



### Girl Scouts Enjoy Grand Hotel Tea

St. Ignace area Girl Scout leaders and their daughters enjoyed afternoon tea at Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island Sunday, May 7, in celebration of Leader Appreciation Day. After tea, the group enjoyed the view of the Straits of Mackinac from the cupola, then strolled through the Grand Hotel gardens. Participating in the outing were (front row, from left) Andrea Perry, Deb Perry, Alicia LaLonde, Rebecca LaLonde, Emily Hinsman, Holly Beaudoin, Michaela and Marcy North, Kathy and Jenny Campbell; (middle) Dana Perry, Annemarie Horn, Laura Janeczek, Jana Beaudoin, Lydia LaLonde; (back) Susan Horn, Abby LaLonde, Chelsea DeLong, Kim DeLong, and Donna LaLonde. (Photograph courtesy of Susan Horn)

## DEAL ME IN

### Who They Were And Where They Went



Mark Pilarski

Dear Mark,  
Please can you tell me when and where did the game of Bingo originate? Was it not called Housey Housey years ago?  
Yvonne B.

Sometimes called beano, the corn game, and yes, Yvonne, even Housey-Housey; credit the Italians for being the inventors of Bingo.

The game was first called "Lo Giuoco del Lotto D' Italia," but when the French got hold of it in the late 1770's, they shortened the name to "Le Lotto." Initially Le Lotto was played strictly amongst opulent French aristocrats. I'll bet those upper-crusters couldn't handle the action my Mom managed; at least a dozen cards at once.

An etymologist I'm not, but my belief is that the development of the word Housey-Housey can be traced to England as that was what the popular game was called amongst seafaring British troops during both World War I and World War II. Our boys much preferred dice and a blanket, and as my Uncle once said, dice games probably kept more soldiers on their knees than did any Chaplain.

Edwin S. Lowe, a traveling salesman who accidentally chanced upon the game at a carnival in Atlanta in 1929, is credited for making the game popular, but the word Bingo itself, suggesting a bell's ring, was added a bit prior in 1925 to announce a win.

Dear Mark,  
I won our service club's (I'll keep its name private since technically we're not supposed to be gambling) Texas Hold'em tournament with the following hand. My two hole cards were kings, and on the flop I received two more making a four-of-a-kind on the first five of seven cards. I slow played an aggressive player by just calling his bets, and he eventually went all in at the turn, when he caught a full house. He had deuces as pocket cards and caught the deuce on the turn. Needless to say he was pretty upset that his hand wasn't good enough and said it was a million-to-one shot that beat him. I doubt that, but what were the odds of my four-of-a-kind occurring at the flop? I was just wondering how lucky I was.

Phil T.  
Luck of Irish Sweepstakes proportion, nah, but congrats on your

score, Phil, supported by King David (spades), Alexander the Great (clubs), Charlemagne (hearts) and Julius Caesar (diamonds).

The probability of being dealt two kings before the flop is 72.7 to 1. Catching two more kings and another card, in this case a deuce, on the flop to make four kings is 407 to 1.

Dear Mark,  
I have read that faro was a very popular game in the Old West. Did it originate in this country? Was it ever legal as a game in Nevada? Can you still play it now?  
Gordon W.

Faro was a card game invented by the French, who adapted it from the Venetian game of Basetta, which can be traced back to the 15th century in Italy. French gamblers called the game Pharaoh because one of the honored cards bore the face of an Egyptian Pharaoh. John Law, an exiled Scotsman, introduced it to this country by way of New Orleans, where it then chugged up the river on the Mississippi steamboats, and then cantered across the Wild West.

It became a casino game in 1931 when Nevada legalized gambling, but virtually disappeared by the 1950s. The last faro game was dealt in 1975 in Ely, Nevada, although it did reappear for a short period of time in Reno in the early 80's.

There were three reasons why the game initially became so popular. It was simple to play, it held a casino advantage of under 2%, and the game was played at very fast pace--two hands per minute. Faro's demise was because the opportunity for a dealer cheating was greater than with any other card game, that, and its low house edge.

Gambling Wisdom of the Week: "Sir, I really like poker. Every hand has its different problems." -- Henry Fonda, playing Wyatt Earp in My Darling Clementine

Got a question about gambling? Write to: Deal Me In, P.O. Box 1234, Traverse City, Michigan 49685 - e-mail: pilarski@markpilarski.com • To order Mark Pilarski's "Hooked on Winning" audio cassettes-laminated win cards package (\$12.95 plus \$2 S&H) call 1-800-WINNERS.

## Donations Sought To Pay for Pump for Garfield Twp. Fire Dept.

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Cisler Center at Lake Superior State University in Sault Ste. Marie. The idea is to educate municipal officials concerning the uses and availability high speed Internet service, Mrs. Bennett said.

"Our service out here is slower than molasses," Mrs. Bennett said. "We only have dial-up service in the area, and people call and ask us about this a lot."

Some of them are seeking help obtaining high-speed Internet service for running home businesses, she said, and added that she believes obtaining high-speed service could bring more businesses into the area.

The sky above the Naubinway Marina will be lit with fireworks Tuesday, July 4, following the board's approval of a permit requested by the Engadine Area

Merchants Association to buy fireworks for the holiday. Mrs. Bennett cautioned boat owners to dock their boats at least 700 feet away from the marina to avoid falling debris.

Larry Wyse will serve another year as harbor master at the Naubinway Marina. The board renewed his position, which pays \$1,600, annually. Mr. Wyse has been harbor master for many years, and he will be on hand again this season to collect fees from boaters, provide maintenance to the facility, answer questions, and continue documenting marina traffic.

The Garfield Township Fire Department needs a new "trash pump," said Chief David Frazier Jr. The pump is used to draw water out of ponds and lakes on fire department runs in rural areas that lack hydrants or other water sources. The pump would cost \$1,500, how-

ever, and the township's fire fund is too tight to accommodate the expenditure. Mrs. Bennett is looking for donations to pay for the equipment.

The board hired Phil Linck of Garfield Township for \$10 per hour to direct members of the Mayville-based Wilkinson Corporation as they drive the township's gravel roads applying calcium chloride, known as well brine, to keep road dust down Thursday, June 1, and Friday, June 2.

Nearly all dirt roads in the township will be treated, Mrs. Bennett said. Last year, this cost \$8,500. The board is making an effort to pave or chip-and-seal more roads in the area to avoid this expense, she added.

Craig Kelso, engineer and manager of the Mackinac County Road Commission, said residents should

avoid walking or driving on recently treated roads for at least a few minutes after application because the chemical needs time to adhere. This happens quickly on humid days when the sun is shining, he added. On dry days, it takes longer for the chemical to take effect.

The board has decided to hire prisoners from the Camp Manistique correctional facility this summer to wash and coat the Mill Pond Bridge, sweep sidewalks, and help with cemetery maintenance. The group will work in several area townships, Mrs. Bennett said. They are likely to be in Garfield Township for about a week, working under the direction of Walter Frazier, township maintenance man. The precise number of prisoners has not been determined, she said. Prisoners are paid \$15 per day for their efforts.

## Islands' History Preserved in Maritime Museum Restoration Project

\*Continued from page 13

sill plate around the perimeter, which was one of the most critical improvements because the plates were rotting and causing the building to sag, said Historical Association Secretary Mike Miller.

"When the building was jacked up, they also found they had to replace the support posts and mezzanine," Mr. Miller said, adding that the Association hired a professional firm to estimate the extent of the building's failure and propose some remedies for bringing it up to code. "It not only has a new look from the outside, but also from the inside as well."

Otto M. Reif, a Pittsburgh industrialist, purchased what became known as Reif's Point, and later Connor's Point in Cedarville, where he built a home, gardens, caretaker's house, and the boathouse. He also established the Woodland Park Subdivision, which remains at the end of Park Avenue. Mr. Reif was a longtime seasonal resident, a charter member of the Les Cheneaux Islands Association.

The current renovation of the structure revealed the date "1921" and names of Chris and Tom Erickson carved in the rafters, proving the building is more than 80 years old. The structure was first built over the water, serving as protection for vessels. According to the Historical Association, the building was moved to its present location from Reif's or Connor's Point at the end of Woodland Park. The structure

reportedly was dragged over the ice from the point, because it was the easiest way to move buildings in those days, said Les Cheneaux Historical Museum Curator Annegret Goehring. The building may have fallen through the ice on its way over, she added, but was recovered intact and finally set on the mainland, near downtown Cedarville. It has since been a storage building, an ice house, and a phone company storage building before the Historical Association acquired the property in the 1980s.

"The whole idea for the Maritime Museum came from the (Les Cheneaux Islands Antique Wooden) Boat Show Committee, and the idea that with the boat show like ours, we should have a place to store the boats and antiques that tell the history of our area and the reasons why there is a maritime culture here," Mrs. Goehring said. "In fact, our bylaws state that our history is based in the maritime heritage and travel by boat. In the 1800s, when the first settlements were recorded, the people came here by boat. There really were no roads coming here."

Grants, financial gifts, and the efforts of nearly 200 volunteers and donors helped make the vision of the Maritime Museum a reality. The addition included a library, and a two-story, soaring museum building tall enough to accommodate sail boats and an upper level display area. One side of the upper level was built with windows that look down into the large boat shop, where spectators

can watch the construction of the Historical Association's annual boat raffle projects, classes in action, or other events. Huge, wooden sliding doors on the front of the building resemble the traditional boat house door on the original Reif boathouse.

As could be expected with an 80-year-old building, the Reif boathouse has fallen into disrepair, prompting the need for renovations. Following the recommendations of the engineer, the building's siding has been completely replaced with pine, the original siding material. A few of the structural two-by-sixes in the walls were replaced, as were some windowsills. The frames around all windows on the east side of the building were also replaced because the building was sagging on that side. The east side of the building will also be graded to prevent water run-off from promoting rot, by moving water away from the building.

The building also received a new, red-shingled roof to match the roof on the 1992 addition. The roof was paid for by an anonymous donor who pledged \$10,000 to the project specifically for the roof. Forty-two

rafters were replaced to eliminate rotting and sagging areas. Contractors removed two layers of roof, including the original cedar shake roof that had been topped by metal. The roof was fit with pine boards to again replicate the building's original construction.

"We wanted it to be just the way it was as much as possible," Mrs. Goehring said.

Mr. Miller added that the organization was pleased with job and felt "it was very well done." Greg McLeod of McLeod Construction was awarded the bid for the renovation job, and also corn blasted the large boathouse door to reveal the lighter colored wood beneath, thus matching it with the new siding. Contractors began work in January, and most of the work that remains includes clean-up and reorganizing displays within the museum. Historical Association members and museum workers plan to reconfigure the inside of the museum to make more room for activities and events. The museum is planning a musical program Monday, June 19, to kick off the season. Details will be announced closer to the date.

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