

Town of Eddington · February 22, 1811

EDDINGTON

Historical Society

NEWSLETTER

FALL 2021

Featured Veteran

MATTHEW L. MORNEAULT



A Maine native, Matthew (Matt) Morneault was born in Fort Kent, Maine and grew up in the small northern town of Grand Isle, ME. He is the son of Allen and Elizabeth Morneault, and brother to one older sibling, Joshua Morneault. Despite both his father, who served in the Army, and his brother, an Army Iraq War Veteran, Matt joined the Air Force as a member of the Maine Air National Guard in January of 2004. At the age of 17, under the Maine Air National Guard delayed enlistment program, Matt was able attend Unit Training Assembly (UTA) weekends, while still in High School. A 2004 graduate of Madawaska High School, Matt departed for Basic Training shortly after graduation which was at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas. He would then go on to attend Technical School to become a Security Forces member.

Matt served the first eight years of his military career as a member of the 101st Security Forces Squadron

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BETH HUTCHINGS

Submitted by Margaret McDonald Joyal

Elizabeth Mary Orr was born in Casterobin, Northern Ireland in 1938 to Annie and John Orr and has one sister, Joan Orr Bloomer. Beth is the owner with her daughter, Joanie, of Hutchings Greenhouse, in Eddington, Maine and also An Original by Beth from Maine, which is her sweater business, where she sells her sweaters at craft fairs and festivals.

As a child, her mum taught her how to knit, which she loves and would knit clothes for her dolls. When she graduated from school at the age of 14, which was the normal age, she went to work for The Scotch Wool House, in Bradbury Place, in Belfast, Northern Ireland and also worked at their location in Bangor, Northern Ireland. They sold knitting wool, needles and patterns. Wool yarn was free to employees and they were allowed to wear the sweaters to work to show off to the customers. In turn the customers would purchase the yarn and patterns to make the sweaters. All workers were addressed by "Ms" and their last name. She worked here until she left to go to America.

She met her husband, Leroy, via her Uncle Charlie, who she visited sometimes on weekends, when he asked her if she would like to visit the 2 American Destroyers ships that were docked in Belfast, NI, which were open to the public on Sundays. Leroy and his best friend, Bobby, who was from Bradley, Maine, were their tour guides. Their ships were docked there for about 2 weeks and they would visit her Uncle Charlie and Aunt Molly for tea. Beth and Leroy wrote to each other for many months and then Leroy proposed marriage and she accepted. She took a ship from Liverpool, England to New York. Leroy met her there, on June 5th, 1957, for the ride to Maine. She said it took awhile to get adjusted to the Maine way of life, especially the winters, but Leroy came from a large family and they greeted her with open arms. She now loves the winters and that's when she makes her sweaters.

They were married at the Grace Methodist Church on Union St in Bangor, Maine in 1957. They bought land near Leroy's brother, George, along the Penobscot River in Eddington.



Beth in her shop holding one of her sweaters

Leroy started the greenhouse business in 1968, which is still operated today by Beth and her daughter, Joanie, with one small greenhouse, then two more and then more each year, eventually starting greenhouses across the road from their home.

Once she was settled in Eddington she went to work at Rines Co., then to Emplis Knitting Mill which was located on Columbia St. in Bangor, Maine before they moved to the Brewer location and she worked there until they closed in 1987, tallying 26 years. She held many positions and the last few years worked as a Quality Control supervisor, where everything had to be perfect, so many stitches to the inch. When they closed, she bought 3 of their machines and that's how she got into making sweaters that she currently sells at craft fairs and festivals around the state.

Beth and Leroy had one child, Joanie. Bobby, Leroy's best friend, daughters, Rhonda and Pamela remain dear friends



The Scotch Wool House in Bradbury Place, Northern Ireland. Beth on the left and her boss Joan Bloomer on the right

along with Bobby's wife, Minnie, to this day and enjoy many adventures.

When Emplis closed the government paid for anyone that wanted to attend college, Beth enrolled at Beal College and got a degree in Business Management.

Beth almost always went back to Northern Ireland every year, her husband, Leroy, went hunting the whole month of November, so Joanie and her went to visit her mum who they called, Granny. The school was next door to Granny's house, so Joanie went to school there. Joanie loved it so much that after graduating from Brewer High School went to college in Lisburn, NI, where she met her husband, James and settled there.

Beth's husband, Leroy, was the gardener, where he always planted more than he needed and would put the plants

on the side of the road to sell. Today she runs Hutchings Greenhouse along with her daughter, Joanie, this includes 11 greenhouses all heated with wood and geothermal heating. A lot of trips are made late at night or early morning hours to keep the wood fires burning.

She loves yoga and attends weekly when she isn't busy at the greenhouse. You can catch up with her at Hutchings Greenhouse or at one of the craft/ festivals she attends, Machias Blueberry Festival, Greenville Fly-In, East Sangerville Grange Holiday Craft Fair and John Bapst Craft Fair.



The Scotch Wool House in Bangor, Northern Ireland

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assigned to the 101st Air Refueling Wing, Bangor, ME. During his time with the Security Forces Squadron, Matt received training in, and performed, Air Base defense and Law Enforcement functions. He also received training to become a Combat Arms Training and Maintenance Instructor, teaching members of the 101st Air Refueling Wing how to properly employ and maintain both individual and crew served weapons. Matt deployed with the 101st Security Forces Squadron in 2008 for his first deployment, in which he would spend approximately 6 months at Camp As Sayliyah, Qatar, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

In 2012, Matt sought a change in his military career and applied within the Maine Air National Guard to become an In-Flight Refueling Technician, a.k.a. Boom Operator, aboard the KC-135 Tanker. After being selected for the position, Matt had to attend additional training to become a Boom Operator which included, Basic Boom Operator Course and Aircrew Fundamentals in San Antonio, TX, Combat Survival and Water Survival Training in Spokane, WA, and Boom Operator Initial Qualification Training in Altus, OK. After becoming fully qualified as a Boom Operator, Matt would serve his country in support of multiple Contingencies such as Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Resolute Support, and Operation Noble Eagle. He would serve in support of these Operations both home station, and in deployed locations such as Al Udied Air Base, Qatar, and Kandahar Air Base, Afghanistan.

Since being assigned to the 101st Air Refueling Wing, Bangor, ME, Matt eventually made the permanent move to the Bangor area in 2010 when he purchased a home in Clifton. It wasn't until 2019 that he and his family moved to Eddington when they purchased the Coulter Farmhouse on the Merrill Rd. Matt is now a full-time member of the Maine Air National Guard and has made a career out of what most National Guard members make a part time job. With a full-time job, and a house to call their home in Eddington, Matt resides there with his wife, Christina, and three children, Tyler, Hannah, and Eli. The Morneault family attends the East Eddington Community Church and consider themselves blessed to be a part of a local church and the community of Eddington.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Margaret Dougherty

The Eddington Historical Society now owns the property beside the Eddington Fire Dept. at 914 Main Road, Eddington, ME. The clean up and clearing of existing buildings has started. Environmental Safety Professionals in Brewer, Maine performed the demolition inspection of the buildings on the property. County Abatement, Inc. Bangor, Maine removed asbestos waste and disposed of it at a licensed facility. The demolition of buildings will be completed this year. The Eddington Historical Society is currently raising funds for a new building. Donations are always appreciated.

Eddington Historical Society meets at the Eddington Town Office on the third Sunday of each month at 1pm.

You are invited to join us!

Annual dues: \$10,

Life membership: \$50.

Thank you for your support!

Eddington Historical Society FALL BAZAAR

The Fall Bazaar was a huge success with 17 vendors/crafters, bake sale, white elephant items, and special attraction – our Eddington Fire Dept. Thank-you to all crafters, vendors and the Eddington Fire Dept. Please enjoy the three photos from the Fall Bazaar.



Fire fighter Elizabeth Doyle and A.J.



Eddington students A.J., Asa, and Azreal



Crafters & Vendors

1980 EDDINGTON TOWN MEETING SUPPER

The March 25, 1980 Eddington Town Meeting was held 7:30pm. at the Eddington Municipal Building. The East Eddington Community Church prepared and served the town meeting supper from 5 to 7pm. before the meeting. The grocery list consisted of: 7 dozen rolls, 9 gallons fish chowder, 1 gal. pickles, 1 box crackers, 4 pts. whip cream and 30 lbs. strawberries.

The recipe for fish chowder used by Beverly Treadwell consisted of 25 lbs. of haddock, 10 qts. diced potatoes, 8 cups chopped onions, 12 cans (12oz.) evaporated milk, 1 ½ pts. cream, ½ lb. butter, salt & pepper.

Place fish in large kettle, cover with water and cook until fish flakes apart. Remove fish, add potatoes & onions to stock and cook until potatoes are tender. Add milk, cream, butter, salt & pepper.

Add cooked flaked fish and let stand 1 hr. over low heat to blend flavor.

The strawberry shortcake dessert completed the delicious supper.

Adult tickets: \$2.50 / Children under 12: \$1.50 / Children under 3: Free

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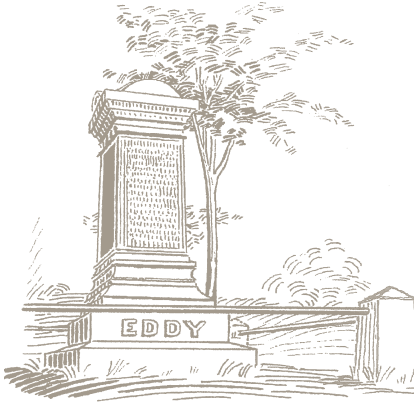
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Eddington Town Office
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Eddington, ME 04428



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Nature Through the Eyes of a Child

Pam Dorr

*My little grandson and I set out for a nature walk,
And all along the way that chatterbox began to talk.*

*"Nana, I saw a butterfly at my house yesterday,
And it was this big!" (He spread his little arms wide.)
"It had long arms with fingers and it began to sing."
I said, "Now that butterfly must have been a wonderful thing!"
He looked at me and replied, "It was purple and green
And every other color that I have ever seen!"*

Oh my!

*"Nana, I saw a fox at my house yesterday,
And it was this big!" (He spread his little arms wide.)
"He had long, long teeth and a nose as big as a ball!"
"Were you scared," I asked my storyteller.
"No, I wasn't scared at all!
He went to get my chickens but I chased him away,
And I won't let him get you either, Nana. Okay?"*

Oh my!

*"Nana, my daddy caught a big fish and brought it home yesterday,
And it was this big! (He spread his little arms wide.)
"It was flipping and flopping all around the floor!
Daddy even had a hard time to get it through our door.
It was every color that I have ever saw
And it had big, long whiskers hanging from its jaw!"
"Well, I bet that fish will feed you for a long, long while."
"No, Daddy says he can be my pet," he said with a smile.*

Oh my!

*I love his little stories and the pleasure that they bring,
And just the other day, I was sitting on my porch swing,
And I can't be certain, but I thought I heard a butterfly sing!*

Oh my!