



# THE REMARKABLE BEADELLS

More than a century on Walloon

Written by Lauren Macintyre for *Walloon*, the magazine of the Walloon Lake Association and Conservancy

It was 1908 when the adventurous Henry and Alice Furste Beadell decided to make the long journey from Fort Wayne, IN to Walloon. They came to visit friends and promptly fell in love with the lake, as so many others from Fort Wayne had done. For several years they stayed at the Thomas House, but ultimately decided they wanted their own special place on Walloon. So in 1920 Henry and Alice purchased 500 feet of lakefront property from the Olds family, also of Fort Wayne, for the price of \$1,900.

Their legacy on the lake is lovingly preserved by granddaughter Cynthia “Cynny” Beadell Hermann, who has curated an amazing collection of

Photos above, from left: Cynny (Beadell) Hermann with her mother and brother, Terry, in the lake in 1939; Cynny with the plat map of the Henry and Alice Beadell addition; Cynny’s grandfather, Henry, with Fred Wehrenberg in 1936 in front of the family cottage; a 1920 postcard from Henry. (photos courtesy of Cynthia Beadell Hermann)

family documents that chronicle that journey. Postcards from her grandfather in 1920 that outline the progress on the family’s cottage ... The original deed to the land ... A 1904 map of Fort Wayne Beach, where the cottage was lo-

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cated ... Receipts for the \$1,900 purchase of the land ... The plat map of the "Henry and Alice Beadell Addition"... And vintage black and white photos of life on the South Shore of Walloon in days gone by. A veritable treasure trove of family history, indeed.

Henry Beadell's son Henry A., who married Mary Weaver of Fort Wayne, graduated from Purdue and began his career as a forester, while also serving in the Army Reserves. Called to active duty in 1940, he became a decorated soldier who saw extensive action during the Normandy invasion. He finished his military career as a lieutenant colonel in the Army Reserves, and resumed his work in forestry. A dedicated ecologist, he was a man ahead of his time who saw the critical need for conservation and reforestation. When the family spent summers at Walloon, he would come up by train for the weekend.

"I have such vivid memories of meeting my father up at the Walloon train station," Cynny remarks.

At that time the depot was located on the east side of Rte 131 on Springvale Road.

In 1959, after his retirement, Henry and Mary made the transition to full-time residency at Walloon, building a new house on North Shore Drive, since the original cottage on South Shore was not suitable for year-round living. Ultimately that cottage was rebuilt and remained in the family for many years.

Henry and Mary then became extremely active members of the community. Henry served as president of the Board of Directors of Lockwood MacDonald Hospital, where Mary also volunteered, and of Walloon Lake Country Club. But

his most significant contribution to Walloon was undoubtedly his leadership in reviving the Walloon Lake Association in 1960, which had been inactive for many years. Once the WLA was reincorporated, Henry served as its first president. Today's vibrant WLAC owes much to the remarkable contributions of Henry Beadell.

After their deaths, Henry and Mary's children, which in addition to Cynny included son Terry and daughter Betty, maintained the family's Walloon connection. In 1984 Cynny married fellow Wallooner Dick Hermann, also a member of a Walloon centennial family. Dick's family had first come to the lake in 1896 from Highland IL, near St. Louis. After their marriage the Hermanns built a new house on Whitfield View off North Shore Drive, and enjoyed full-time residency on their beloved Walloon.

Like her father, Cynny has made notable contributions to Walloon life. In 2003 she teamed with Mary Whitfield Erb and Charles Schloff to author the iconic book *Walloon Yesterdays* as a benefit for the Crooked Tree District Library. This beautiful book, which sits on the shelves in many a Walloon cottage, is the consummate collection of vintage Walloon photos and memories.

Dick, who sadly passed away in 2013, was the quintessential Wallooner, devoted to sailing and preservation of the lake. Cynny, who has two daughters, remains a year-round resident of Walloon, safeguarding both Dick's and the Beadell family's distinguished legacy on the lake they all loved so well.

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