



The Breeze

Spring Edition



May 2007

Resident Feature by: Flo Carris

The Princess of the Wiscasset Castle—Part II

Hold your hats! Finally the title of this article begins to unravel; Jane and Wiscasset come together! You have heard about Jane Tucker, but what do you know about Castle Tucker? Why did the solo world-traveler volunteer to become involved with this?

The so-called “castle” was built in 1807 by Judge Silas Lee of Lincoln County. In 1859, after Captain Tucker (Jane’s father) retired from sea, he purchased the home. Because of its unusual style of architecture and situation high on a hill overlooking Wiscasset its referred to as Castle Tucker.

When Jane moved to Wiscasset, she ran the house like a museum. When her older sister and only sibling died in 1997, Jane purchased Molly’s portion of the home later donating it to the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities (now historic New England) and moved to a smaller Wiscasset home.

2006 marked the year when “the Princess of Wiscasset Castle” was called to hang her hat and scarf in her little apartment at St. Andrews Village.

Keep an eye of Jane, who might at any moment be ready to say “Yes” to some distant place like Iraq.

A Note from Mark Lowell

Dear Citizens of St. Andrews Village,

Carol Howe invited me to mention a few words for the Breeze newsletter. I first want to compliment the Breeze editorial team for all your great work! The articles and cartoon drawings are simply a joy to read and view. I love the cartoon drawings and appreciate the skill and wit of Bob Kelly and Roy Markwith! I think the Breeze is a great representation of the residents who live at the Village. It provides current Village residents a much better understanding of both your neighbors and the neighborhood. In addition, it helps to paint a picture of the neighbors and neighborhood for those thinking about living here. In short, the Breeze helps to tell the “Story” of St. Andrews and the Village staff appreciates that you share your stories and talents with us.

Speaking of stories, we have launched our new Internet web site! This was a total team effort and represents work conducted over a six-month period of time starting this past October. I want to thank the Village leadership team, Carol Cesar, Megan Carpenter (at St. Andrews Hospital) and all of the residents who helped to contribute to this effort.

If you have not seen the new site, please check it out at www.standrewsvillage.com. You will note that our theme on our web site is “Come share your story with us”. We decided on the theme as we felt we should convey the importance of wanting to know all about our visitors so that we could help them to understand how they can create new stories and enjoy all of their life here in beautiful Boothbay Harbor.

You will find an entire new section on the new web site called the *Press Room*. The press room has separate sections for news articles, events, recent Village press releases and the Breeze newsletter! Our software allows us to archive all entries and we hope to have at least a year’s worth of Breeze newsletters for viewing on the Internet.

Welcome New Friends.....

Reba Pixley has purchased 99 Emery Lane & moved into her new home in April.

Barbara Zeamer now calls 108 Emery Lane home and finds the extra space cottage a great benefit.

Evelyn Parker. Evelyn is settling into apt. #102 nicely & moved here from Waldo-boro.

Welcome back Helen Fehlau, we missed you!

Do you have an article idea for the Breeze?

Are you interested in working on “The Breeze”

If so, please see Carol Howe or Lisa Cunningham. They will be happy to give you more information on how you contribute!

Literary Review by: Walt Schmid

The Voyage of the Armada

By: David Howarth

This is a story of the Armadas reported from the Spanish perspective. Spain kept endless archives- England practically none! However, to the victors belong the recorded history.

King Philip of Spain was the mastermind of this expedition. At that time, Spain controlled much of Europe and all of the Americas. King Philip wanted to add England to his control and to put his choice on the English Throne.

To lead the Armada, he selected an unusual and reluctant non-military man-the Duke of Medina Sidonia. The Duke tried to duck the assignment but the King would not budge. The king named him Commander-in-chief and sent him off to Lisbon, Portugal where the fleet was gathered.

The King remained at his far away castle but from there he micro-managed every detail of the preparation and provisioning and later gave specific instructions on all fleet activities.

The Duke obeyed orders and formed a council of older, more experienced military men to assist him.

The armada consisted of approximately 130 ships of various sizes and design...the ships were manned by approximately 30,000 men.

After many delays, the ships finally got underway from Lisbon, Portugal.

It is important to try to understand the tremendous differences in the design and construction of the Spanish ships vs. the English ships.

The Spanish ships were commanded by the Army (not Navy or sailors). The ships were big, heavy, slow and awkward. They were built as forts with high forecastles and high after-decks.

They were also built to sail before the wind and could not tack or sail close to the wind direction. Their speed was about 3 knots. They carried heavy cannons which had very short range.

In comparison, the English had developed fast sailing, highly maneuverable ships and manned them by seamen/sailors. Their armament was lighter but had a greater range.

The battles between the two fleets were amazing due to the design and make-up of the two forces.

The English ships could and did maintain the favored windward position where they could swoop down upon the Spaniards (who could not sail closer to the wind).

In spite of the persistent myth that the English were the "Little David fighting the Giant Goliath", the two fleets were similar in numbers and fire power.

The armada was badly served by the Duke of Parma who controlled the Flemish coast of Spain. This duke was instructed by King Philip to a) raise an army to join the armada in the invasion of England b) build a fleet of ships to transport the army across the channel and with the support of the armada, invade England and c) provide a safe channel harbor to re-supply, re-fit and re-provision the armada. He did none of these things!

The running battle between the two fleets is covered in fascinating detail. The armada, badly bruised, finally reached the end of the channel and it cannot turn around and go back down the channel in the face of the English and into the wind, it must continue north around Scotland and Ireland to take the long voyage home to Spain.

The wind turns against them and the rough Atlantic Sea storms break up and sink many vessels. Others run aground as they have practically no charts of the area. Shipwrecks on both coasts of Scotland and Ireland are such that survivors are cruelly treated on shore.

What remained of the armada struggles back to Spanish ports little by little and in terrible shape with sick, dead and wounded as well as starved and dehydrated men.

Approximately 60 ships (out of 130) limped home but this number is misleading due to differences in size of the ships. On the human side, the loss was greater. Of the 30,000 men involved, more than 20,000 died and even more returned to Spain sick and wounded. To me, this was a fascinating "read".

This book is available in our Inn's library.

Critters etc. By: Daphne Kimball

One late afternoon in the autumn of 2000 I was standing on the lawn behind my cottage when I happened to look up the hill toward the wooded area beyond Ruth Bannister's rear lawn and noticed something moving there. It came out of the woods then walked along the top of a big log. I had a clear side view of it for at least a minute or two before it turned back into the woods.

I had no idea of what it was but it gave me the shivers. It was black and about the size of a medium-sized dog; although the legs were shorter. It wasn't dog or cat-like, whatever it was, it had an aura of malice around it.

Since I was busy adjusting to the move up here it took me a while before I identified the creature. It was a fisher. They don't live in the area of southern New York where I had come from. I had never heard of them. I have since learned that they prefer more northern forests and that they actively hunt porcupines. The one I saw must have done pretty well in this area because what looks like porcupine damaged trees in the area to the rear at the Inn date from around 2000 but I don't see any of recent vintage.

I wonder if it has moved on to someplace with more porcupines since I have not heard of anyone seeing a fisher in recent years.

A fisher can't live on porcupines alone however, small animals of all kinds can become its prey including domestic cats and dogs.

The wildlife books say that they are just as ferocious as they look. They say that one can easily hold its own against even a couple of large dogs. I believe them.

A Moving Experience By: Carol Howe

After 5 1/2 years in our delightful apartment, it was time to move.

First I asked the children (the youngest is 45) which pieces of furniture they would like. With her library training, Priscilla listed everything and kept track of her siblings' choices. Where two or more wanted the same item, they settled the matter between them. Whew, no arguments arose!

I decided to move within the Independent Living area, not looking elsewhere. Pretending I was a new prospect, I asked Pat Forestell for a tour of vacant apartments.

For me, the choice was obvious: #206 was enough like the larger #214 to make the move an easy one. I signed a lease, to begin on April 1. Pat said I could begin to move objects as soon as possible.

I found a storage-locker company and arranged for clean, dry, heated space. This would hold the furniture going to the children, until they would move it into their homes, which are spread across the U.S. That's their problem now!

Lisa Cunningham furnished a list of moving companies or individuals. From this, I called Bruce, who came to see both #214 and #206. We settled on a price and a day—April 3 and I began measuring furniture: how would it all fit into the smaller apartment? Every time I visited 206, I took a load, to stay in that space. My washer and dryer were busy!

Bruce and his helpers arrived. First, they took the big pieces for storage to the lobby. I missed seeing this array—so much for interior decorating of our public space!

Next they transported my possessions down the hall and we got them sited to the designated rooms. When they had finished that, they asked, "Do you want us to bring down your clothes?" "No", I said. What a mistake! It took me longer to move them alone.

Left behind was much more than I thought I had. Deborah came-twice-and helped with the long trek down the corridor. Richard, her husband, arrived, bringing a great set of muscles and a good sense of what should go where. The Hospital Thrift Shop and Salvation Army in Rockland profited by many of the leftovers.

After Easter, Mark arrived, sorting papers and hanging many pictures. Now, he has gone home to Vermont and I am reducing the number of cartons as I put things away.

Already, I can see that #206 will be a good choice. Next to arrive will be Faith, who is a methodical person with a lawyer's mind. Right now, I'm deciding; should I use her visit for a deadline to have everything settled, or shall I let her see what's still to be done?

Good-bye, #214 You served us well. And now...on to life in #206.

This Noisy World By: Flo Carris

THE SHOWER THIS MORNING sounded like Niagara Falls
THE SPOON I DROPPED ON THE KITCHEN FLOOR sounded like a gun shot
WHEN I CHEW CHERRIOS FOR BREAKFAST it sounds like a cow chewing its cud.
THE DOG BARKING LAST NIGHT sounded like a pack of wolves
THE BUZZER ON THE DRYER sounds like the fire alarm
THE DOOR KNOCKER sounds like a Swiss cow bell
CONVERSATION AT DINNER LAST EVENING sounded like the cheering section for the Patriots
WHEN I WALKED INTO MY APARTMENT, I WAS STARTLED by what sounded like a man shouting at full blast...it was only Jim Lehrer peacefully speaking on the news.
LAST NIGHT AT DINNER, I COULDN'T UNDERSTAND A WORD YOU SAID. It sounded like you were in the kitchen. TONIGHT it sounds like you are shouting...speak softly please.
"I JUST CANT STAND THIS NOISY WORLD"
"WELL STOP COMPLAINING JUST TAKE OUT YOUR NEW HEARING AIDS"

A person at the dinner table who has never had to wear hearing aids said, "Well, quit complaining, just take out your new hearing aids". "You may not hear what we are saying, but your world will be quiet."

Another person sitting at the same table had worn hearing aids for years said, "That's the last thing you want to do." do not give up your hearing aids, Yes, your world will be quiet...you will be alone...you will gradually miss out on table conversation, you will isolate yourself from group functions. Stick with it.

We are fortunate to have these highly technical devices, not many years ago you would have been learning sign language, a beginning step in communication. Reading lips became the next step in the quiet world. Now we have these minute devices that are hardly visible. It will take a while to adjust to the noisy world, to voices that sound strange. Your own voice may sound like you are talking in a barrel. Hang in there, those with whom you live will be delighted.

Audiologists are ready to assist you in making adjustments. "Welcome to the noisy world".

Resident Services update...

Hello all, fresh back from vacation, I am rushing to finish this so we can start printing!

It's good to see buds on the forsythia bushes and tulips in bloom. WELCOME SPRING

This spring we are engaging in a number of projects...expanded transportation services to in-town destinations, transportation to the YMCA daily and a busy and fun summer season!

When beginning a new project, its important to remember we are trying something new and minor changes may need to be made before we reach a schedule which will work for everyone. I welcome your feedback on these services and hopefully the departure times will work.

Enhance wellness continues to be a main focus of Debbie Siegel and Beth McKenna.

Resident Services is doing its part to encourage healthy activities by offering regular visits to the Boothbay Region Land Trust trails and Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens.

I will plan a visit to the gardens, which should be exciting as they have expanded the entire property and offer the community a large and beautiful visitor's center.

Marketing and Resident Services has been working on another exciting summer schedule of events offered to all Village residents and the community. Highlights include a return visit from the Spruce Pt. Chef and the Carousel Players who will entertain us with a delightful show.

As always, please contact me with activity ideas and suggestions. Enjoy your summer!

-Lisa