



The
Galligan
Family
Of
Eagle
Bay.



The Galligan Family

This is an article from "*Shuswap Market*", March, 1994. Written for "*A View From Eagle Bay*", by Renee Hester.

Several weeks ago, I spoke of a gentleman, Basil Ivey, who gave Ivey Road its name. Now, with Audrey Sloan's help, I am able to tell you of Adelbert Galligan (born in 1867), and his family, who gave Galligan Road its name. Audrey also contacted Audrey Rose Dunne, a Galligan granddaughter, who contributed pictures along with some family history.

Adelbert Galligan, who married Ethel Monroe, had a family of four children, Lula, Irena, George and Leo, all born in the U.S.A. "Dell", as he was known, left Nebraska in 1911 to homestead in Saskatchewan. He returned to Nebraska on a freight train, and in the spring of 1912, went back to Canada to prepare for his family to set up housekeeping. Home was a tent, 49 miles from the small town of Forrest. It took two days by horse and wagon to reach the homestead, and the nearest school was three and one-half miles away.

In 1923, Dell rented his farm and lived in Christina Lake, B.C., but returned to the homestead where his wife died in 1927. He sold his property in Saskatchewan, and in 1928, moved to Eagle Bay where he and his two sons were homesteaders. This homestead is now the Gautier property, and includes the Salter, Palmer Proteau and Stuart land as well. I believe the original home is still standing.

The Galligan men had a "mixed farm". Audrey remembers they cut a lot of hay, grew potatoes, sold eggs, and kept cattle and pigs. Adelbert (Dell), and son, George, remained on the homestead but Leo married and developed his own homestead, now the Armitage property.

Mr. Galligan, Sr. had one special buddy Mr. Jim Shannon, an old bachelor whose homestead is now "*Shannon Beach*" and the park reserve above it. The two gentlemen were best friends and fishing rivals. Their fish stories were wild, as most fish stories are. As Mr. Galligan became older, and his hands more shaky, it was difficult to tell just how large was the catch of the day. Audrey remembers Dell's pipe as the "strongest" pipe she had ever smelled.

It was the practice of these two gents to come to the store and post office where they exchanged pleasantries, exaggerations and possibly white lies. Mr. Galligan and Mr. Shannon would visit the store, place their purchases in identical sugar sacks, then go to the post office for the mail, often leaving the sacks on a bench outside. The story goes that during the Second World War, when rationing was a fact of life, Mr. Galligan saved, (with some difficulty), enough ration coupons for a pail of Roger's syrup. You guessed

it! Somehow the sacks were exchanged, and Mr. Galligan arrived home with no syrup. Next mail day, he inquired of his friend, "Did you see my can of syrup?" Mr. Shannon laughed and replied, "Sure did, and damn good it was!" This incident didn't seem to hurt the friendship.

In 1948, at the height of the floods, Mr. Galligan came to the post office, as was his custom. He stopped to see Audrey Sloan and her mother. He complained of the heat and asked if he could rest a while as he was feeling quite ill. Sensing the old man was seriously ill, and not wanting to alarm him, Audrey made the excuse of posting a letter so she could summon help. As she left, Mr. Galligan said, "If you see Jim, tell him to stay out of the sun or it will get him, too". To her mother, he said, "Don't get scared if I kick off"! His pal, Mr. Shannon, went for help, but it was too late. They waited hours for a doctor because the road was washed out at Crescent Ranch, and someone had to ferry the doctor around the wash-out. Adelbert Manson Galligan was the first person buried in Eagle Bay Cemetery. His grave is one of a very few with the grave stone at the east end of the plot.

On August 15, 1949, George married an Irish lady, Elizabeth Swanten, an ex-service woman who was a jeep driver in World War II. This was the first wedding in Eagle Bay Community Heritage Church. Audrey tells me, Elizabeth nursed an ailing mother after the war, then immigrated to Kamloops, where her sister resided. She answered a newspaper ad placed in Kamloops newspaper by the owners of "*Shuswap Lake Fishing Lodge*", now known as "*Shimmering Waters*", and became the lodge's cook. George and Elizabeth lived in the old Galligan home, but had only a few happy years before George passed away in 1957, at age 54.

Elizabeth built a small house across the road from the church after George's death. She loved Eagle Bay and gladly toted water in her car to the Community Hall if it was needed for a special function. When the hall needed a piano, she loaned the money, interest free, for its purchase. The Hall Society had many fund raisers to pay for their precious piano. It is still at Eagle Bay. Eventually it was sold by the Eagle Bay Hall Society to the Wolseys who live in the small house next to Eagle Bay Mini Mart. This wee house also has a story. It was once the teacherage when Eagle Bay School was at the foot of Parker Road. It was moved to its present location when the school was no longer operating.

When visiting the small Eagle Bay Church, one cannot help but marvel at the beauty of its stained glass window, "*Come Unto Me*", placed in the church by Elizabeth Galligan, in memory of husband, George. Sadly, Elizabeth passed away in 1964, at age 56. Both were so young! Leo, the youngest of the family, was laid to rest in Eagle Bay Community Cemetery in 1990, at age 80.

Much of the story of the Galligan family was related by Audrey Sloan. She and Elizabeth were best friends and Adelbert Galligan visited often with Audrey and her mother. Details were supplied by the Rose Dunn, a Galligan granddaughter. It was Eagle Bay's good fortune to have several of the Galligan-Dunne families at the 50th

We are fortunate to have this information, passed on to me by Adelbert Galligan's granddaughter, Audrey Rose Dunne. Audrey Sloan kindly telephoned this lady and she was happy to share some of her family's history with us.

"Audrey, this is a copy of the Galligan family history submitted by my mom, (Irena Rose), published in the Richmond Heritage, Saskatchewan 1978.

Mr. Adelbert N. Galligan, known as Dell, married Ethel E. Monroe and they had a family of four children.

Lula Catherine, born in Kentucky in 1896

Irena Vivian, born in Missigan (probably Michigan) in 1898

George Herbert, born in Nebraska in 1903

Leo Chester, born in Nebraska in 1909

Dell Galligan left Nebraska late in the fall of 1911 and went to Saskatchewan, Canada, where he filed on a Homestead, the farthest north of any section 22-18-29 W 3rd., filed at that time.

Dell came back to Arnsworth, Nebraska and got a railroad car (freight). Early in the spring of 1912, he went back to Saskatchewan to get things ready for mother and our family to set up housekeeping. Our home was a tent, forty-nine miles north of Hatten, known then as Forres, the closest town to our homestead. Mother and we children arrived in Forres where Father met us with horses and wagon. It took almost two days to get to the homestead. All supplies had to be brought in from Forres.

We attended school in Chelsea, a three and one-half mile walk.

Mom married Bernard Rose on March 22, 1921 and lived on his filed homestead. Dad was out of England and fought in that war.

Dell Galligan rented the farm out in 1923 and moved the family to British Columbia settling in where Leo went to school, Christina Lake.

They were back in Saskatchewan for some time(?), where Ethel died in 1927. Perhaps this was when the property there was sold. Stayed another year with family then moved to Eagle Bay in 1928 on to the homestead there."

The years of '43, '44, and '45 were good years, getting to know these two men, Grandpa and George. Mom, my brother Dell, and sister Anne, spent these winters in their home. Eagle Bay is special to my Heart.

—Audrey Rose Dunne.



1. to r - Dave Johnson, Rhona Reid, Mr. Reid (Santa) Georgina Reid, Adelbert Galligan and Leo and George Galligan, the reindeer.

MEMORIES

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Christmas on the bay

by Renee Hester

Christmas is always a special time in Eagle Bay. In the 1920s and '30's, the school house, first located at the foot of Galligan Road, and later located on the W. Whitehead property, served as the social centre for the area. At Christmas time, the school boys were sent to cut and fetch a Christmas tree. Everyone in the class had a hand in decorating it

During the autumn months, the children studied an Eaton's catalogue brought to the school by Mrs. McRae, the teacher. Each was allowed to choose one gift which the teacher purchased with money donated for this purpose. Much of the funding came from local loggers.

Every Christmas saw a school concert, a community party and a dance. A local gentleman, Mr. Reid, was Santa Claus. He entered the school with a sack of gifts and riding on the back of a reindeer. Reindeer? Of course! The "reindeer" was the "Galligan Boys", Leo and George, dressed in gunny sacks with real antlers on the deer's head.

Many people arrived on horse-drawn sleighs and cutters, bedecked with sleigh bells. The sound of sleigh bells on a winter's night is a sound few could forget.

These precious memories were shared by Mary (Whitehead) Turgeon and the late Phyllis Naples.



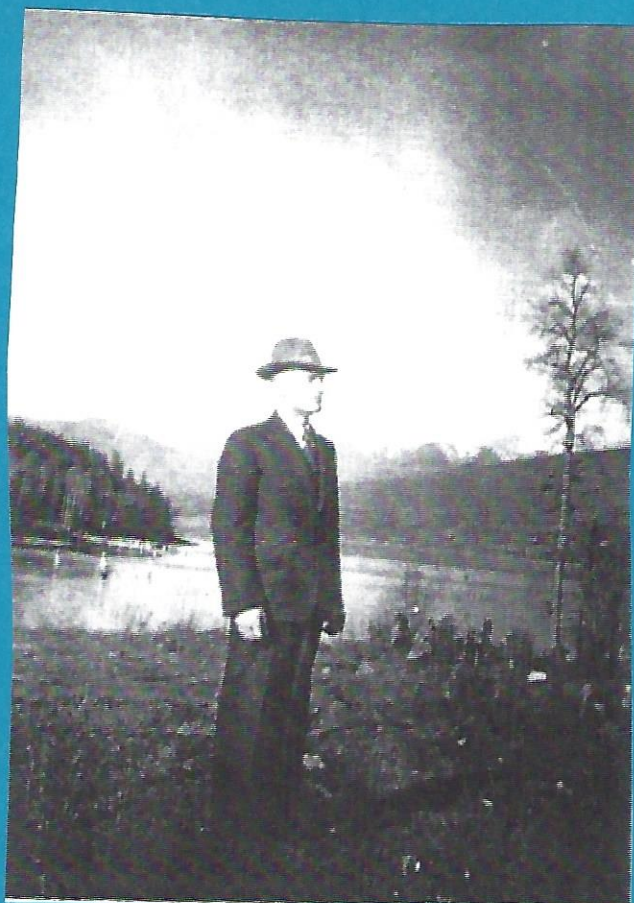
In this vintage picture are Dave Johnson, Rhona Reid, "Santa" Reid, Georgina, Leo and George Galligan, Jr., the reindeer.

Mrs. Jeannette Hester

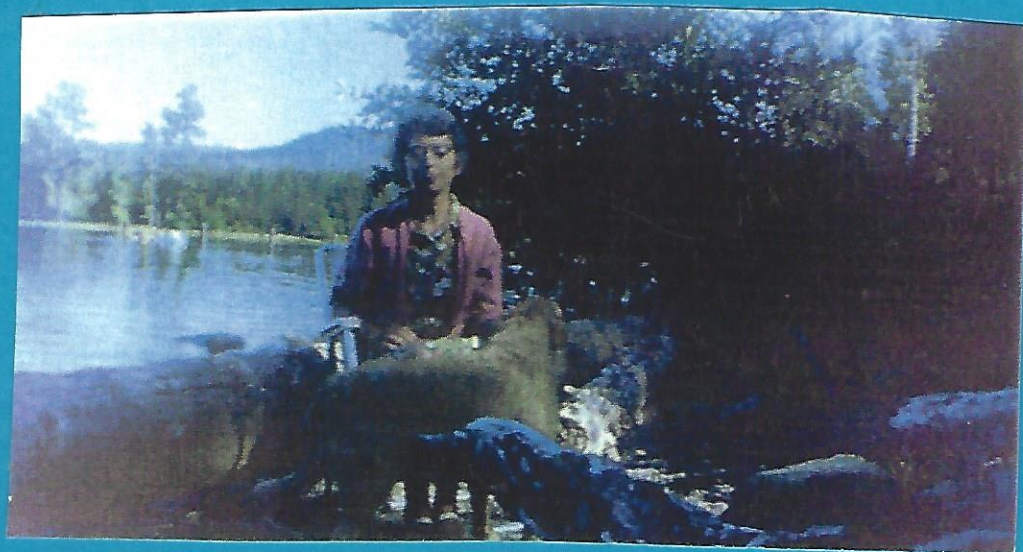


George and Elizabeth Galligan
the first couple married in Eagle Bay
Heritage Church.

(sm. photo supplied by
Audrey Rose Dunne)



George Galligan 1903-1957



Elizabeth Galligan 1908-1964

Dunne - Galligan Family at
50th Anniversary Eagle Bay
Community Church.



Rose Dunne (center).



Mrs. Jeannette Hester
174 S. ...

