



The Cliff Island
Seagull

A Publication of the Cliff Island Association

Volume LI Number 1

Cliff Island, Maine

Spring 2003

In Harms Way Cliff Islander's in Iraq

LCDR Jay Gagne



LCDR Steven McKone



To LCDR's Stephen McKone and Jay Gagne, United States Navy -

All of Cliff Island is VERY proud of you two fine military officers -- Cliff Island's sons serving our country in harms way in the Middle East. To you Stephen, a helo pilot embarked on the USS Anzio protecting a battle group, and to you Jay, a Combat Search and Rescue Helo pilot based in Kuwait, we all want you to know that you, your fellow Sailors, Soldiers, Airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen are in our thoughts and prayers. We all wish you both a safe and speedy return as victors in the war against terrorism. God bless you both and thank you for your service to and sacrifices for our great country.

Signed the Cliff Island Community.

President's Report

Greetings! We've had quite a winter on the island—some tough weather and mud season has come and gone several times in between snowstorms. The biggest news on the island relates to the Cliff Island Deer Management Committee (DMC). Under the steady leadership of Larry Sharp, and a lot of work by the entire committee, they have voted to institute a management program in accordance with the wishes of the community vote. Implementation pends awaiting state and city approval. Stay tuned for more news. Diane O'Reilly resigned from the committee and the CIA Board appointed Gordon Griffin to replace her. In as much as the DMC had already voted to utilize firearms as part of the initial stages of the management program, "Grif" was felt to be a good choice based on his years of hunting experience and additionally, he has prior service on the Casco Bay-wide deer committee.

The island is facing another community decision—this involves the barge-landing site. As you all recall, over the past few years, the CIA has supported John Coyle's attempts to stop the City of Portland's use of his beach and relocate the barge landing. As a result, an engineering firm has been engaged to conduct a survey to identify all potential sites. We've had several scheduled meetings to kick off this process cancelled by the city. We hope it takes place next week—we'll get the word out via e-mail so all can follow along. This issue, not unlike the deer management issue, is bound to raise emotions and be divisive. However, again, we must all remember that when this is done, we've all got to live together on a small piece of heaven in the middle of the ocean. The upkeep of the roads, large trash pick-up, regular trash and recycling and reliable and inexpensive

(relatively) shipment of supplies for maintenance/upkeep of homes are some of the reasons why we need barge service. The greater good of the island has to be considered. By working with the City and the engineers, we hope to have the landing site as unobtrusive as possible.

Another issue has raised itself at recent CIA meetings—the possible need for an editorial policy for the Seagull. The Executive Board discussed the matter and came to the joint opinion that at present, no specific policy is needed.

Large item pick-up is coming to your neighborhood early this summer! The city will be monitoring what is put out and when it is put out (there is a specific date before which NO items can be placed curbside). Libra has made the effort to gather this information (see inside) and the CIA has put out a mailing and will send e-mails to remind everyone of the details.

Looking forward to seeing everyone in the near future!

Steve Little



Celebrating New Years on Cliff Island. Yes, that is snow on the beach.

AN OVERSIGHT IN THE PREVIOUS EDITION: The two wonderful photos of Sue Rieth and Ben O'Reilly were taken and submitted by Kat Farrin.

- PLEASE READ -

Large-Item Trash Information and Etiquette

Large-item trash, this year, will be picked up starting **June 2nd**. Trash may NOT be put out by the roadside until **May 26th**. If you can't be here to put your trash out between May 26th and June 2nd, please make arrangements for someone else to do so. Finestkind is available to help out.

Items should be put in separate piles of WOOD, METAL, GLASS, and all else. It's important to put everything out before June 2nd because here's how it works: The workers make a sweep around the island picking up wood only. Then they go around again and pick up metal only. Etc. So if you put out an old fridge after the "metal" has been picked up, you may have missed out and have to wait until next year.

And the reason that we ask that trash not be put out before May 26th, is, first, that no one wants to look at a trashy roadside any longer than they have to, and second, the Portland city ordinance mandates that trash not be put out before the Monday before the beginning of pickup.

Let's all work to make this upcoming large-item trash pickup as swift and eye pleasing as possible.

Dancing Feet

They tap in rhythm together.

The watchers follow with their sparkling eyes, clapping.

Birkenstocks, retro sneaks, and barefoot,

sizes nine and ten jump and sway on their private stage.

Lights pounding on the sweating foreheads

while the fingers sing the feet,

they dance.

Loie Merritt

POST OFFICE HOURS

Mon - Fri	Lobby	8am - 5pm
	Window	8am - 1pm
		2pm - 4:45pm
	Mail Dispatch	3:30pm
Saturday	Lobby	8:30am - 12:30
	Window	8:30am - 12:15
	Mail Dispatch	12 noon

www.cliffisland.com

is the official Cliff Island website

E-mail bob@cliffisland.com if you wish to be on the list to receive important news and updates via email.

If your email address changes, let Bob know. He continually updates his list. (Thanks, Bob!!)

Postage Stamps

Remember to help our community by buying your postage stamps from the Cliff Island Post Office. If you can't be here in person, you can purchase them by mail. Contact Postmaster Anna at 766-2051 for the details or print out an order form from the Cliff Island website.

- The "Verdad" Story of - Cinco De Mayo

In early 19th century Mexico, there lived a great land-owner, *Jose de Ortega Jalapeno con Chevy Vega y piñata el Queso de Grande*, or "*el Cuarto!*" Jose had an unambitious son named Manuel de Ortega Jalapeno—*el Queso sin Importancia*, or "*el Cinco!*"

Manuel had no taste for wars, gallantry, or even Mexican Independence. His passion was to simply run his taqueria in the small town of Puebla, 100 miles outside of Mexico City where the "*especial de casa*" was a bacon, lettuce, and tomato quesadilla smothered in homemade chipotle mayonnaise.

On the morning of May 4th, 1862, Maximillian, Archduke of Austria (and overseas pawn of Napoleon III) arrived just outside the Puebla gates with 8,000 French soldiers. At the same time, General Zaragoza and his army of 5,000 Mestizo and Zapotec Indians camped at the other side of town. Everyone expected them to battle for the independence of Mexico the next day.

At lunchtime, Manuel de—*el Cinco* looked up from the take-out window and saw a line of 13,000 soldiers (most of the Mexican infantry had cut in line ahead of the better-mannered French), all waiting to be served. "Fed up" with nachos, burritos, and bad tequila, Napoleon III's entire overseas army had become enchanted when they spotted the first restaurant they had seen in 19th century Mexico, offering any form of mayonnaise.

All afternoon, *Cinco* and his son (*el Sexto!*) made 12,987 plates of the house special, finally turning away what were to become known as the "Lucky 13." In serving this horde, *Cinco* used up all his bottles of fresh mayonnaise to feed the Mexican troops and was then forced to resort to the 642 "legacy bottles," which he had stored in the basement earlier that year, awaiting the invention of refrigeration.

The next morning, when Maximillian summoned his soldiers for the attack on the Zaragoza forces,

Artist/Craftsman & Flea Market Fair

Where: Community Hall
Date: Saturday, July 26, 2003
Time: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. with a
break for lunch between
1 and 2 p.m.
Cost per Table: \$10.00
Contact Person: Joanne LaPomarda
email: jml11349@aol.com

Beverages and goodies will be provided by vendors. Bring your own lunch or purchase sandwiches and drinks from the Beachead II.

If you are a craftsman, artist, or have yard sale/flea market items to sell, reserve your table early!

Don't Miss This One!!!

he found that all but thirteen of his men "*avoir des nauses*" and had again lined up at *Cinco's* for chipotle menudo (the antidote) and could not stomach another battle.

Denied a chance to flaunt his bravery, Zaragoza nonetheless claimed a "military" victory for Mexico. The "little people," however, have retained this authentic story and preserve the truth yet in the official name for this grand holiday of Mexican independence, celebrating this great, but humble man, and his stealthy weapon of liberation: "*Cinco de Mayo.*" **Peter Schenk**

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Cliff Island, ME 04019

email: JML11349@aol.com
Joanne La Pomarda

Historical Society

The mission of the Cliff Island Historical Society is to collect, preserve, and make accessible those objects, antiquities, documents, and other items of historical, educational, and cultural significance pertaining to the unique and special history of Cliff Island.

Wouldn't this oriental rug from Bahrain (right) look nice in your home? Thanks to Diane and Steve Little's donation, the Cliff Island Historical Society will hold a raffle on this unusual item this summer, and the lucky winner will be the proud owner of this lovely 3' x 5' carpet! This fund raiser will benefit the whole community as we move forward in helping to preserve our island history.

As of March 1, the CIHS is pleased to announce it has received two grants totaling \$2,500.00. A \$500.00 stipend has been awarded from MAM (Maine Archives and Museums) and this money will be used for a consultant's visit to the island later this spring. Many thanks to those who answered our plea in the winter Seagull helping us to match funds for our second grant of \$2,000.00 from the MBNA. These funds will be used to buy equipment for our multi-media project.

As the snow melts and spring cleaning begins, please remember to save any old photographs or treasures you might find. We are happy to copy them and return the originals to you. Your help is much appreciated and many thanks.

Alice Carter



- Landowners with Apple Trees -

As a member of the Deer Management Committee, I urge all landowners to prune their wild apple trees. Pruning entails removing dead, damaged, or excessive branches from the trees. The prime time to prune is during the winter and/or early spring, before the buds form on the trees.

Please cut any unwanted surrounding growth away from your fruit trees to ensure plentiful sun and abundant fruit productivity. More wild apples will aid in the management of the island deer herd by hopefully giving the deer more wild forage and keeping them away from domestic flower and vegetable gardens.

If you need help, please contact Earl MacVane at 766-5533 or Gary MacVane at 766-2669 for possible assistance.

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One August evening last summer, women gathered at Mary Ryan Ferer's house for an evening of makeovers and skin care tips, compliments of her cousin, Judy Burns McCormick, who is a Mary Kay Consultant. It was a fun and informative evening complete with

great products and makeup, munchies, laughter, and good conversation. Shown here are some of the women who attended. In the end, it looked more like "Goddess's Night Out," with all that beauty in one room!
(Photo submitted by Ellen Swirsky)

Michael Beaudoin, Bob Kramer, and Dale Dyer (left to right) after completing the Casco Bay Half-Marathon in October 2002. All three did great! Michael came in 2nd in his age group.

(Photo submitted by Molly Morell)



"Our thoughts are with all the men and woman risking their lives around the world and we hope for their safe return."

Gary MacVane and Mark McKone show their support for the Troops

(Photo: Steve Little)

Hear and There

Charlie Merritt was accepted into Johnson & Wales Culinary College in Rhode Island, as well as Southern Maine University. He will also be receiving his ski patrol jacket very soon, which means that he will then be a part of the ski patrol rather than a candidate. Both Charlie and **Loie** will again be participating in the spring musical at Gould Academy.

Tucker went to Key Largo, FL, for vacation. He went to the Miami Zoo, and met up with Karen, Jamie, Jessica, and Dylan Griffin at the dolphin research center. He saw Florence and Earhardt Griffin and Tommy and Sharon Marr (Long Island) having a wonderful time, and he ran into the Trains (also Long Island) at the sea lion show in Islamorada. Stu took pictures as Tucker and his mom petted manatees in the wild. Tucker also learned to swim without a life jacket. He looked like a seal, but he's swimming on his own! He has an amazing rock and leaf collection from every inch of the Florida Keys. His mom hopes that it didn't make it home with them.

Cris-Hawk Farrin was on the Honor Roll at Portland High School this last session. He is a sophomore.

Jeanine Alberto made the Dean's List at the University of Maine, Farmington, for the fall semester. She is a freshman studying international relations. **Andrea Alberto**, 15, is traveling to Honduras in June to help build a house. She is going with a group of 30 people from St. John's Episcopal Church, Westwood, MA. Not only will the group almost complete a cinder block house in 10 days, they also provided the funding to purchase all the supplies.

Dave McNitt reports that he is enjoying St. Andrews University. He and three flat mates recently moved from a dorm out of town, into an 18th-century townhouse. Bedroom ceilings on the third floor were too low, so he converted the diningroom into his sleeping quarters. The room has no closet, so clothes hang on picture hooks left in the walls from previous owners – funky but deco-

rative. This semester, he feels lucky to have Magnus Ranstorp, an expert on terrorist activities, as one of his international relations professors. Dave sends greetings from Scotland to his Cliff Island family.

Kelly O'Reilly Profenno has started up two part-time businesses. She is a PartyLite consultant doing home shows and selling high quality candles and accessories. She is also a consultant and distributor for the company, *Reliv*. Reliv makes food supplements – vitamins, nutrients and herbs – for preventative health care and to help with differing diseases and conditions. Kelly, who was diagnosed with Fibromyalgia, has benefitted greatly from using Reliv products. See her ad in this Seagull for more information.

Due to booming business, **Gary Profenno** has had to turn people away this winter, and has ordered a fourth building in which to grow his "Freeport Self Storage and U'Haul" business. Have storage or truck rental needs? Gary will take care of you: 865-3920

Tobias David Frederick Otto, born 12/18/02, to Torsten & Laura McClelland Otto in Hamberg Germany. Tobias' proud grandparents are Katherine and Kent McClelland

Alyvia Mary Facey was born February 26th to Desa and Alan Facey. Grandparents are Sandra and Charlie Green of Cliff Island, Beverly Facey of England, and David and Susan Facey of Belgium.

Jesse Sawyer, a student in Mrs. Tuccis's Latin III class, has been awarded third prize in the Classical Association of New England Writing Contest for the state of Maine. Over 100 schools throughout New England participate in this yearly contest. Jesse will receive a certificate and book award in May at the annual awards assembly. This is not the first award that Jesse has received during his studies in Latin. As a freshman, he won a medal on the Latin I National Latin Exam and last year he also received awards for his achievement on the National Latin Exam and Medusa Mythology Exam. Macte, Jesse!!!

- It's Been a Good Winter -

Many mornings as hot coffee warms and wakes me, I marvel at the beauty of the quiet winter cove and the frigid expanse to Jewel and beyond. Folks trickle by headed for the early boat, and then it is quiet. The clear, crisp cold days and clean white snow have given us pleasurable sights, and have permitted cross country skis and snow shoes to get more use than in most years. The ice on the bay even has required the ferry to be an ice-breaker. Our roads have been well maintained in spite of the seemingly endless efforts of nature to shut everyone into their homes. Each day can continue in only self-made disturbances, or it can move into the public places where we often interact. It can be on the road, dock or ferry; at the post office, store or hall. We realize that there are good things going on as well as some things causing stress. I like the good things much better, but some of the stressful things have to be tolerated and/or dealt with. So what good is going on?

ISLAND READERS continue to meet for the discussions of books chosen from a mix of contemporary and classic choices. Recent selections include *Catch-22*, *Slaughterhouse Five*, *Ahab's Wife*, *John Adams* and *For Whom the Bell Tolls*. We will discuss *Bel Canto* by Ann Patchet in March and *Sometimes a Great Notion* by Ken Kesey in April. The exchange of ideas has usually involved about ten people in the "off season" months and more on occasion. We will post meeting information and the particulars of future books on the bulletin boards.

Casco Bay Lines CBITD has been relatively quiet lately. The cold weather may be responsible for rather slow winter revenues. Portland's budget crisis led to a proposal to increase the terminal rental. The lease runs through 2005, and management and our board president have met with City officials to resolve this. A proposal to standardize carts failed to pass after lengthy discussion by the board and public about misuse of carts and carry-on freight privileges. Riders should be aware that common sense is needed out of respect for the comfort and safety of all. Replacement of the *Is-*

land Holiday is in the early planning stage. A naval architect reviewed our needs with staff, and has submitted four alternatives, which are presented with major specifications in the lobby of the terminal. Public input is wanted. Maine's department of transportation is seeking federal funds. To date, \$1 million has been "earmarked" out of \$2.5 million requested. The OCEANGATE waterfront modernization effort includes a project at CBITD to revise the terminal. The first step planned is to build a new freight shed, and make changes that will significantly improve pedestrian safety and convenience. Expectation of increasing foot and vehicle traffic through the terminal area suggests that there is ample need for this project. Pressure has mounted recently to pin down a specific plan so that a federal funding opportunity with a late spring deadline can be exploited.

Every day we see volunteers heading into the school to read to our children. People are busy at PTC and CIA meetings. People are exercising at the hall, walking the island roads in small groups or making sweaters at Ruth's. Others are doing construction and repairs of homes and fishing gear. This vibrant island community is always evolving. We approach spring ready to enjoy the wonderful natural features of our ocean-washed home, and appreciate the many human dimensions that make it up. We will solve our problems by carefully defining them, listening with interest to the views of all and carefully considering the consequences of different options. We depend on the loyal minority to graciously abide by the decisions of the majority.

Leo Carter

ALL use of the Hall MUST be scheduled

And if your usage will extend for more than one day, each of the days (and time of day) it will be used must be scheduled and approved. This helps us keep tabs on the condition of the Hall as well as avoid double bookings. Thanks.

**Please call Ruth Mistark
for scheduling.**

We Say Goodbye to Some Friends



- Susan Thoenig Marsh, 51 -

Susan Thoenig Marsh of Little York, NJ, died January 16, 2003 at the Hunterdon County Medical Center after a brave battle with breast cancer.

Susan was born February 16, 1951, in New Brunswick, NJ, daughter of the late Russell and Murlies Thoenig. Her brother, Dr. James Thoenig, also predeceased her.

She resided in Warren Township, NJ, before moving to Little York in 1976.

Although she worked as the office manager of the American Institute in Easton, PA, she thought of herself primarily as a loving wife and mother dividing her time between her home in New Jersey, and the family's summer cottage on Cliff Island.

She and her husband, Richard Lea Marsh, were married for 26 years.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by three daughters: Jennifer Lea Holzmann of Innsbruck, Austria; Victoria Ann Marsh and Alison

Kendall Marsh both still residing at home.

Susan was an active member of the Pattenburg United Methodist Church in Pattenburg, NJ, and a passionate and long-standing supporter of her daughters' school activities.

She will be missed by all who knew her.

- Richard V. Lea -

Richard V. Lea of Syracuse, NY, and Cliff Island, ME, died on January 29, 2003. He was born in 1919, a son of the late Helen V. Lea and John B. Lea. Dick was a captain in the U.S. Army during World War II, and served in the Philippines.

A graduate of the College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Dick earned both his Masters and Ph.D. in Forest Resource Management there by 1953. He worked for the college for a number of years and then worked in industry for both the Singer Sewing Company and Diamond National Corporation before returning to the College of Environmental Science and Forestry, where he became a full professor and taught for more than 20 years – the last three of which were spent on a project in Burma, sponsored by the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization.

Dick is survived by his wife, Helen, of 57 years, and their children: Barbara of Syracuse; Christopher of Columbia, MD; Cameron of Syracuse; Alexander (Sandy) of Somerville, NJ; and Jonathan of Balston Lake, NY; seven grandchildren; and a sister, Mrs. Edith Marsh of Milford, NJ. Donations may be made to ACE on Cliff Island.

The Lea family wish to thank all of our Cliff Island friends for their expressions of sympathy.

- Sam Gray -

Josie Davis Gray's husband Sam Gray passed away at 5pm on Saturday, March 22nd.



- Gordon Howard, 90 -

Gordon Howard, known to family and many friends as Poppy, passed away in Grinnell, Iowa on March 13th. He had been living in a nursing home since his diagnosis with Alzheimers a little over a year ago. Up until his 90th birthday, in October, he had been doing very well but had declined since then. He will be greatly missed by his daughter, Katherine, her husband, Kent, his son, Bob and wife Sally, his grandchildren, great grandchildren and his Cliff Island friends.

Poppy was predeceased by his oldest daughter, Peggy, in 1972 and his wife, Anne, in 1994.

- Ned Reiner, 1918-2003 -

Ned Reiner passed away on February 22, a few days before his 85th birthday. His wife, Miriam Carol (Hartman) Reiner, died last April 7th. Ned had an aortic valve replacement two years ago. Carol (to him) or Miriam (to many of you) was his constant support in that year of convalescence from heart surgery. For 58 years, they worked together and were good company for each other. Carol Pitkin described them in this word portrait: "Sometimes I would see them out in front of the cottage rowing. They were so natural, so at one with their surroundings. It is rare to see a married couple after many years, so companionable and so at peace with one another."

They met in Lancaster, Mass., while Ned was working for the town helping to clear the fallen trees after the hurricane of '38. Ned was drafted into the army in 1941. On more than one occasion,

he rowed out to the island from the mainland to visit my mother and her family. My mother started summering on the island with her mother, Mina Hartman, and family when she was 15. They all packed into the tiny Coyle cottage – the one on the beach. My grandmother named it the Sea Urchin. Ned and Carol married in 1944. He was a staff sergeant barracks and drill leader, as well as a photographer while he was stationed in Camp Lee in Virginia. In 1945, he was sent overseas to the Philippines and Japan. Ned completed college after the war at the University of Rhode Island with a degree in history. He worked for Norton Co. in Worcester for 32 years in research and development as a materials engineer and researcher. Ned worked alongside Ph.D. chemists and engineers in the laboratory. His interests led him to be pretty much self-taught in the science and math that were required for his job.

As a younger man, Ned used his professional photography skills both on the job and as a hobby. He also had a lifelong interest in astronomy.

Ned and Miriam bought the Crow's Nest in 1946 and were neighbors to Dot and Bob MacVane. It was the first "roof over their heads" that they owned. Raising a family of four children was their biggest project together. Next to that, their biggest shared dream was keeping up the Crow's Nest and Bayberry Cottages to share a healthy and joyful summer life with the extended family.

Waking up on a soft summer morning promised adventures with family and friends. Similar memories have shaped the hearts of all of us who share the Cliff Island experience. Gracing these memories is a deep-seated love for the ocean and nature. Many of us, I am certain, have come close to touching the core value of their lives through the peace and rejuvenating powers of this unique place. We then become seekers for greater peace, unity, and understanding.

For this, I thank both my parents for their hard work and devotion, and extend the hope that their vision can be kept alive for succeeding generations.

Ted Reiner

Does Your Island House Need a Paint Job?



Casey Zuckerman and Kim McCann are heading back to their ladders this summer. This may be our last summer, so don't miss this opportunity! We are looking for both indoor and outdoor work. If you are interested, please email Casey

caseyzuckerman@hotmail.com

Editorial

Choosing a - Barge Landing Site -

The issue of choosing a barge landing site is very important for a small, environmentally delicate island like Cliff.

Obviously, a new site other than the "Coyle Landing Site," has to be created. I believe that it is crucially important, in choosing a barge site, that this new site have the least amount of environmental impact as possible.

I can certainly understand why any resident would not want this site to be "In Their Backyard." Not only because of the possible environmental damage, but also because of the noise pollution and the disruption of their peaceful space.

Unfortunately, a decision has to be made for a new site. This is a time when all island residents need to come together for the good of the island environment, which, I believe, is why everyone loves to live here! If we want Cliff Island to remain pristine and viable for all of us and our grandchildren and their grandchildren, we have to think of the future of the "Whole Island," not just about "our own backyards."

So, I would hope that when everyone has had their input and the engineers have made their rec-

ommendations, that we can all put our own personal needs and wants aside and make an informed decision that is best for our *environment*. Without that, in the future we won't have the island that we all so love and most have loved since we and our parents and our grandparents were small children.

Remember the beautiful, deep and wide, fine-grained, white sandy beach from Scheu's to the bluffs? Remember all the wild strawberries? Remember the wonderful clam beds *full* of fresh clams? Remember the Horseshoe crabs? Remember the Osprey, Hawks, and Eagles soaring high in the clouds and choosing Cliff Island as their place to nest? And remember the days, laying in a field, or on the beach, or on the bluffs, looking for pictures in the clouds and feeling so very lucky to be living in this very special place called Cliff Island? In 10 or 20 or more years from now, let's not look back and remember more things that are no longer here! How very sad that would be.

Respectfully submitted by **Joanne M. LaPomarda**



the beginnings of a myth-like story situated on the isle of cliff by kat farrin

that year...

the old ones weakened and were lost to the island, one by one

babies were born with eyes darker than deepest brown though their feet looked normal enough, when they began to walk—barefooted on the sand beaches—the tracks left behind were those of the deer

it was a wild mid-november night. the cold snap had broken and a southerly breeze rose to gale as the tide hit high and crested. she sat safe and protected in her nest-loft while directly outside her window the wind howled and gusted. waves beat against the ledges down below and christmas balls, island-made of plastic cups and tiny colored lights, blinked in rapid flash rhythm in both her window and the store next door. some secret kind of island code. at seven, it was already dark and the island empty of human movement.

to be continued.....



- PTC Report -

Ah, Winter! As I write this, we are once again getting some delightful snow. Can't seem to get enough of the white stuff. Spring is almost here, isn't it? We are all looking forward to the MUD!

The Cliff Island School would like to thank everyone who purchased our 2003 calendar. We are discussing whether or not to do another for 2004. We will let you know.

We would also like to thank everyone who has come into school to listen to the students read. This is ongoing and if you are interested in volunteering your time, just call the school at 766-2885.

In February, the students made Valentines for patients at the Maine Medical Center's Pediatric Ward. Our children enjoyed making them and it was greatly appreciated by the children there.

On March 3rd, the school celebrated Dr. Seuss' birthday. We had a brunch of Green Eggs and Ham and heard stories read by kids and adults. Then we ate some Cat in the Hat Cake. Thank you to everyone who helped make it happen.

On March 7th, the students performed "The Shoemaker and the Elves." Then they presented their individual mammal projects. They all did a great job.

The students are looking forward to a field trip to Jillson's Farm in Sabattus on March 17th. The kids will be able to watch and learn about making maple syrup. We will be able to try out the syrup with a pancake brunch. We also look forward to hearing some local folklore by Ed Jillson, and feeding the farm animals.

The students are also looking forward to swimming lessons starting on March 28th.

The PTC would like to invite everyone to a dinner at the Hall sometime in April. We will post a notice when the date and time have been decided.

We would also like to thank Judy MacVane for

the continuing effort she puts into the school. Also, we want to thank her and Faith Rawding for their hard work in the latest school improvement project – bar coding the library books.

We hope you have a great spring and we look forward to seeing you soon.

Karen Griffin

for the old ones

before light
the crows are calling
a strip of pink-orange bursts open
in the eastern sky
then so quickly...
gone
this is the way our lives are
they spring forth from nowhere
a second in time
yet
as i walk in this march morning grayness
the red of a cardinal darts across the road
waves lap gently
on the bluffs, a hollow thundering from the punch bowl
out at jewells
in this quiet... this waiting
snow
drifting down from the heavens
and a singular sorrowful note from a loon
let us be present to our lives
rejoice
in each precious moment
for
in spirit
nothing
no one
is lost

Kat Farrin

Babysitting Services Available

July 1st through August 25th

- CPR certified for infants and children -

Call Patience McCann



Hola! Dr. Kramer and Kris, we presume? Cliff Island folks meet in unusual places. Gordon, Ivy, and Victoria with Bob and Kris in Playa-del-Carmen, Mexico, March 2003.
(Photo courtesy of Gordon Griffin)

- DMC Report -

The Deer Management Committee has outlined a plan for the initial phase of a deer population management program on Cliff Island. We are committed to reducing the deer population to a sustainable level within two years and are working on a second-phase plan for maintaining the deer population at a sustainable level.

The initial-phase plan calls for carefully controlled hunting at specified locations and times in the late fall and early winter, by two respected members of the Cliff Island community – Earl and David MacVane.

The Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife has indicated that it will support this approach. The CIA will set a meeting of the Cliff Island community to discuss the overall plan, and the City’s Public Safety Committee will hold a public hearing before passing on it.

Before settling on this plan, we explored every recognized alternative to deer population management. This, we believed, offered the best combination of safety, effectiveness, and acceptance in the community. In particular, we carefully studied all the non-lethal approaches and concluded that none offered a solution for Cliff Island. We do believe that some of these non-lethal methods may

contribute to maintaining the deer population at a sustainable level once we get there, and we plan to incorporate them whenever possible.

The committee worked very hard to reach a result that would provide effective and timely population control and would have the broadest possible acceptance in the Cliff Island community. Members arrived at the first meeting with strikingly differing views about how to address the deer population problem. The near unanimous adoption of this plan was possible only because individual members were willing to set aside personal preferences and work for a result that put the expressed needs of the Cliff Island community first.

If you have any questions about our work, or if you would like more detailed information about our plan for the initial phase, please feel free to contact me or any other committee member.

Larry Sharp
Larry.Sharp@mac.com

Reliv Nutritional Products

If you have, or know of anybody who has health conditions such as:

- *High cholesterol/Asthma or allergies*
- *Back problems* *Arthritis*
- *Migraines* *Crohn’s disease*
- *Diabetes* *Chronic fatigue*
- *Fibromyalgia* *PMS/Hot flashes*
- *Poor quality sleep* *Postmenstrual symptoms*
- *Sports injury pain* *ADD, ADHD, MS, Lupus*
- *Cancer* *Ear infections, colds*
- *Osteoporosis* *Effects of aging*

• you need to hear about the remarkable health improvements—and wealth improvements—that people just like you are getting with Reliv Nutritional Products! I, personally, have had great results combatting Fibromyalgia, Chronic Fatigue, IBS, headaches, and depression since I have been taking Reliv products. Call me, Kelly Profenno, at 865-1227 with questions or to obtain information. Also email at kogdp@gwi.net or check the Reliv website at www.reliv.com. You won’t regret it!!

- ACE Report -

It's early spring here on the island so summer plans are just beginning to take form. We expect to have a full agenda for everyone in the next Seagull, as we start our second quarter century.

We have finalized the legalities for our new right-of-way into our Griffins' Cove property, so now it is time to lay the groundwork – literally. Early this summer, we will be brushing out the new pathway, laying down solid fill, putting up appropriate signage, clearing for golf carts and bicycles, and maybe doing some attractive planting. This will give us another physical project upon which to focus our energies and will take traffic off the two other traditional routes into the cove. It is important to respect our neighbors' privacy as much as possible!

At this writing, we are closing in on selecting our 2003 Summer Program Director. We are still trying to team up with an Island Institute Fellow who will also work for the school, the library, and the Historical Society (as well as for ACE). Hopefully this process will finish in April, as everyone needs to make their summer plans early on.

We are now more hopeful than ever that we will have Linda Greenlaw on-island for a talk this season. And Avner the Eccentric plans to fit us into his global performance schedule. Other Monday Evenings' presenters will fall into place by June.

Soooooo, this is just a brief preview of another ACE summer. Enjoy the anticipation!

Dale and Roger

- Memorial Fund -

This is our annual reminder that when Cliff Island family members and friends pass along, their legacies can take different forms. What older Islander is not sincerely interested in how the youngest Island generation is faring? And what

could be more important than these kids' health and education?

To leave greater resources in their names, to address those on-going needs, is to meaningfully honor the memory of those recently (or not so recently) departed from our shores.

So, please think of the Cliff Island Community Memorial Fund as a means of turning sadness into good feelings all around to benefit our youth. Everyone will appreciate and gain from such generosity.

CICMF is a 501C3 organization, which can afford income tax deductibility for all levels of contributions.

Norm Seagrave, Ruth Mistark, Carlton Cushing,
Roger Berle, Trustees

FINESTKIND!!

Finestkind would like everyone to know that while we are pretty well booked for the rest of the year, part of our plans always include serving our island. So, give us a call, whether your needs involve lawns or boats or docks or chips or painting or repairs or plumbing or electrical or trucking or or or....

We're only too happy to start talking now about larger projects starting this fall, and we're always willing to help folks sort out bureaucratic issues like overboard discharge, moorings, etc.

See you soon...

FINESTKIND!!

Cliff Island School Kids' Pages

The students and teachers at the Cliff Island School would like to thank the many many volunteers who have helped us this year. The whole community has responded to our requests and we have grown as a result.

The students grouped together to write the following words of appreciation.

Volunteering helps us.
 Only you can make a difference.
 Like, helping is cool!
 United we stand.
 Nice dude thanks.
 Thank you, for your time.
 Everyone pitches in.
 Electrifying results!
 Reading is great! Thanks! Spanish talk.

Volunteering to help us
 Oh, thanks for listening!
 Lovely listening!
 U- are nice!
 Nice in every way!
 Thanks a lot!
 Everyone takes a turn.
 Everyone gives a "thanks!"
 Ready to listen
 Start reading!

Very nice
 On the job
 Lively
 Useful
 Nonstop Terrific
 Extraordinary
 Extreme
 Reliable
 Super

Students are studying poets and forms of poetry for the month of April.

The simplest rhymed pattern is the *couplet*, which consists of two rhyming lines. They are usually written with a humorous twist. The rhythm and the rhyme should match the thought or mood of the poem.

Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall,
 And he was a Doll. Connor

Put your pencil in your hand,
 Put your pencil in the band. Will

What to think, what to think,
 Wait, I have no ink! Noah

Little Boy Blue,
 He did catch the flu. Will

Little Miss Muffet sat on a mushroom
 And said, "Hey! There's not enough room!"
Andrew

How much is that doggie in the window?
 I sure hope to name him Kindo! Chris

Mother Goose is missing!
 Did everyone see her kissing? Jessica

Don't stand on the book,
 To reach the hook. Sam

Keep your feet on the floor,
 Then mn out the door. Dylan

Mother Goose rhymes
 Will cost many dimes! Lynn