

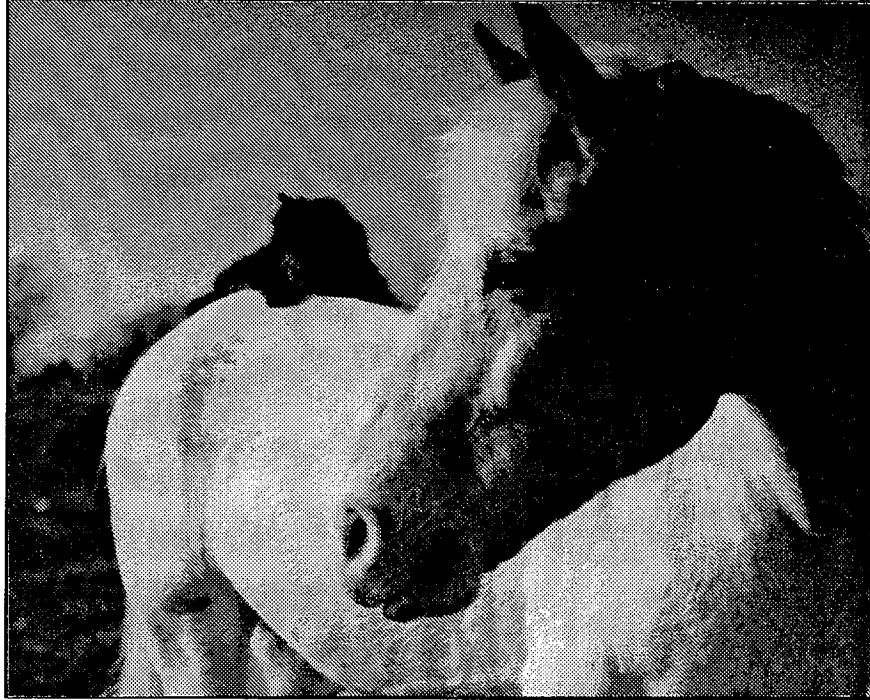
The Thoroughfare

JUNE 1998

THE ROQUE ISLAND NEWSLETTER

VOLUME VI ISSUE II

Summer Issue



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Tar, the equestrian cat on his favorite sunning spot: Hey Boy's rump!

Changes to the Rules & Policies Book

The *Roque Island Rules & Policies* book will be updated this fall. Some of the changes are listed below.

- ↓ LEVELS OF MEMBERSHIP will be included and fully described.
- ↓ RECYCLING at the Island is far more extensive than it has been in the past and is rigorously utilized by the staff – only broken glass and metal go to the dump now. New procedures will be explained to you upon your arrival at the Island this summer.
- ↓ RIDING HARD HATS are required for those under the age of 16.
- ↓ BOAT CHECK OUT system has been fleshed out and will be explained to you at the island this summer.
- ↓ SHOPPING DAYS are now Tuesdays and Thursdays (lists, etc. will be provided in each of the houses).
- ↓ EXTRA HOUSEHOLD HELP can be provided – please coordinate with Owen a few weeks before your arrival at the Island (at a rate of \$12.50/hour or otherwise negotiated for a day rate)
- ↓ ALARM SYSTEM will be explained to you upon your arrival at the Island. If it goes off during your stay go to the Farmhouse immediately and have one of the staff reset the alarm for you.
- ↓ PEABODY LOG-IN book has been established to keep track of all people who go to the Island.
- ↓ CHAIN SAW users are required to utilize the buddy system – 2 people – when out cutting in the woods.

If you are intending to take a trek of sorts, please remember to communicate to other members of your household (or leave a note on your kitchen table) where you are planning to go... this way there may be a shred a hope for finding you (or your guests) if you are gone for an inordinate amount of time... Thank you.





Squire's Point

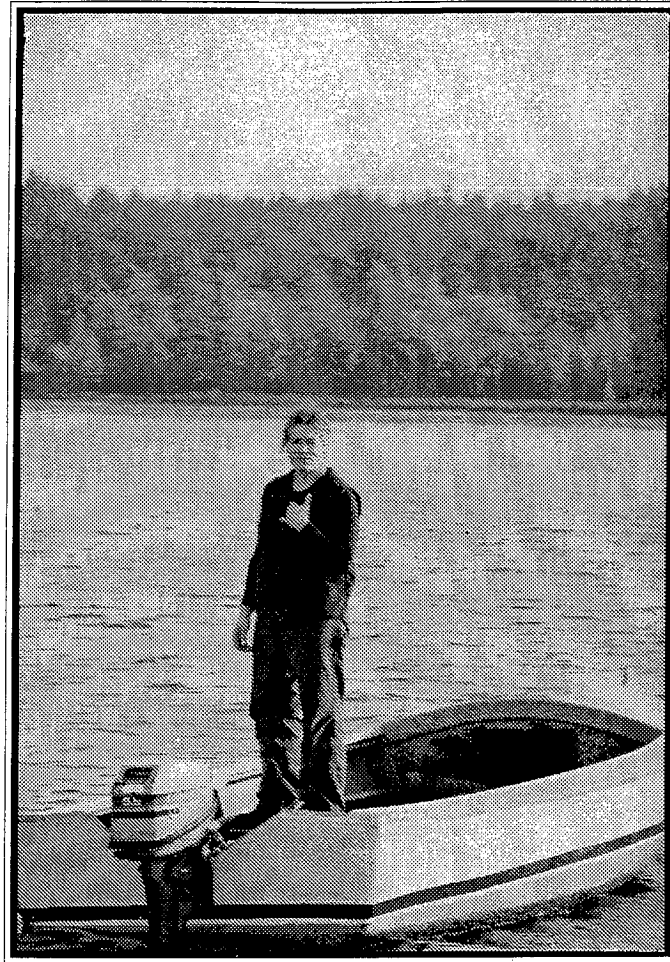
How prophetic it was of John Adams, on 2 July 1776, to declare: "... (this) day will be the most memorable epocha in the History of America. I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great Anniversary Festival. It ought to be commemorated as a day of deliverance by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, - with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires and illuminations from one end of the Continent to the other, from time forward forevermore."

The first Boston Fourth of July Oration was given by John Warren 1783. Thus began a great tradition. Over the years many outstanding Boston orators were to follow each other to the stand, sometimes fathers and sons: Adamses, Quincy's, Curtis, Everett, Holmes, Sumner, Winthrop, Lowell, Lodge and many others. They all came from the college, of course, where John Quincy Adams had first held the Boylston Chair. What did those orators discuss? They felicitated on the important historical event of American Independence, expressed gratitude to distinguished patriots and marked the public interest in government. The recollected the times of struggle and triumph, they expressed admiration for the prosperity of the young republic. They celebrated a festival of public virtue and they saw history as an unfolding of God's thought. They lived in awe of the generation that had brought freedom and liberty to the land. The history needed annual reciting. As Charles Curtis said, in his 1823 oration: "The more we reflect on our privileges, the more exalted will be our estimation of them, the more fixed our resolution to transmit them undiminished to posterity, the more profound will be our gratitude to those brave men."

Does the history of Roque Island not resonate with the same sentiment and purpose? Do we not take time each year to respect the family generations which created and sustained this place? Do we not take upon ourselves the purpose to transit the heritage undiminished to posterity?

Who has not solemnized our day of independence with pomp and parade, with games, sports, bells, bonfires and illuminations? The set piece bonfire on Great Beach has become the stuff of our legend. All day long the island is full of purpose as the preparations proceed. The clambake, itself, has a complex and refined ritual. The selection of the feast reflects a choice of a lifetime. And when the hot day yields to patriotic twilight, the annual celebration can at last begin. Songs and stories and recollections punctuate the degustation of clams and lobster. The bonfire stencils the black velvet night with orange, revolutionary flame. It is the first memory of many youngsters and last summons for the older generation. Which is best? To imagine it better and better every year or to believe that some wonderful memory of a perfect Fourth can never again be equaled?

G.G. Herrick



Amy Hilchey in the tender.

Flotsam



Andrew Endicott Mikes was born on August 4, 1997. Andrew is the son of Betsy and Randy Mikes, grandson of Cauley and John Lukens, and great-grandson of John and Ann Monks.

Maria Amadea Bishop Bartle was born on December 8, 1997. She is the daughter of Eve Gardner and Christopher Bartle, granddaughter of Bob Gardner and Ainslie Gardner, great-granddaughter of George and Rose Gardner.



18 August 1896

We have been more than a fortnight in the wilderness; i.e. our island of Roque - off the Maine coast between Bar Harbor and Campobello. I lived in a canoe and saw only seals.

Isabella Stewart Gardner
[in a letter to Bernard Berenson]



A riding horse is being leased for the summer, an Appaloosa named Valentino.

News from Roque By Owen Drumgool

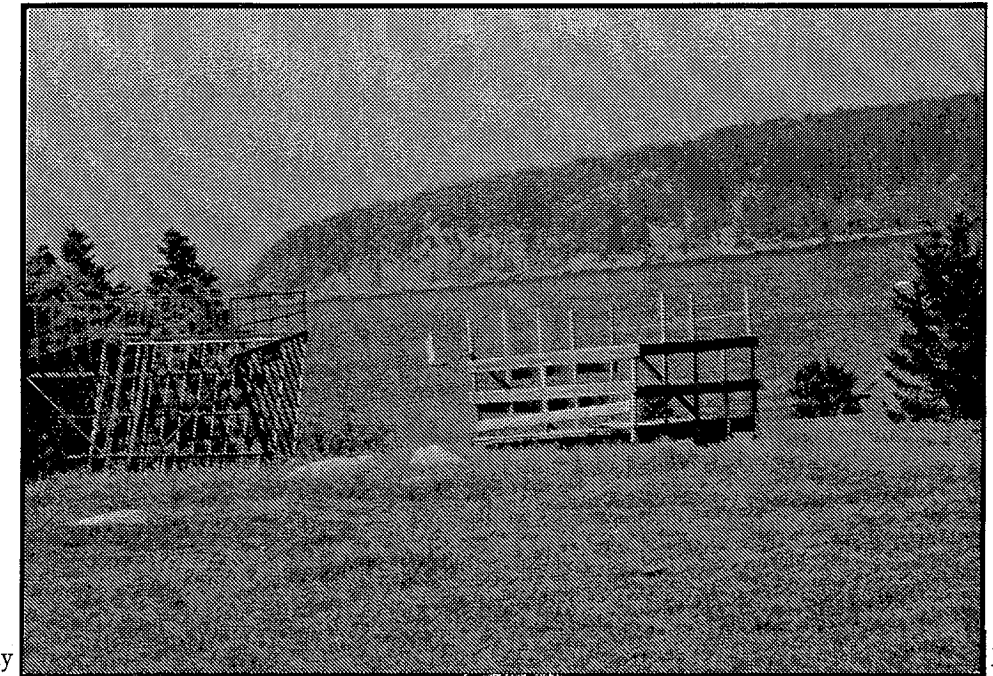
We've been through the winter and spring with projects and preparations for the summer, which is at last upon us. Early in April the final touches of winter gave way to the revived green of spring and the blankets of snow that had lain across the lawns for so long became individual puffs of sheep and lambs searching for the first blades of grass. The *Sand Peep* was pulled from her nest under the Ell, spruced up, launched and moored in Shorey Cove, ready to share the coming breezes. The barnyard awoke too with activity, births and new arrivals from piglets to ducklings to calves, but especially the handsome, beribboned Belted Galloway bull, Aldamere Majesty II. Clementine has been joined by Boo-Boo, a 2-year old Guernsey cow, in production of fresh milk for your enjoyment this summer, but not before Tar and Pitch have stolen their share! And so, Roque Island has cleared its throat of winter, slid quickly through opening notes of spring and is ready to sing the summer song of 1998.

And to help ensure that your 1998 visit to Roque will be as smooth and pleasant as possible we've instigated a few changes to procedure with your comfort and safety in mind. There have also been some rearrangements of the staff for this season.

Ed Harriman and his wife, Gloria, joined us last September upon Ed's early retirement from the University of Maine Agricultural Extension. He and Gloria, both natives of Maine, raised 6 children in Canaan. Two of their sons went into farming and today run organic dairy operations in that area. Ed brings to Roque his vast store of knowledge and

experience along with that Mainers special wit, and a big enthusiasm for the Island and farm. Gloria, an avid biker, photographer and outdoor enthusiast has dreamed of living on an island since she was a little girl and she's thrilled to have the chance at last. While you'll find Ed in the barn or on the tractor, Gloria will be care-taking the homes as Housekeeper, taking over the job this year from Amy.

Amy Hilchey, another Maine native, born and raised in Rockland, will be sharing her smiles and special touch as Farmhouse Cook for her second season on Roque. Amy has been coming to visit the Island since she was 7 years old, and loving its peace and beauty... She's happy to experience yet another season with us all.



Captain Doug Dodge, born and raised across the bay on Beals Island, and a Maine Maritime Academy graduate will be overseeing the waterfront and captaining the *Peabody* for his third year as Boatman. Captain Dodge and his sidekick, Harley the Boat Dog, will be on the dock to greet you and bring you to Roque.

Mark and Alecia Tenney, who spent

the last year with us as Cook(s), will be leaving Roque in early July to continue their careers as documentary filmmakers. They'll be missed, but will leave behind their works for us to enjoy. Mark, as Handyman since March, was busy with construction projects such as the new cranes, and the work/recycling space under the Ell. Alecia prepared and oversaw the planting of this summer's garden. We also hope to see the off and on during the summer as they finalize their filming of *A Year on Roque*.

Work progresses on the thinning/cutting project behind Barn Field which has produced almost all of the rough lumber for the Manager's House. The project is still out to bid and we hope commence having it built this fall.

Dana is thrilled about being the "farm intern" this summer.

Chronology of Island Managers

1882-xxxx	Herbert Long	1960-1976	Alfred Beal	1992-96	Barbie Bubar & Steve Cirone
1903-1904	Roscoe Johnson	1976-1990	Kenneth Rich	1997	Steve Cirone
1904-1923	Frank Smith	1990-1993	Jim Porter	1997-...	Owen Drumgool
1923-1944	Sewall Smith		Cindy Gray		
1944-1960	John Gray		Tom Sawyer		
			Ron Thompson		

Chronology of Island Buildings

1820's	Old Farmhouse	1938	New Farmhouse
Early 1800's	Red House	1947	Sheep barn
1895-96	Mansion House	1966	Roque Bluffs garage
1908	Main barn	1976	Rebuilt Roque Bluffs dock
By 1909	Shorey Cove dock	1997	Equipment Shed



The Thoroughfare

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