



FROM THE PRESIDENT

At its meeting on December 4, 1984, the Board of Directors approved the employment of Anthony S. Coddling to succeed Jim Smith as Manager of Star Island. Mr. Coddling has been Director of the New England Center for Continuing Education, a regional conference facility for educational programming and training located at the University of New Hampshire in Durham. Before assuming his position at the New England Center in 1976, Tony was Director of the Campus Center and University Conference Coordinator for eleven years at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, where he was also a Staff Counselor in the Career Planning Service from 1964 to 1965. During the 1963-64 academic year, he was an instructor of English at the Combs College of Music, also in Philadelphia.

Following graduation from Wesleyan University in Middletown, CT, Mr. Coddling served on active duty as a Lt. (j.g.) aboard a Destroyer Escort in the United States Navy from 1959 to 1962. He was awarded the Master of Arts Degree in English from the University of Pennsylvania in 1963 and subsequently completed advanced studies in Counseling and Administration. Tony is active in his local parish as a church school teacher and a lay reader. He is a member of the Corporation of Exeter Hospital, past President of the Seacoast Council of Tourism, and has served on committees of the National University Continuing Education Association.

Tony and his wife, Sally, live in Stratham, N.H. They have two children, Anthony Jr. ("Sandy"), who is a Senior at Colby College, and Betsy, who is a Freshman at Smith College. Interests which Tony enjoys with his wife are sailing, gardening, and tennis. We welcome the Coddings to Star Island.

Jean Cochran
PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD
STAR ISLAND CORPORATION

STAR ISLAND NEWSLETTER

Oscar D. Weiner, Editor 50 Wagner Drive, Hamden, CT 06518
Brenda J. Kaubin, Exec. Sec., SIC 110 Arlington Street, Boston, MA 02116

FROM THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD

OCTOBER

The roof on Atlantic House is being replaced.

For short charter trips, shoalers now have the option of contacting Appledore for use of their new vessel, the JOHN M. KINGSBURY.

There are reported plans for a new hotel to be built across from the Viking Dock in Portsmouth.

The Isles of Shoals Association--UU (ISA) plans to repaint the sign over the Gift Shop, send out a newsletter, and produce bookmarks and a T-shirt with a logo; the Gift Shop, which is operated by the ISA, will contribute \$12,456 from this year's proceeds to the Star Island Corporation.

NOVEMBER

Room and board rates will be increased by 5% for the 1985 season.
Adopted Conference Registration Guidelines. (details on page 3)

DECEMBER

A 1985 Expenditures Budget of \$516,565 was adopted.

Meg and Roly Brown will chair the 1985 Midweek Retreat.

Star Island Corporation will join the Seacoast Council on Tourism to improve communications with Portsmouth area businesses and suppliers.

The Bookshop reported another banner year. (see report on page 4)

MA(T)CHINATION\$ WITH GOOD INTENT

Shoalers who contribute to Star Island and who work for major corporations may want to check with their companies about whether their company provides MATCHING FUNDS for charitable contributions made by their employees. Star Island has received matching fund contributions from corporations such as Squibb, which matches each dollar given by the employee, 2-to-1!

Thank you, Barbara G. Hallows and SQUIBB!

HANDS ACROSS THE BORDER

CANADIAN SHOALERS wishing to contribute to Star Island may now receive a tax receipt by making their cheques payable to:

The Canadian Unitarian Council
175 St. Clair Avenue West
Toronto, Ontario M4V 1P7

You should indicate that the money is intended for Star Island (our Maintenance Fund) and include your name and address so that your receipt may be sent to you.

MANY THANKS to Kathleen Corlett, Executive Director of the CUC, for handling this for us! Kathleen is a very special, delightful, and devoted Shoaler from the north country.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION GUIDELINES

Our aim is to make the Star Island conference experience as widely available as possible; multiple registration and attendance is very much discouraged when it would prevent another person from attending even one conference in a season. After having solicited input and feedback from conference representatives, corporation members, and concerned parties, the Star Island Board of Directors has established the following guidelines, in an effort to promote fairness and minimize misunderstanding in the administering of conference registration procedures:

1. That each conference have, as a separate position/function, a conference Registrar, serving a designated term.

2. That each conference have a consistent, written policy regarding acceptance of applicants for attendance at that conference, and that such policy be available upon request, with a statement about the availability of such policies to be published in each year's blue brochure (starting with the 1985 season).

3. That such policies be made available to other conferences so that each conference will know what other conferences are doing in regard to registration practices.

. . . AND . . .

4. That by March 30th each Registrar send her initial acceptance list, plus any waiting list, to the Star Island office. This information will be processed, and each Registrar will receive a print-out by April 10th of any duplications (multiple registrations), prior to acceptances being sent out following April 15th.

(Adopted by the Board -- December 4, 1984)

BED & BREAKFAST AVAILABLE IN PORTSMOUTH

Various members of the South Church UU in Portsmouth are again this year generously opening their homes to provide accommodations for Shoalers passing through Portsmouth on their way to or from a conference. Bed and Breakfast will be provided for singles and couples (with some possibility of arrangements for families, too)! Since these are private homes and our hosts are not in the bed and breakfast "business," it will be especially important and helpful to let the coordinator know of any special needs (such as allergies to pets, etc.) in advance so that appropriate accommodations may be found.

Participating church members are requesting a donation of \$20 per single, and \$25 per couple, which will help cover the cost of breakfast. Proceeds will be split evenly with the church. Interested Shoalers are asked to send their initial inquiry AT LEAST ONE MONTH IN ADVANCE of their intended visit to:

STAR ISLAND HOSTS
South Portsmouth Church -- UU
292 State Street
Portsmouth, NH 03801
(603) 436-4762

If further information is needed, you may call Avis Langley at the church (see above) weekday mornings through mid-June. Louise Richardson is acting as Coordinator of the program and may be reached at (603) 436-5125.

We appreciate so much this fine service provided for us by the Portsmouth Church!

BOOKSHOP REPORT

I expect each year to be the one where we have reached our peak. but we continue to grow. The net profit for the year ending October 1, 1984 was \$8,873.14.

Next June is the 150th anniversary of Celia Thaxter's birthday. Dr, Kingsbury plans to issue a paperback edition of AN ISLAND GARDEN. We hope there will be some celebratory events at Star next summer. Any ideas? Let me know.

New items available for next summer will include May Sarton's LETTERS FROM MAINE, her new cassette MY SISTERS, O MY SISTERS, and Ed Wilson's autographed copies of his BIOPHILIA.

-- Betty Lockwood

NEW OFFICE-MATE AT THE STAR ISLAND OFFICE

A great deal of excitement was generated ehre at the office late last fall when our brand-spanking-new IBM-XT computer arrived. Since then we've been working on getting cozy, or at least comfortable, with our computer, which is a definite presence here at #110. "PC" speaks a different language (and crying out "English, English!" doesn't seem to help at all) and thinks and behaves differently than we low-tech humans do. He has his moods and can sometimes be a little picky, as when we press the "Escape" key to get out of a program, and he refuses to budge until we press "Exit" instead. Then there was the day when we pressed the "Help" key, and all he would say was "No help at this key!"

But all new relationships have their ups and downs, and we are beginning to understand "PC" better day by day, and to appreciate some of the marvelous things he can do. As of mid-January we had our entire mailing list of some 4,000 entries entered on the computer, all set to print out labels for the blue brochure mailing. We will be getting into word-processing functions and computerizing our entire accounting system in the coming months. We expect to bring "PC" to the Island with us this summer.

Sometimes we find it harder to talk with the folks who sell and service computers than to communicate with "PC." When we recently made a request for a user-friendly sales representative, we were told that the "consumer-compatible liveware" was taking a sick day. (HELP!)

BJK

(It appears that PC isn't exactly a Piece of Cake. -- Ed.)

P.S.: Seriously, though, we are coping (with the sales representatives, the equipment, and even the language), BUT one type of help we do need is with data entry during the initial period of computerization. If you have data entry or word-processing skills and would be willing to volunteer a few hours or a day of your time, we'd really appreciate it. Please call us at 617/426-7988.

UNCLE OSCAR WANTS YOU!

Uncle Oscar has always liked the ladies, but will gladly accept appropriate gents, too. We're now offering YOU an opportunity to experience being a Star Island Pelican without taking the whole summer off from your usual activities!

Do you REGRET never joining the Peace Corps? Never taking that cross-country adventure in a second-hand van? Never having been a Star Island Pelican? THIS IS YOUR BIG CHANCE. . . to be a Star Island Pelican, that is, no matter how old you are now! (Some of our best end-of-season Pels have been in their 60's.)

Due to earlier college starting dates, many of our full-time Pels have to leave the Island by mid-to-late August. We are looking for recruits who could be available the last couple of weeks of August, and some who might be able to stay through the first week of September. We'll be needing people to do a whole variety of jobs ranging from waiting on tables and housekeeping functions to outdoor maintenance and grounds work, shops, conference services, etc. You would be paid a daily rate and receive gratuities based on the number of days worked.

Since we NEED TO PLAN WELL IN ADVANCE for people to fill up to 50-60% of our Pel jobs in late August, please let us know of your interest NOW by filling out the information requested below and mailing the tear-off to Anthony Coddington, Island Manager, c/o Star Island Corporation, 110 Arlington Street, Boston, MA 02116--ATTN: End-of-Season Pelicans. We and Uncle Oscar will be glad to hear from you! We'll send you a more complete application form.



Oscar Wainwright

UNCLE OSCAR AND HIS "FAMILY" ▶

(from NINETY YEARS at the ISLES of SHOALS)

Uncle Oscar and we
Are looking forward
To welcoming a boat-load
Of end-of-the season
PELICANS!

I AM INTERESTED IN POSSIBLY BEING AN END-OF-SEASON PELICAN!
PLEASE SEND ME AN APPLICATION FORM AND MORE INFORMATION.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Telephone Number(s) DAY: _____ EVE: _____

How many weeks would you likely be available to work? _____

What sorts of jobs might you be interested in performing? _____

EXCLUSIVE SPECIAL OFFER--

BE AN END-OF-SEASON PELICAN!!

(see over)

MUSINGS OF A REBORN PELICAN

It was the perfect opportunity: a chance to get away from the career pressure of the "real" world, and to come back to Star Island for a couple of blissful weeks where I could be a Pelican again . . . just like I had been from 1969 to 1971. Here at Star, I proudly told my friends, it really was possible to "go home again" and to "turn back the clock." And so, I arrived, bags in hand, ready to go to work on the waitress crew, just like I had done 15 years ago when I was a fresh-faced, eager 17 year-old attacking her very first job. Except

Except that . . . the first day, I thought I was going to die. I was so tired . . . the trays were so heavy. They couldn't have been that heavy back then . . . or could they? And the Pelicans who remained (those who didn't have to return to college before Labor Day) looked so young! Older and familiar faces filled the departing ranks. Bill McVey was assigned to the Night Crew, while his wife Helene held forth at Vaughn Cottage and quickly became an expert on Celia Thaxter and "Uncle Oscar" Leighton. And a 75-year-old chambermaid wished "they would install an elevator up to the fourth floor of the hotel" where she was staying.

All of us hung in there . . . from Jean Dunn who became a desk clerk, convinced that she would "mess up the books of the hotel forever" (she didn't) to Lisa Ward, now an aspiring independent film-maker, who found herself in charge of the dining hall operation on five-minutes notice when the headwaiter became ill (she was spectacular).

So maybe it's not exactly like turning the clock back -- but the experience had its moments for me: like looking forward to sweeping the dining hall, because in 12 years, every job but this one had changed, and I knew there was no other way you could sweep a dining hall; like being able, once again, to sing in a Pelican Show and work with Julie McNall, the Island Music Director, who is so talented and delightful; like getting to know a lot of the 18 and 19 year-olds who make up the Pelican Crew. They good-naturedly accepted this strange new breed of Pelican which showed up from the mainland to replace them, even as they said their tearful goodbyes to the friends who had been with them all summer.

So, as I finish this while I soak my feet in warm water (I end up doing this once a day), I just want to tell you what a wonderful vacation this has been -- restful in a different sort of way. And for all of this, hearty thanks to Jim Smith, Liz McVey Erickson, and Peter Mercer for this golden opportunity.

Yes, it really has been the chance of a lifetime, a time to get away and come home again to Star Island, where you really can be almost anything you want to be for awhile . . . even a reborn Pelican.

-- Debbie Weiner, a former Pelican who has never quite gotten over the experience (August, 1984)

NEWS FROM THE ISLES AND "SMUTTYTOES"

A note dated 2/8/85 from David and Edith Pierson, our Winterkeepers on Star, reported clear skies, sea smoke, 30-40 knot winds, blowing snow, and "BEAUTIFUL DRIFTS". They also reported that "SmuttyToes" is doing well! What sort of critter is SmuttyToes? (Your guess is as good as ours--see the Spring Newsletter.)

P.S. We just hope SmuttyToes isn't some kind of BIGFOOT.

BJK

THE STAR ISLAND CORPORATION
110 Arlington Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Nonprofit Organ.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Boston, MA
Permit No. 58236
THIRD CLASS

Take Thy Light

Take up thy Light, and let it gleam
Upon the winding, upward way,
Where silently as in a dream
Our band of friends goes up to pray.

Bring in thy light, and let its ray
Be added to the growing light
Which makes the Chapel, old and gray,
A beacon on its rocky height.

Lift up thy light, a gift of love,
And hang it on the sacred cross--
A symbol of that light above
Which sanctifies all pain and loss.

Take forth thy light, nor let its flame
Be quenched as carried candles are,
But let thy life in love proclaim
The message of our Island Star.

Anita Trueman Pickett
1937

(Read prior to December 1984 Board Meeting)