

January 3, 1960

For Elizabeth.....

I pause on thy birthday to write thee a line  
To toast thee, my friend, tho I do without  
wine.

I hope that the angel who smoothens thy brow  
May keep thee forever just as thou art now.

HAIL TO THEE, ELIZABETH!

'Twas ten years ago o'er a bright summer sea  
Thou sailed to an island and clasped hands  
with me;

With Clif and with Karen, we walked thru the  
wood

While Art and his hatchet made paths  
where they could.

HAIL TO THEE, ELIZABETH!

Thou said, "Come to see us" before thou embarked;  
We smiled and we waved with geniality  
marked.

And many days after thy look I'd recall  
First girl on our island, first friend in  
our hall.

HAIL TO THEE, ELIZABETH!

A fortnite ago at thy table we sat

"Good news!" was thy greeting, "do hang up your  
hat".

The same spirit fine, the eyes kindled bright;

Thou's aged not at all; thou's a rhymer's  
delight.

HAIL TO THEE, ELIZABETH!

And here's to thy birthday! the decade is new;

May'st live in it blithely, like flowers in  
dew.

When winter is over, and summer doth reign

Chug out to our island; we'll say it again--

HAIL TO THEE, ELIZABETH!

*Birthday Greetings  
With Love  
From  
Nan*



Poem Written by Leone "Nan" Marie (Wemmert) Kellam  
for Elizabeth (Farnsworth) Rich on her 73rd Birthday - January 3, 1960  
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Clifton Melbourne Rich (1882-1971) built "BLB" ("Bear loves Beum"), a 20' traditional dory (a "flat-bottomed boat with high flaring sides, sharp bow, and deep V-shaped transom), in 1948 for Arthur "Art" Millis Kellam (1911-1985) and Leone "Nan" Marie (Wemmert) Kellam (1911-2002), of Placentia Island, Maine.

Clifton and his wife, Elizabeth (Farnsworth) Rich (1887-1969), lived at 280 Tremont Road, Bernard, Maine – Map 16 – Lot 10. They remained friends with the Kellams and were their on-shore anchors for their time on Placentia. Nan wrote this poem for her friend, Elizabeth, on January 3, 1960, Elizabeth's 73<sup>rd</sup> birthday.

The Kellams first went to live alone on Placentia Island on June 8, 1949. "there they were, husband and wife, both thirty-eight years of age and high up on the shingle beach of their new found land. Having been ferried ashore with their belongings and supplies, Art and Nan Kellam entered a shared state of amazement and gratitude as they surveyed Placentia for the first time as island owners. The 552-acre island lay before them, resplendent in the Gulf of Maine, two miles out to sea. The Kellams had voyaged out to Placentia in a brand new wooden dory, towed by Cliff Rich, the dory builder. After relaying his good wishes to the couple ...Cliff turned his workboat toward...Mt. Desert Island." The boat was the mainstay of their lives on the island, being their main contact with the mainland. The beach where they landed and later, kept the dory was named Dory Beach by them. - "We Were an Island: the Maine life of Art and Nan Kellam" by Peter P. Blanchard III; with photographs by David Graham, published by University Press of New England, c. 2010.