dancing to the rhythm of the waves in the moonlight on this unusual formation of broad flat pink granite rocks. If you were to view the Dancing

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Notes of Appreciation

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

- **Peter Buchsbaum**
For his continuing series of very popular
guided nature trail walks.
- **Ric Gaither**
For his landscaping efforts around the ponds
and buildings which revealed considerable
artistic talent and for his continuing series of
lobstering talks and demonstrations.
- **Contractor Jesse Jameson**
For constructing a wooden jumble table/
winter storage shed within one week after
the kids' jumble table tent blew down and was
destroyed, thus ruining their business.
- **Kathe Simons**
For her dedication to editing and proofreading
the *Cranberry Chronicle*.
- **Ben Walls**
For his dedicated efforts in completing various
carpentry repair projects around the property.

*These are just several of many who gave of their
time, talent and treasure to make our organization
stronger.*

Milestones

Passings

2.3.17	Dick Avery	5.27.17	Allan (Bull)
2.3.17	Ed Horvath		Klausky
2.24.17	Susan Storey	6.1.17	Soos Krasnow
	Lyman	6.8.17	Judy Whitney
5.16.17	Jennifer Ward	6.11.17	Owen Roberts
	Oppenheimer		



Marriages

2.21.17 Suzanne Hallett and Ken Schmidt
St. Augustine, Florida

Transitions

3.1.17 Bob Hudson & Laurie Dobson
New year-round residents.
Purchased Sampson House on The Lane.

Past Puzzler

We had two nearly simultaneous winners for our last
puzzler. Chuck Liebow and David Bunker remember
the Sunday David and Wilfred Bunker, Arvard Savage, and
another non-islander went fishing on
thin ice at Branch Pond
ca. 1978. (Getting the
truck out is another good story.) Dale Hadlock
eventually bought the truck and it spent many years on
Islesford.



New Puzzler

The puzzler this time around is an historical
photograph Anne Grulich selected. Please identify the
two individuals in the photograph at right and tell
us the story. Send your answers to anne@gcihs.org.



President's Report

PHIL WHITNEY

Thank you, Jim!

We want to take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude to Jim Bradley for his dedication to the GCIHS as a Board of Trustees member for seven years and Treasurer for almost six years. During this time, he has helped to guide our organization through a tremendous period of growth. Jim is leaving us in a solid financial position that will provide the foundation for the future of the GCIHS.

In his words that appeared in the November 2010 *Cranberry Chronicle* announcement of his joining the GCIHS Board of Trustees, "My interest in history is probably due to my childhood in an old-fashioned community where family and family history were important. While in Charleston, that interest led us to buy and restore a circa 1845 brick Single House. It also attracted us to the little cottage on Great Cranberry which we purchased in 1994. Initially, we spent only about two weeks on the island as vacations permitted. Now, retired, this is increasing, and I have time to contribute to island activities such as the Great Cranberry Island Historical Society. I look forward to doing so."

We are forever grateful for his gift of time, talent, and treasure that he has shared so generously. His contribution to our community is invaluable.

We experienced a relatively moderate, mild winter on the island, with only several significant snowstorms. Blair Colby ably plowed out the Cranberry House parking lot on occasion, and Phil Whitney handled most of the snow shoveling duties. However, it has been a long winter, with colder spring temperatures and snow on the ground well into April.

Fortunately, there was minimal storm damage to the buildings on the property. High winds caused several tree blowdowns both on the Whistler Cove Trail and around the Cranberry House grounds. Ben Sumner and crew should have these all cleared up by press time. Electrical power was knocked out several times, most notably for two days in March when a large tree blew down across Cranberry Road and adjacent power lines near The Lane. Due to a mysterious power line cable configuration, Cranberry House retained power most of the time while much of the island was dark. Consequently, we were able to host a large gathering of kids and adults for a special Pizza Party and Movie Double Feature which broke up the monotony of an otherwise dark night on the island. These power outages highlighted the need for an emergency generator to prevent water freeze-ups in winter, enable winter events to continue uninterrupted, and prevent disruption of the café and other programs during summer business hours. We have begun research regarding this need.

Archivist Anne Grulich has reduced her work schedule this winter while hazardous travel weather conditions existed to visiting the island weekly and otherwise working from home. Her travel schedule will increase beginning in April. She will again lead the effort for designing the new museum display for this season. Darlene Sumner has assumed the Chairmanship of the Events Committee which began meeting weekly in January to plan programs for the 2017 season. Much enthusiasm has been shown by committee members and an incredible potpourri of ideas has been discussed (*see Events Committee Report, page 12*). We are always looking for additional volunteers to support our several subcommittees – operations, events, publications, cemeteries, publicity, archives, technology, and finance.

Jessi Duma, our General Manager, has focused her efforts primarily on fundraising challenges with the goal of making our organization financially stable for the long-term future. She has worked closely with the Finance Subcommittee in this regard, as well as overseeing our general operations. We must ensure continued financial support for our two paid positions – General Manager and Archivist. However, we also have proposed capital projects costs, including roof re-shingling, interior ceiling insulation, possible building expansion and renovations to the inherited Cranberry Road Komusin Cabins. With all this happening, we look forward to welcoming all of you – year-rounders, summer residents and visitors alike – to Cranberry House for another entertaining and educational season.

General Manager's Report

JESSI DUMA



I am continually impressed by the dedication and creativity of all GCIHS volunteers who keep this organization vital.

Jessi Duma

Winter of 2016-2017 has been a productive one. With the island quieting down in October, by November, my job as General Manager geared up. I continued to administer our grants efforts, coordinating with Grants Committee and grant writer Lindsay Hancock. We have been honored to apply for and receive two grants, a mini-grant from the Maine Humanities Council and a grant from the Davis Family Foundation in 2017. The mini-grant from the Maine Humanities Council funded materials and printing for our new 2017 exhibit that features our conserved nautical chart collection (*see Archives News, page 16*). The Davis Family Foundation grant will help to fund a major roof renovation and insulation project, which will be implemented this spring and fall. The added insulation will help make the Arts Center a more efficient year-round space, and the roof renovation will help to protect the Cranberry House building and our historical collection for years to come.

In addition to applying for grants, this winter we used funding from an Organizational Development grant from the Maine Community Foundation to purchase both new archival shelving units and an archival-quality camera. The new shelving units have made a great difference in our archiving space and given us an increased ability to organize the collection. Stop by the archives this summer to check them out!

A large part of my role as General Manager is serving on each committee in order to provide administrative support and continuity between each group. I have enjoyed working with each committee, but most of my work has centered around the activities of the Finance and Events Committees. The Finance Committee has been hard at work this winter putting together documents and making suggestions about the long-term financial stability of the organization. The Events Committee has continued to run events all winter long, and in January we began the process of planning for our summer programs. It has been a pleasure to work with the individuals on each and every committee! I am continually impressed by the dedication and creativity of all GCIHS volunteers who keep this organization vital.

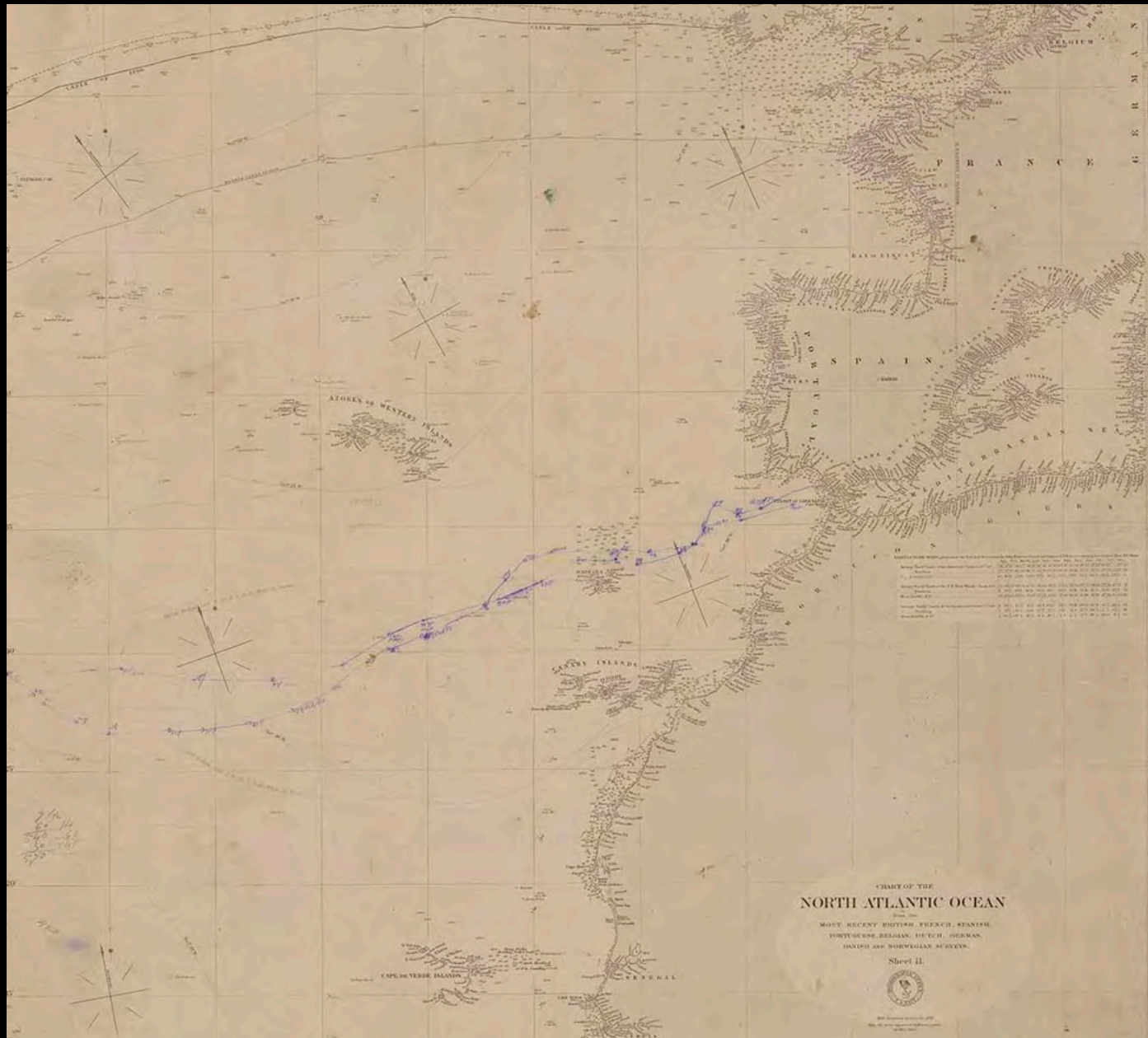
Two volunteers who have made an extraordinary impact on the organization this year have been Willoughby and Josh Hastings. Willoughby and Josh both started helping around Cranberry House this past summer driving the Cranberry Explorer, and in the fall and winter their work expanded into a more permanent volunteer basis. Josh has served on the Operations Committee, developed a technology inventory, assisted in conducting oral history interviews with Gaile Colby, and put together the new shelving units. Willoughby has served as assistant editor on the *Cranberry Chronicle*, designed a new visual identity for the organization, served on the Events Committee, helped out with many events, and now is in the process of designing our new exhibit for this summer and establishing a publicity strategy for the organization. Both Hastings have employed their artistic skills to photograph various GCIHS projects for grants and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

A mini-grant from the Maine Humanities Council funded materials and printing for our new 2017 exhibit that features our conserved nautical chart collection.

The centerpiece of the exhibition (see detail below) is our recently conserved Chart 1, an 1871 Chart of the North Atlantic, 42" high x 60" wide, which clearly plots at least two 1877-78 trans-Atlantic voyages through

the Strait of Gibraltar by the Richardsons aboard their three-mast schooner, Carrie M. Richardson (built in nearby Manset harbor 1874). GCIHS 2015.315.2076
Photo: NEDCC



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

documentation purposes. As General Manager it has been my job to coordinate Josh and Willoughby's efforts. I could not have asked for better volunteers to accomplish these projects this winter. As Willoughby and Josh move on this summer for Willoughby to attend to a graduate MFA program, their presence will be missed greatly around Cranberry House!

*Below: Glimpses of the Pool and
sky through keels and cradles
at Cranberry Island Boat Yard,
May, 2016.*



Treasurer's Report - 2016

JIM BRADLEY



2017 will be a transitional year for the treasurer as I am resigning and we need a replacement...volunteers please come forward.

Jim Bradley

The Great Cranberry Island Historical Society ended the year 2016 with a strong balance sheet albeit with operating cash accounts at \$25,000, down about \$2,500 from 2015. However, we are holding \$31,000 in a reserve account. This reflects unspent grants, most notably a grant from the Buchanan Family Foundation earmarked for the general manager's salary. Fixed assets including land, buildings, furnishings and equipment (including the Cranberry Explorer) exceeded \$750,000 which was up about \$200,000 by virtue of the land and cabins received as a bequest from the Bruce Komusin estate. The Capital Account, invested with Bar Harbor Trust Services, at year end was \$116,500 up from \$106,500 at the end of 2015. The only significant liability on the balance sheet at the end of 2016 was a loan from Bar Harbor Bank & Trust in the amount of \$24,600 which was used to fund improvements to the Komusin cabins and work shed.

The income statement had operating income, exclusive of the Komusin bequest and market value increases to the capital account, of \$90,000 and operating expenses of \$67,000; however, if the grant income for the general manager's salary received in late 2016 but carried forward to 2017 were to be excluded it would reflect a nearly breakeven profit and loss.

2017 will be a transitional year for the treasurer as I am resigning and we need a replacement...volunteers please come forward. The workload associated with the treasurer's position will be significantly reduced in 2017 with Ben Sumner assuming the role of bookkeeper and an accounting firm now filing the annual IRS Form 990.

The Historical Society is a wonderful amenity for Cranberry Island. It has been an honor to serve.

**Wini had vision of a
cultural center with dances,
art classes, and talks,
as well as a museum...**



Wini Smart's watercolor sketches

Rock over time, you would see that there is a dance going on... one that has taken place over centuries.

Calm bright summer days continue to lure dancers to experience the magic of this island outcropping. One kayaker who visited the rock in 2011 captured its essence:

The dancers most often arrive quietly, in small groups. Mixed among them are those who will only sit. There are, however, usually a few who will dance. They feel the wind, scan the horizon, and listen to the waves breaking on the rocks – as if to internalize the rhythm; and then, although no band is playing, they pantomime a few steps. Sometimes it is a solitary person who rises and stands in the sunlight on that shelf of brilliant pink granite, at the brink of the broad Atlantic, who then steps out an impromptu waltz with the sea.¹

I. DANCE FLOOR BY THE SEA:
A KAYAK TRIP TO BAKER ISLAND,
SEPTEMBER 13, 2011



Josh Hastings at the Dancing
Rock of Baker Island, ca. 2016

Wini Smart, then president of the Great Cranberry Island Historical Society (GCIHS), accompanied the Downeast Dance Company of 26 dancers on their quest to visit the mythical rock and captured their experience in her painting Dancing Rock. In the spring of 2001, the Portland based group of dancers, enamored by the legend of the rock, contacted Hugh Dwelley, president of the Isleford Historical Society; they arranged for the excursion with the intention of re-enacting a turn of the century dance. Island residents were invited to join them as space allowed on Dwelley's boat... this included Bruce Komusin and Wini Smart from GCI. As the dance ensued, Bruce photographed the event and Wini made quick watercolor sketches that captured the enthusiasm and magic of the moment.



Bruce Komusin and Wini Smart,
ca. 2006

Building on the foresight of Susan Ward and others who hosted the first Historical Society meeting in 1993, Susan Ward, Wini and Bruce were the leaders of the team who laid the foundation for building the GCIHS into what it is today. Faced with the daunting task of preserving and displaying artifacts donated by island residents, the original museum was opened August 6, 2000 in leased quarters in the Longfellow School. Needing more space and a permanent home, Wini had vision of a cultural center with dances, art classes, and talks, as well as a museum... the challenge, in Wini's words, "was to convince the board."

She and Bruce identified a wooden two-story building located behind Eva Galyean's home. Originally the Mountain View Inn, it was being used as a workshop to store fishing gear and tools. A concerted fund raising effort that included cocktail parties, auctions, fundraisers, and grant seeking, raised almost \$600,000 with help from the MBNA Foundation, the New Century Community Program, the Island Institute, and generous donations from local donors and GCIHS members. The soon-to-be new home of the GCIHS was purchased and moved to its current location on property donated to the historical society by Bruce.



Wini Smart, Louise Marr and Bruce Komusin. It is through Louise's generosity that made our museum possible.

Louise Marr was a retired teacher who lived in Florida. She was a sister to Dot McSorley, who sold approximately twenty acres to Bruce Komusin in the 1980's, including the land which would eventually become the Cranberry House.



The Mountain View Inn, was located behind Eva Galyean's home and later moved to its current location.

After extensive renovations and thousands of volunteer hours, it was opened on June 15, 2008 as Cranberry House, the permanent home of the Great Cranberry Island Historical Society. It took the vision of an artist with the capacity to inspire the dedication of volunteers to the preservation of island history to accomplish this goal. We would not have the museum as it is today if Wini had not spearheaded this effort.



Wini Smart
The Quiltmaker, 2006
Oil on canvas
(GCIHS 2015.330.2092)

Wini had come to GCI in 1984. An award winning artist, her paintings, inspired by nature and the sea, are in private and public collections in nearly every state and in Europe, Canada, and South America. She built a studio and established a home on the shore overlooking the harbor and the mountains of Acadia. The life of her GCI neighbors is reflected in some of her paintings. *The Quiltmaker*, an oil canvas of Islander Ruth Westphal sewing a colorful quilt in a windowed room is one of these. In 2009, Wini was joined by her new husband, Fred Quackenbush. Together with a team of other volunteers they tackled the myriad tasks needed to ensure the actualization of the Cranberry House Project.

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Needing professional skills in managing the growing collection, Anne Grulich was hired as the Archivist in 2013.

Anne describes her experience:

Wini Smart, the artist, and Bruce Komusin, the pragmatist, introduced me to the art of archiving on a shoe-string four years ago. Their herculean effort to voluntarily collect and curate 200 years of Island history at just the right moment was apparent in the depth of their archives catalogue. Their sole interest was to preserve and share this particular past. They also collected oral histories; Wini's wit and artistic touch are evident in the audio recordings and videos they produced. Thanks to Wini, we have the voices of a dozen islanders remembering the past.

Wini's research resulted in several memorable publications and is the basis for much of our current research into the houses and artists of GCI, the Preble era, Carrie Richardson's saga, and the stories of other memorable islanders. Wini wasn't content to just write – she had to bring her work to life with paintings and exhibitions. She even wrote and produced a play. Wini's exhibit panels weave art and fact as only she can do. Today's digital displays are fine, but Wini's panels remind us that there's nothing like the human touch to engage people with their history.

Anne concluded:

Wini did it all – collections, interviews, videos, playwriting, fund raising – with flair.



Wini Smart plein-air painting
in Asticou Garden, ca. 2015
Photo: Rosalie Kell

The Events Committee Report

DARLENE SUMNER

This winter the Cranberry House offered many activities for the island community. Offered on a routine basis were yoga, aerobics, children's gymnastics, and guitar lessons. Yoga was offered Mondays and Thursdays and hosted by **Jessi Duma**. Aerobics, spearheaded by **Darlene Sumner**, was held on Wednesdays. **Karen Whitney** held guitar classes on Wednesdays and children's gymnastics on Friday. In addition, the Cranberry House presented three winter lectures by **Roger Noether** which focused on tactics for Adult Self-Language Learning and Investing for Retirement. These lectures were presented in conjunction with the Great Cranberry Island Library and filmed for future use.

The Cranberry House also hosted two special movie nights this winter in addition to continuing the tradition of showing holiday movies in December. To celebrate Valentine's Day, the Seaside Playhouse hosted a potluck and featured *Lady and the Tramp* for island youth. Then later in the evening, the *Last of the Mohicans* was shown for the adults. The second special movie night was in response to the power outage in March. To boost island morale, when only half the power was restored on the island, the Seaside Playhouse spontaneously opened its doors to provide entertainment to those still without power. After an informal voting process, the decision to feature Disney's *Moana* was made. Lastly, Cranberry House hosted a public hearing on February 17 which provided the platform for discussion prior to the Annual 2017 Town Meeting on March 11. This winter has been productive as well as entertaining. The Events Committee began meeting weekly in early February to ensure a great summer season as well.

Special events that you can look forward to this summer include the return of Farm Day; the Annual Art of the Cranberry Isles Exhibit; **Sam King's** Poetry Workshops and Readings; spoken word and Appalachian Folk Tales nights; locally presented Lobster Boat Demonstrations; and The Meet the Artist Lectures presented in conjunction with The **Heliker-LaHotan Foundation**. In addition to these events, many weekly favorites plan to return

Below: Mary Corley, Polly Bunker
Day Fashion Show at Cranberry
House

Opposite: Clockwise from top:
Promo Photo for Guitar recital;
Karen Whitney, Guitar Class
Teacher; Jessica Sanborn, Farm
Day; Slip'n Slide Afternoon;
Meeting the Summer Goat
at Farm Day; Candle making,
Farm Day

like: weekly movies; Bingo; Yoga; Slip and Slide afternoons; Karaoke nights; **Peter Buchsbaum's** Nature Walks; and **Helen Bertles' Children's Art** classes and Open Studios. Check out our full Events Calendar by visiting gcihs.org and clicking on the Events tab, viewing it in person at the Cranberry House, or on our Facebook page. All events are free and staffed by Volunteers. We can't wait to see you this summer!

**Save the Date -
Annual Open House
July 2, 2017**





Thank you, Karin!

Karin Whitney, the island guitar teacher for the past two years, will be retiring this year but has left wonderful memories and inspired the development of musical ability in our island youth.

Hallie Sumner reflects on her teacher:

"Karin was a amazing guitar teacher. She never 'outburst' or yelled at us when we siblings got in spit spat fits or when we just couldn't get out guitar chords right. I had such a good time with guitar. When we were not doing guitar we were having singing lessons. Our one hour lessons would end up being three hours because we would end up doing karaoke guitar. Not to mention we had our fun with getting side tracked during guitar and end up talking something that had nothing to do with music. Karin

was a great guitar teacher and I can't wait till next season and what it will bring! It will be so much fun! I'm so happy that we have Karin because she is a amazing, happy, and funny person and a great teacher."

Karin learned to play the guitar from her brother who plays in a band in Sweden. Future guitar lessons will focus on note reading using a curriculum purchased by the CCCI to encourage the kids to learn to play music. Karin says "I taught them all I know so now they just need to practice." This might call for some future jam sessions!



Thank you, Karin, for all that you have done for our youth!



Support Cranberry House

- **Become a Friend of GCIHS:**
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!**

Your Support Means So Much

ELAINE BUCHSBAUM

As I write this column, Cranberry House and the Great Cranberry Island Historical Society are gearing up for another wonderful summer season of activities. This is not to say that Cranberry House has been dark and quiet during the winter months. Movies, guitar lessons, yoga, lectures and other activities have helped fill the quiet winter days for year-round residents. Seeing the lights on at Cranberry House on a dark winter night is a joyful sight. But as you read this issue of the *Cranberry Chronicle*, many summer folks are returning to the Island, visitors are starting to arrive on the ferries and activities at Cranberry House will be on the upswing.

Consider some of what we have to offer:

- Our wonderful museum opens in May and will have new exhibits once again to help us keep learning about The Cranberry Isles.
- Our Arts Center on the second floor will house exhibits of work by our many talented local artists.
- The Seaside Playhouse will offer films each week for both adults and children.
- Local experts, authors and performers will offer programs on varied topics, some dealing with local life and some with experiences from around the world.
- Hitty's Café will offer a lovely spot to sit down and visit with friends while sharing wonderful food prepared by our chef, César Ferreira.

These are but a few examples of how Cranberry House adds to the fun of living on Great Cranberry Island. There are many other activities that add to the enjoyment of being on the island. Maybe this year you will have an idea for a new activity or program.

Now comes your part. We love what we do to make all these activities come alive, but we need your help to make it all happen. Please consider becoming a Friend of GCIHS at any financial level. Information on how to do this can be found in the red column on the left-hand side of this page. Additionally, remember us in your year-end giving. These two examples of financial help mean a lot to us. Finally, we need more volunteers to help make us a success. Even helping with one activity lightens the work for all of us.

We are looking forward to a wonderful summer season and your help can make that a reality. It is interesting and fun to be involved at Cranberry House.

Come on aboard!

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**New Exhibit -
Charting Their Course: Clues from the Collection**

This summer, GCIHS presents an exhibition of the island's maritime history based upon its 2015 acquisition of ten very fragile, annotated, 1855-1877 nautical charts (GCIHS 2015.315.2076). These charts were used by the 19th century ancestors of the donor, Jean Schmidt. Captain Meltiah J. and Mary Catherine "Carrie" Stanley Richardson lived on Great Cranberry and their history is well documented in our collection.

The centerpiece of the exhibition is our recently conserved *Chart 1*, an 1871 Chart of the North Atlantic, 42" high x 60" wide, which clearly plots at least two 1877-78 trans-Atlantic voyages through the Strait of Gibraltar by the Richardsons aboard their three-mast schooner, *Carrie M. Richardson* (built in nearby Manset harbor 1874).

These charts offer tangible evidence of the extent of 19th-century seafaring on the Cranberry Isles. The notations on the charts give rare, specific insights into moments of transatlantic and coastal voyages from Maine's outer islands by a local family.

These charts disturb that myth that globalization is a recent phenomenon. Great Cranberry was trading with Spain 150 years ago. The heady days of schooners and brigs may be over, but the memory lives in the blood of today's fishermen. Cranberry Islanders still build and captain vessels, and make their living fishing and lobstering, albeit closer to home. Seafaring was a robust, demanding lifestyle then and it still is today. This exhibit brings that connection to life. Without electricity, satellites, cell phones, or GPS navigational aids, relying only on the wind, currents, and themselves, men, women, and children voyaged across the oceans for profit. The Cranberry Isles are often viewed as rugged outposts on the edge of civilization, but in the era of the Richardsons the Cranberry Islands were perfectly situated to trade fish and goods all over the world.



Mary Catherine "Carrie" Stanley Richardson

Photo: Courtesy of Hazel Brooks Petersen

By connecting the nautical charts to the captain's journal, ledgers, genealogical information, letters, a period compass, a quilt made for the heroine, a 10-ft schooner model, and images in a maritime exhibition, GCIHS brings together pieces of an intricate story that reveal how Cranberry Islanders made and lost fortunes, succeeded and suffered great loss on the sea and at home, and relied on the world to make a life for themselves on this little Maine island.

Waist stove in...rigging carried away!

PORTLAND, Me., Aug. 19.—The schooner *Carrie M. Richardson*, of Boston, for Baltimore, has put in here in distress. She reports that she was struck on the starboard side, had her waist stove in, rails smashed, forward house damaged, fore rigging carried away, and headsails torn by having been in collision with the schooner *Martha Brewer* on Nantucket Shoals.

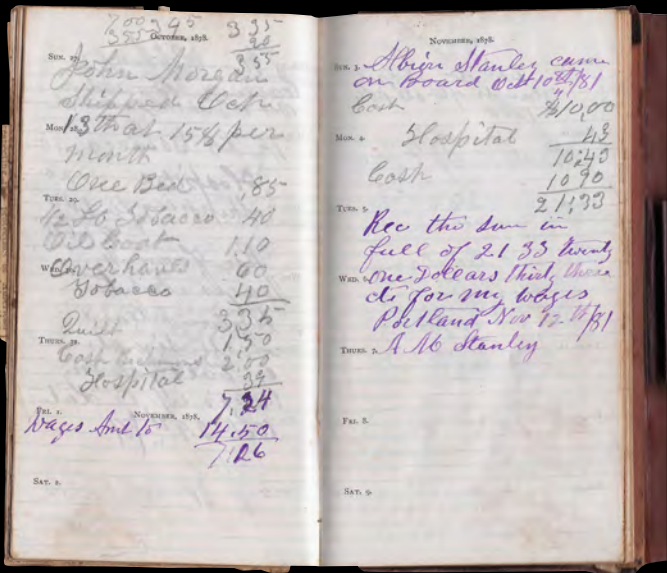
The New York Times, August 20, 1884 © query.nytimes.com

Great Cranberry was trading with Spain 150 years ago. The heady days of schooners and brigs may be over, but the memory lives in the blood of today's fishermen.

Leather-bound Pocket Journal (GCIHS 2016.375.2138_18)

Sailors were paid monthly at various ports, and drew advances on their pay. John Morgan spent half his pay on necessities including his overalls and coat.

Below: Pages from a leather-bound pocket journal recording wages for two sailors aboard the schooner Carrie M. Richardson in 1881.



Nineteen year old Albion Stanley of GCI, Carrie Richardson's younger brother, signs for his month's pay on November 12, 1881 while in Portland. Albion married Minnie M. Richardson who was a foundling left on the doorstep of Elon F. and Albertine Lear Richardson on the Oak Hill Crossroad in Somesville during the Civil War. Albion is buried beside Minnie in GCI's Stanley cemetery.

Transcription for left side of journal page:

John Morgan Shipped Oct 13th [1881] at 15\$ per Month.

One bed	.85
lb tobacco	.40
Oil Coat	1.00
Overhauls	.60
Tobacco	.40
	3.35
Quilt	1.50
Cash Richmond	2.00
Hospital	.39
	7.24
Wages Amt to	14.50
	7.26

Transcription for right side of journal page:

Albion Stanley came On Board Oct 10th/81

Cash	\$10.00
Hospital	.43
	10.43
Cash	10 90
	21.33

Rec this sum in Full of 21.33 twenty One Dollars thirty three cts for my wages, Portland Nov 12th/81 ~ A M Stanley

Old Tattered Schooner Model

(GCIHS 2009.168.1195)

Recognize this little schooner? It's the 10-ft. model on display in the museum before it was restored by Phil and Karin Whitney, Bruce Komusin, John French and Mickey Macfarlan 5 years ago. She'll be center stage in this summer's exhibit as a representation of the *Carrie M. Richardson*.



CONTINUED ON PAGE 18



Behind the Scenes

Does this photo make you giddy? In February, Josh Hastings assembled and installed these three rows of steel shelving, alleviating a storage space crisis we've been suffering with for years. Beauty is indeed in the eye of the beholder, but to me this ranks right up there with M. C. Escher's work!

Josh has also quietly sorted and inventoried the late Bruce Komusin's CD and DVD collections, scanned various oversized ledgers, photographed the Spurling cemetery headstones, and most recently, walked into Archives barefoot to deliver his landscape photographs. March is mud season and he'd been standing on the edge of The Pool.

Josh and Willoughby Hastings have been invaluable this spring helping me with the collection and the nautical charts exhibit. They will be sorely missed when they leave to pursue their deservedly wonderful future together.

The call letters JQRC for the
Carrie M. Richardson schooner

Charting Their Course: Clues from the Collection

Cranberry House – Great Cranberry Island
Memorial Day to Columbus Day – Open House July 2, 2017

Come on in and enjoy this exhibit developed by Anne Grulich and designed by Willoughby Hastings with support from the Maine Humanities Council.

It's the best time-traveling you'll experience this summer – and it's free!

Detail: *Chart 1*, an 1871 Chart of the North Atlantic GCIHS 2015.315.2076 Photo: NEDCC info@gcihs.org 207.244.7800

Broadband Update

ROSALIE KELL

Axiom and the town are moving forward to make sure that a solution is in place for Islesford by the time the current provider turns off service in the

Fall of 2017. Most improvements to Great Cranberry will be undertaken in 2018.



Advances in technology always come to the Cranberry Isles, even if it is a little after mainland communities. Despite the small number of residents, Great Cranberry Island has reliable electricity and phone service.

Our internet service has lagged behind the mainland, but has provided enough of a connection for basic use such as email and Facebook. However, demand has increased exponentially. Both year-round and seasonal residents find that they are unable to purchase the internet service they need for business and personal needs. The two current internet providers' infrastructure is inadequate in terms of speed and performance. The library is regularly a place where people whose jobs require high speed internet congregate, engaging in videoconferences and accessing their work networks.

Survey efforts of the Island Institute and Tilson Technology in 2015 determined that most year-round and seasonal residents did not have the internet speed and reliability they desired. The town engaged in various efforts to work with incumbent providers to expand service speed and access without success. For part of 2016, Islesford was at risk of losing internet service entirely. Sutton, Bear, and Baker Islands all lacked a reliable solution as well.

A working group, established by the town, worked to identify the goals desired for improved internet service throughout the Cranberry Islands, focusing on Great Cranberry, Islesford,

and Sutton. Taking Federal (FCC) and State (ConnectME) standards for broadband, a desired goal of true broadband service was set (25 Mbps download, 10 Mbps upload) and a Request for Information (RFI) was issued for a solution that would meet these needs. Based on Internet Provider feedback to the RFI, the working group worked with the Selectmen to draft the necessary warrant articles for the 2017 Town Meeting. At the same time, they worked closely with numerous State and Federal Agencies to make sure that this project would be an attractive candidate for grants.

In March of 2017, the Town of Cranberry Isles Town Meeting voted 52-4 in support of a warrant article to partner with Axiom Technologies of Machias, ME to implement a project that would bring true broadband speeds to the Cranberry Isles. The approval of spending up to \$1.2 million, with a substantial portion supported through grants, would radically improve the internet infrastructure on the Cranberry Isles, open new employment opportunities, provide in-home healthcare telemedicine and educational resources, and increase communications and entertainment options to the islands.

Perhaps this will mean that soon enough, you will be able to spend more time chatting with grandchildren on Skype, or take a few days extra to stay on-island in the summer, or find a part-time job — whatever you need to do on the internet, the Cranberry Isles will be a great place to do it!

News Flash! The Town of Cranberry Isles has been awarded a \$69,000 grant for ConnectME to help with building the initial broadband infrastructure.



Robyn Freeman's Cape

ROSALIE KELL AND STAFF

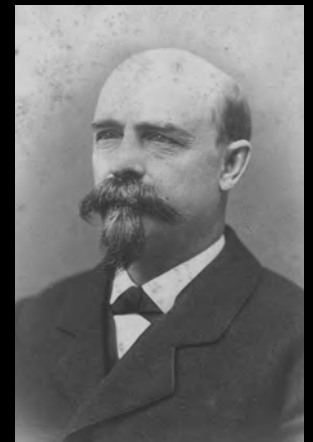


A new addition, under construction, 2017, on Robin Freeman's cape on Cranberry Road



A Note from GCIHS Archivist Ann Grulich

Robin's house is one of the earliest houses in a cluster of early 19th century Cape-style houses on GCI. Civil War Medal of Honor recipient General Andrew Barclay Spurling was born in 1833 to Samuel and Abigail Hadlock Spurling in what is now Robin Freeman's house. Andrew grew up in the big house across the street (now Mickey Macfarlan's house) when his widowed mother married William Preble.



General Andrew Barclay Spurling, Medal of Honor, Civil War.

As you travel down Cranberry Road you will see renovations have been made to one of the oldest houses on GCI. Robin Freeman's cape has had an addition put on the south side of the house that blends well with the original architecture.

Robin describes the history of her house:

My grandmother, Dorothy Macfarlan, bought the house and field in the early '60s mainly to protect her house across the street. We always called it the Little House (because her house, now Mickey's, was the big house). I have heard it is one of the oldest houses on the island. One person guessed it may have been built around 1830.

Charlotte Harlan told me her grandfather, Charles Henry Bulger (1875-1938), grew up in the house which at that point belonged to Lew Ladd. Lew Ladd may have been a small boat builder.

Charlotte's great, great-grandfather (Charles Henry's grandfather) was Michael Bulger who came from Ireland. Michael came to Cranberry in 1827 and worked as a carpenter. One son, Samuel Bulger, built houses on the island, including Charlotte Harlan's house. Charlotte and I have wondered if they worked on my house as well. The woodwork in the house is also similar to the woodwork in the Rome house.

My grandmother bought the house from Capt. Bert (Stanley?), a boatbuilder, who lived in the house with his sister. He built boats in the barn.

*Above: Freeman House ca. 1830
Photo: Courtesy of GCIHS*

When I came to know the house, my grandmother was renting it to John and Dorothy McDonald. John was a writer for Fortune magazine in New York City. Dorothy Eisner was a painter. She had her painting studio in the barn. I remember they had famously serious croquet games on the lawn (if you can call it that) with the Shoreys and my cousin, Budge Myers. Because the ground is so uneven, the games were complicated and competitive. I think they had hats made for "CCC," the Cranberry Croquet Club.

I began using the house in the summer in the later 1980s and have been slowly working on it ever since!

Wreck of the *General George C. Hogg*

FROM AN ORAL HISTORY

WITH TUD & POLLY BUNKER, 1979

Of course, we all knew old Ben Moore and we knew if we got him a bottle of liquor, we could do anything...

Tud Bunker loved to tell the story of the shipwreck at Deadman's Point. In January 1923, the *General George C. Hogg*, a Canadian vessel bound for home carrying a full load of coal became lost in a bad snow storm and ran onto the east end of Cranberry Island.

A guard was posted at the wreck, but the island men soon found his weak side.

Tud continues the story, laughing at the memory:

Well, of course she busted a hole in her and that coal run out... The captain got a fella named Ben Moore to come over here as a night watchman. He said, "If any of those goddamn Big Islanders come down here, shoot em". Of course, we all knew old Ben Moore and we knew if we got him a bottle of liquor, we could do anything... We stole half that coal that was on the deck. Of course, everybody on the island got that coal out of her... They sent a sheriff on here... just to check up to see how much coal people got out of the vessel off the rock... some of them fellas were foolish enough to tell what they had for coal.... The rest of us didn't take nothing... it was too cold to go down there and frig with that stuff.... Well those fellas that had told... got summons to come to Ellsworth... Every damn one got 30 days in jail... Them fellows raised hell so up there in jail, they played tag half the night, and they sent them



up to the church to help the ladies clean the church and Christ, one of them got up in the pulpit and got to preaching, and the women couldn't do nothing with them... In about 10 or 15 days they sent them all home... The jailer saying they couldn't do nothing with'em,... he can't sleep at the jail".

From an Oral History with Tud and Polly Bunker, transcribed 1979, published by the Islesford Historical Society, June 1, 1997

Also reproduced in *Winter: The Other Season A Look at Old Great Cranberry Island* by Wini Smart and Bruce Komusin, published by the GCIHS 2004

Above: The wreck of the General George C. Hogg at Deadman's Point, ca. 1923

Photo: Courtesy of Wesley Bracy

Cranberry Isles First Responders

ROSALIE KELL

When the worst happens, who will respond? The Cranberry Isles are fortunate to have 34 members of our community who are committed to be first responders in event of an emergency. Many have achieved advanced training that qualifies them to provide specialized response to rescue and preserve the lives and property of their neighbors. Katelyn Damon, the Town of Cranberry Isles Public Safety Coordinator, aptly oversees the preparedness of the Cranberry Isles Rescue Service, with 14 trained EMT responders, as well as the Great Cranberry Island Fire Department and the Isleford Fire Department.

The Fire Departments, with a combined membership of 19 from both islands, led by Chief Richard Howland, are committed co-responders for fires in each other's communities. When and if, hopefully never, the call goes out on either island, or Sutton, it's all hands-on deck to respond together as quickly as possible.



Mark Alley with GCI's new firetruck, a 2016 International 4400 Class A Pumper. This truck holds 970 gallons of water, 30 gallons of foam and can pump at 1250 gallons per minute.



Below: Addie Duren's house caught fire one Sunday morning, ca. 1960. She came running into the church during the service yelling, "Help me, help me, my house is on fire!" The neighbors rushed to put out the fire.

They saved Addie's home but there was substantial damage. The house is now owned by Ron Mountain.

Photo: Courtesy of Keith Wedge

The purchase of the new fire truck for GCI reflects this commitment to co-response. The make and model is the same as the Isleford firetruck, an International 4400 Class A Pumper. This streamlines the cross training of fire fighters on equipment for both communities and further strengthens the efficiency, safety and response time for the crews. It also reinforces the team and brings the islands together in support of each other.

Joint trainings in firefighting technique are encouraged. You may have seen Katelyn hauling gear to and from either island in preparation for training,

including air tanks. The new addition to the equipment for both islands is a filling station for those air tanks used as safety equipment in firefighting. This eliminates expensive and time consuming refills on the mainland.

Fortunately, the preparedness of our first responders is rarely tested. The Cranberry Isles Rescue Service with its EMT team sees most of the action. Stories of trips off on lobster boats in the dead of winter... and at night, attest to their commitment and professionalism. Lifeflight is also used for transport.

As for the fire companies, the last major fire, thankfully, was the Parsonage fire in

2006. Just knowing that we have a prepared firefighting force with modern equipment eases the anxiety of anticipating the worst.

**Please support
our team
of co-responders
by attending
the Fireman's
Supper in
August.**



Cranberry Isles 34 Volunteer First Responders

Richard Howland
Chief Isleford/GCIFD Interior FF

Jeremy Alley
Assistant Chief Isleford FF

James Amuso
Captain Isleford/GCIFD Interior FF

Luke Abell
CI Rescue Service, EMT

Cory Alley
Isleford FF

Mark Alley
GCIFD FF

Richard Alley
Isleford FF

Melissa Amuso
Isleford FF

Nick Barton
GCIFD FF

Blair Colby
GCIFD FF

Katelyn Damon
Isleford/GCIFD Interior FF EMT

Cory Duggan
CI Rescue Service, EMT

Peyton Eggleston
CI Rescue Service, EMT

Bruce Fernald
Isleford FF

Paul Fernald
CI Rescue Service, EMT

Margret Houghton
CI Rescue Service, EMT

Jake Kuester
Isleford/GCIFD Interior FF

Will Palmer
Isleford Interior FF

Jason Pickering
Isleford FF

Rebecca Powell
GCIFD FF EMT

Tom Powell
Isleford/GCIFD Interior FF EMT

David Rackliff
CI Rescue Service, EMT

Kelly Sanborn
CI Rescue Service, EMT

Norman Sanborn
GCIFD FF

Mary Schurch
CI Rescue Service, EMT

Hugh Smallwood
CI Rescue Service, EMT

Ted Spurling
Isleford FF

Branden Stubbs
GCIFD FF EMT

Ben Sumner
GCIFD FF

David Thomas
Isleford FF

Michael Westphal
GCIFD FF

Karin Whitney
GCIFD FF

Emily Wright
CI Rescue Service, EMT

FLAN

COURTESY OF HITT'S CAFÉ
CHEF CÉZAR FERREIRA

Ingredients

- 1 cup refined (white) sugar
- 6 large eggs
- 1 14-ounce can sweetened condensed milk
- 2 13-ounce cans evaporated milk
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

How to Make It

Preparation - 15 minutes

Cook - 1 hour

1. Pour 1 cup of the sugar in a warm pot with 2 cup of water over medium heat. Constantly stir the sugar while it heats until it browns and turns into caramel — that is, becomes a dark brown liquid.

2. Immediately pour approximately 2-3 tablespoons of caramel in each of the 6 custard dishes or ramekins, tilting the dish to so that the caramel swirls around on the inside. Work quickly, as the caramel will cool and harden almost as soon as it hits the dish. Reheat caramel in the pan if it thickens too much to work with.

3. With a whisk, blend the eggs together. Add all three cans of milk (1 condensed and 2 evaporated) and mix.

4. Slowly mix the vanilla extract. Blend until smooth after each ingredient is added.

5. Pour your prepared mixture into the caramel-lined custard dishes or ramekins, distributing it equally.

6. Place the individual dishes in a large glass, ceramic, or metal

baking pan. Pour hot water into the baking pan around the custard dishes to a depth of about 2 inches.

7. Bake your flan for 45 minutes in the water bath. Check with a knife inserted just off-center into one of the servings; if the knife comes out clean, your flan is ready.

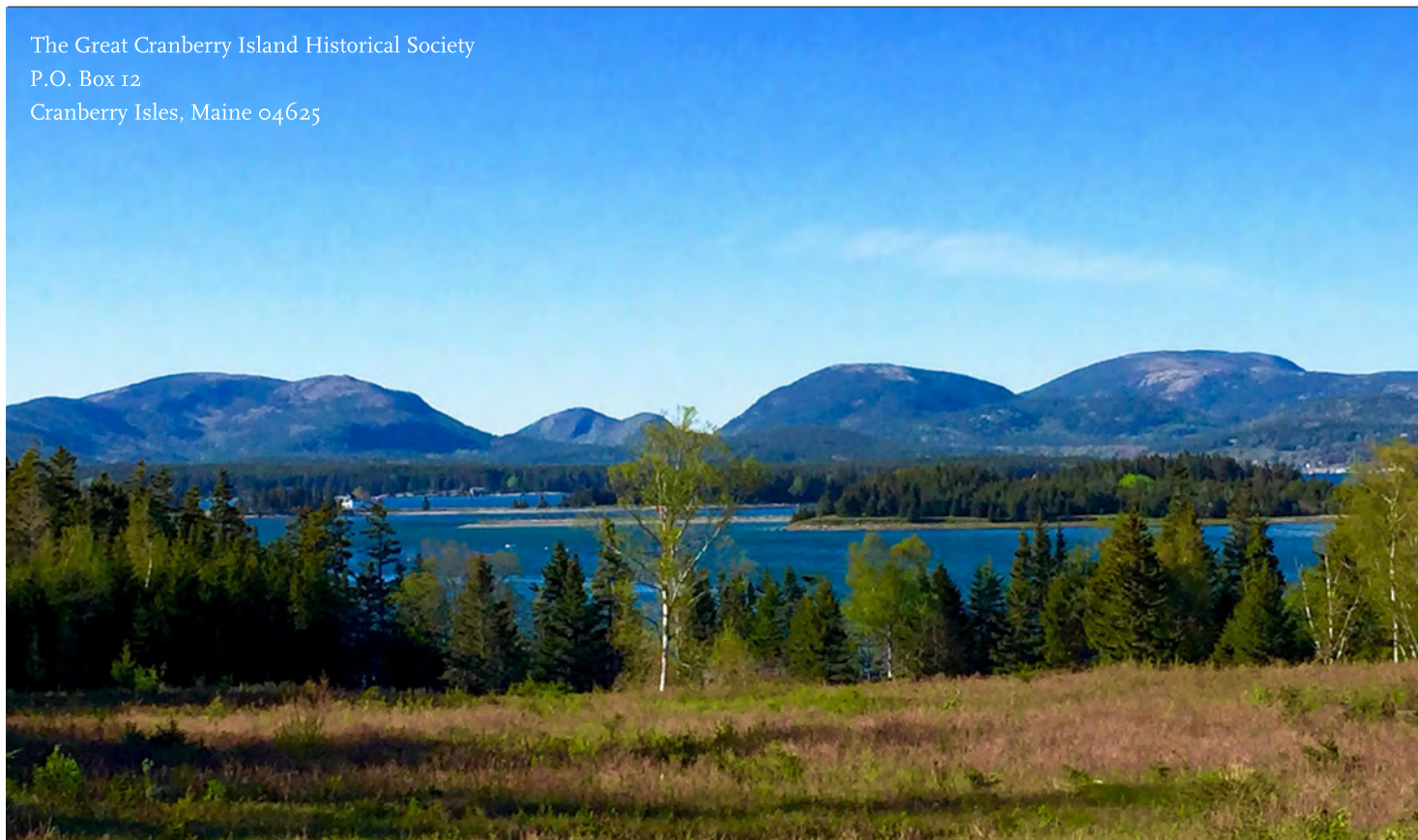
8. Remove the large baking dish from the oven and carefully take the individual dishes out of the hot water. Let cool to room temperature, then place in the refrigerator for an hour or so. (Leave flan in the dishes they baked in until time to serve.)

9. To serve, invert each individual dish onto a small plate, allowing the flan to drop out and the caramel sauce to flow over the custard.



Chef Cézar Ferreira

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



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 Email: info@gcihs.org



The Cranberry Explorer offers transportation and a guided tour from the dock to the far end of the island.

Friends of Cranberry House Membership *Renewal for 1 year*

Indicate amount corresponding to the various giving levels.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friend (\$25 to \$49) | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporter (\$250 to \$499) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family Friend (\$50 to \$99) | <input type="checkbox"/> Patron (\$500 to \$999) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Donor (\$100 to \$249) | <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor (\$1,000+) |

2016 Membership Year, if not already paid: \$

2017 Membership Year: \$

Grand Total \$

Please Send Future Newsletters as:

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Please complete if your name or address has changed from your printed label:

Name: _____

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