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CRAIGVILLE CHRONICLE

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OF A
LOBSTER
STEW

Summer News Weekly
Fall 2009 Edition

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Annual Craigville Christmas Party – Monday, December 7th, 2009 – 6:00 PM in the Lodge

Community Planning to Party

The Annual Craigville Christmas potluck dinner and Yankee swap will take place in the Lodge on Monday evening, December 7th. You are cordially invited to attend this festive occasion if you are in the area. What will be the most coveted gift this year – a box of chocolates; a colorful cookie jar; perhaps some lovely candles??? Gifts must be under \$10, and bring your own plates and utensils. For reservations, please call Valerie Lane, who will once again be organizing the fine food offerings. She can be reached at (508) 778-0507. Hope to see you there!

Craigville Conference Center: Plenty of Action

MISSING FROM TABERNACLE: THE GREEN GARDEN CART (LAST SEEN AUGUST 28TH, 2009)

PLEASE NOTIFY: CRAIGVILLE CONFERENCE CENTER OFFICE (508-775-1265)

THIS CART WAS BOUGHT FOR TABERNACLE USE TO PREVENT FOLKS FROM HAVING TO DRIVE UP THE WALKWAY TO UNLOAD!

Due to all the recent rain, we experienced lots of leaks and flooded basements. Repairs are in our future.

Fall projects completed or near completion include the Craigville Inn Handicap Ramp and the new roof on Marshview. Seaside has had some roof and sidewall replaced, as well as all new energy efficient windows. We are working toward being able to use Seaside year 'round by next (2010) fall. Gutters on the Lodge and Manor are in the process of being replaced per John Troy (Building Committee).

Weekends we're still full until Thanksgiving!

We are very busy at the Center, welcoming groups from the following: B.C. High School, Boston College, Pope John Paul II High School (Hyannis), Buzzards Bay Writers Group, B.C. Liturgy Arts Group, B.C. Kairos Program, MACUCC Confirmation Retreat, ECHO Girls Group, Falmouth Jewish Congregation, St. Sebastian's High School (Needham), Xaverian Brothers High School (Westwood), Pilgrim Congregational Church (Leominster), Immaculate Conception High School (Malden), B.A.G.L.E.Y., and Trinity Catholic High School.

December groups will come from St. Joan of Arc, B.C. High School, Dennis Union Church, St John's High School, Echo Boys Group, Americorp, and National Havurah (Rabbi koshers the Inn kitchen).

We welcome Pablo Tapia to the Craigville Conference Center. He is the new kitchen manager/cook. He likes to be called Nacho.

Our Craigville entertainers (they put on a show this summer) raised \$1000.00 for the organ fund at the Corpus Christi Church in Sandwich.

The following 4 items were furnished by CCMA President and RLPPA Board Member Jim Lane:

Volunteer Group to Rehabilitate Union Cottage

ServCorps, a volunteer organization, has agreed to re-roof, shingle and repair CCMA's Union Cottage this spring. Retired UCC Minister Richard Grobe and his wife Ruth founded ServCorps with a mission to "Commit-Learn-Thrive-

Serve". ServCorps has rehabilitated homes in Mississippi in the wake of hurricane Katrina and elsewhere throughout the country. They are currently active in Hartford, Connecticut converting former derelict buildings (some former crack houses) into quality affordable homes.

Mary Woodbury introduced us to Richard and Ruth Grobe and has agreed to house and feed the ServCorps volunteers for a week in the Conference Center during their work mission in Craigville. This is a great partnership effort between the Conference Center and CCMA. The CCMA will furnish all necessary construction materials and ServCorps will provide quality, free labor. John Troy, Jr. our CCMA Building Chairman, drove to Hartford, Connecticut to meet with Rich Grobe and to see some of their completed projects. John was impressed with the care for detail and the quality craftsmanship of ServCorps.

We look forward to having ServCorps in Craigville Village in June 2010 and hope to establish a long term relationship.

Memorial Gifts are Always Welcomed

The CCMA has received two generous memorial gifts this year.

Nancy and Roger Hansen contributed \$1,500 in memory of her brother "Ding" Woodring for much-needed repairs for our old CCMA buildings. Ding spent many summers growing up in Craigville, was a lifeguard at CBA, and always had many fond memories of Craigville.

The Huntington family, that has enjoyed many years of family reunions at the Conference Center, has also contributed \$1,500 as a memorial gift for their cousin, Steve. The family has requested that the donation be used to rehabilitate the small deck known as "Sunset Deck", in the rear of the Lodge building. The deck was a place that Steve treasured as a comforting spot to observe the beauty of the Centerville River. The Huntington family will install a plaque in memory of Steve.

The CCMA welcomes memorial giving and will work with families who care to leave a lasting memory of loved ones in the Village.

Honorary Christian Camp Meeting Association Directors Named

The CCMA Board of Directors have voted to add both Rick Ireland and Nevin Kirk as Honorary CCMA Directors.

Rick Ireland served as a dedicated CCMA Treasurer for over twenty-five years. Rick has always been concerned with the financial interests and the future of the Association.

Nevin Kirk worked for many summers at the Conference Center managing activities. He has served on the Beach Committee and has been a part of Tabernacle worship services, leading many a lively hymn-sing. Nevin is one of the founders of the Red Lily Pond Project Association and was instrumental in the funding, planning and construction of the Cluster Septic System.

A handsome new plaque, crafted by Ed Lynch, has been installed in the Tabernacle indicating the names of the Honorary CCMA Directors over the years.

Red Lily Pond Project: New Herring Run Culvert Contracted

The Red Lily Pond Project Association has contracted with Northern Paving of Dennisport, MA to remove the long collapsing restrictive culvert pipe under the Sandy Lane in the rear of the Lodge building. Northern Paving will install an 8'Lx3'Wx4'H reinforced concrete box culvert. The project has been approved by the DEP and is funded entirely by the RLPPA.

A sturdy footbridge for the Herring Run crossing near the 40 steps is in the planning stages. The RLPPA will have to partner with the Town or obtain grants for the major culvert replacement under Lake Elizabeth Dr. and required roadwork repaving.

The Herring Run restoration project will soon be 50% completed. It has only taken 30 years, so far!

Red Lily Pond Project Donations still coming in...

After expenses, we have cleared \$4800.00 so far since our annual fundraiser dinner in August. I would love to get to \$5000.00 for our total for this year. Donations are still trickling in and it would be great if anyone would like to send something to help us to reach that goal. So if there is someone who hasn't yet made their donation and

wanted to, here is your chance. You can send the check to Valerie Lane at 86 Summerbell Ave., Craigville, MA 02632.

Next July, we hope to have a Craigville house tour, so keep that in mind. Those of you with whom I talked at the Ice Breaker about it may get in touch with me at any time over the winter to talk about and confirm it. And then the Annual Dinner will again be in August. Email address: capesunsetgirl@yahoo.com.

See you next year! And thank you to all who have been such loyal supporters over the years. We appreciate it immensely! Thank you all.

-Valerie B. Lane

THE OLD CRAIGVILLE POST OFFICE

The Post Office Committee is pleased to inform you we have purchased a new fiberglass flagpole to replace the wooden one owned by the CCMA right by the Post Office front door. We received the blessing of the CCMA to go ahead with the purchase, which, since it is fiberglass, will require no maintenance. We noticed the top part of the old wooden flagpole was badly rotted and a danger to anyone passing by, either by car or walking. They also provided some fiberglass sleeves to go over the support columns holding the flagpole so that, all in all, this new addition looks absolutely wonderful. The committee is also in the process of choosing a wind vane to be installed in the spring onto the cupola, which we have contracted to be repaired at the same time. We hope you've enjoyed the glorious colors of the fall season and have tolerated the abundance of acorns that seem to be in the millions this year. A safe winter to you all.

-Deborah Almy, Willie Shoemaker, Kristen Shoemaker

CRAIGVILLE COTTAGE OWNERS ASSOCIATION

As a result of the sentiment expressed at the last CCOA general meeting, the CCOA Board has adopted a one vote per household rule on issues pertaining to Craigville life that come before the CCOA membership. You have all winter to decide who will have the vote! (You can always rotate among household members...)

Dates WAY ahead to save on your new 2010 calendars:

Saturday June 29th: Ice Breaker at the Irelands

Friday, July 30th: Illumination Night

Sunday, July 4th: Annual Village Parade

Friday, August 6th: Square Dance

Saturday, July 10th: CCMA/CCOA Joint Annual Meeting

Quotation to Ponder: "Here's our central problem: we lack an alternative to the life we're living now. Insight, in the absence of an intelligible response, brings us only guilt. In the absence of an alternative vision, we will stay stuck where we are. The problem isn't our freedom; it's our inability to live with the consequences of what we're actually doing with it. We need better dreams." -Lawrence Brown, a teacher at Cape Cod Academy, in his column in the "Cape Cod Times" of October 30, 2009, on the subject of global warming

AROUND THE TOWN:

Happy Birthday to Tom Greene, who celebrated the milestone of 90 years young. He was spotted recently swimming in a local indoor pool: hope it's ok to pass along a possible secret for healthy longevity!

Cat Tale

Around Labor Day weekend, signs posted on several trees along Centerville Avenue advised of a missing cat in the general vicinity of Craigville. You might be curious as to the fate of this wayward animal.

A local man had a male and a female cat – brother and sister – who kept him company in and around his home. The cats were accustomed to coming inside about dusk and spending the night inside. One night, only the female returned. Days passed, and the male did not appear.

The man missed him. He consulted a psychic, who said that she felt that the cat was still alive, but that he had a poor sense of direction(!). She gave him hope that he might see his cat again. He posted signs in case someone saw the short-haired gray cat with the flea collar and he offered a reward for its return.

Then, a neighbor called to report that a gray cat meeting the description of this man's cat had been hit by a car and was dead. Not wanting to see the remains but rather remember it in its lively state, the man called the

animal undertaker in the Plymouth area, the closest one to the Cape, and arranged a pickup and a proper burial for this cat. It cost him over \$100. He was resigned to the fact that his cat was gone.

One evening, twenty-eight days after the disappearance of his male, the man's female cat did not answer his calls at dusk. Worried, he then called her every half hour or so. Finally, around 10:00, she came to the door; and there, in the shadows, was her brother, the male cat. Looking woebegone and wretched, having lost considerable weight, he consumed two cans of cat food and went to sleep. Inside the house. Had the female gone out to find her brother and lead him home?

He certainly wouldn't be going outside again anytime soon. And someone's gray cat got a proper burial.

WeatherWize

DO LOTS OF ACORNS MEAN A BAD WINTER?

BY DOPPLER DEBBIE (ALMY)

Tons of acorns have fallen like rocks this fall, landing with impressive velocity. I can attest to that fact by being hit in the forehead by one which did indeed hurt more than a little. When the wind picks up, it is scary to hear the repeated shots hitting everything loudly and with the possibility of damage. Some cars have even been pitted by the projectile missiles.

Now what do all these acorns mean in terms of the following winter? One old wives tale is that they mean a cold, long winter. The fact of the matter is the oak trees have what they call a "mast" year when it is a mega-acorn year every 5 or so years, and it has nothing to do with what weather is coming; rather weather we have come through recently. Having an unusually rainy spring and summer was a precursor to a mast year with the oak trees. People worry about all the acorns rooting, but in actuality, only 1 acorn in 10,000 will sprout to become a tree. An oak tree takes in 50 gallons of water a day, and the more water, the more acorns. An oak tree doesn't produce acorns until they are 25 years old, and the older the tree, the more acorns. The maximum number is about 2,200 per tree on an old tree. I think 2,000 are in my yard right now. An afterthought about the massive amounts of acorns: the rodent population will explode, meaning mice invading homes, very chubby chipmunks, and, of course, the fattest squirrels of the century!

What other signs of a harsh winter does nature provide for us? I came up with about 40 different possibilities, so here are just a few to pick from: the wider the band on a woolly bear caterpillar, the milder the winter; if the tails of a raccoon and squirrel are bushy and thick, then a bad winter. Spiders make larger than normal webs and there are lots more of them in your house, and the apple skins tell us when they are thick a bad winter is ahead: if they are thin, then we have a mild winter. The more fog there was in August and October mean a harsh winter.

All of these are possible predictors you can choose to believe in; but I still rely on Doppler Radar, the jet stream flow and weather conditions predicted by the National Weather Bureau.

FeatherFacts

DO BIRDS SHIVER?

By Debbie Almy

First of all, let's determine what a "shiver" is. The normal human body temperature is 98.6°, and when the body temperature drops below normal, your body must do something to get the temperature back up. Human shivering is an involuntary muscle response to a nerve signal activated by a hormone shift when your temperature decreases. Shivering is also the last strategy the body uses to increase the temperature. In other words, your skeletal muscles twitch, which generates heat. If the body temperature continues to drop, hypothermia, a life-threatening condition, may set in.

Now, back to the birds. We already know that birds try to keep warm by huddling together inside a shrub, or tree near the trunk, fluff up their feathers with air as insulation, and they stay put and do not fly about as much. Many birds must also eat their own body weight in food daily in order to generate enough heat to survive. Some birds actually gorge themselves, eating volumes of food trying to increase their own body metabolism; but do they shiver? Yes, they do, but if you see a bird shivering, it is serious danger and it most likely will not survive, for this is their last ditch effort to stay warm. Do remember this, if you start to feed birds, you must continue throughout the cold months, for they become dependent on your feeder for their daily supply of food.

THE WINTER EDITION OF THE CHRONICLE WILL BE PUBLISHED IN FEBRUARY 2010 AND THE SPRING EDITION NEXT MAY. WE WELCOME ANY AND ALL NEWS PERTAINING TO CRAIGVILLE ACTIVITIES AND NEIGHBORS.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING AND HAPPY WINTER HOLIDAYS! MAY YOU STAY SAFE AND WARM. -ALICE BROWN, EDITOR

REMEMBER: we are always on the web at Craigville.org (postings to Amelia Brown at amelia@cape.com).

The *Craigville Chronicle* is sponsored by the Christian Camp Meeting Association and the Craigville Cottage Owners Association, and is produced weekly from the last week in June through Labor Day weekend. Please e-mail your news to Alice Brown, editor, at aliceb@cape.com (hard copies of news may be submitted at Craigville Conference Center Office).