

# FOX POINT *files*



by Douglas H. Frazer



ore freighter that Gordon Lightfoot made famous in the song the *Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald*. (The ship's 1958 launch was a bit inauspicious: Elizabeth Fitzgerald required three attempts to smash a champagne bottle over the bow.)

Granddaughter Liz married Richard Cutler, a former managing partner at Quarles & Brady. Among many civic activities, Richard Cutler served on the village plan commission.

Richard had worked during and after WWII at the Office of Strategic Services (OSS), the predecessor to the CIA, as a counter-intelligence officer and spy handler. The couple connected at the Nuremberg Trials—Liz, who had served as a research assistant at the OSS during the war, was working as a member of the American prosecution staff.

That concludes our survey of the Bacon Estate. The major structures still stand and as a group represent a prominent element of Fox Point history.

*Douglas H. Frazer is a Fox Point resident and neighborhood contributor as well as the village president. The views expressed are his own and not necessarily those of the Village, the village board, other village board members, or Best Version Media, LLC.*

## The Other Homes of the BACON ESTATE

We continue our exploration of the Bacon Estate. As you recall, Frank Bacon was a prominent early resident of Fox Point. For many years Bacon was the president of Cutler-Hammer—a major producer of electrical controls. The main house of Frank Bacon's estate was accessed at 227 East Bradley Road via a gravel road to the south. The 1907 house, owned now by Douglas and Kristin Fellows, is at 7829 North Regent Road. In addition to the main house (Fox Point of View Oct. 2014) and gentleman's barn (Fox Point of View Nov. 2017), the estate included separate residences for children Frank Bacon, Jr., Edward (Teddy) Bacon, and a chauffeur's cottage and garage. These properties are still standing and lovingly occupied, and we turn to them now.

*The Teddy Bacon house* at 7851 North Regent Road (formerly 223 East Bradley Road) was built in 1920 and expanded in 1994. Currently owned by Christopher and Patricia Kauffman, the property is approximately 2¾ acres and includes a working outdoor pump that still draws from the aquifer.

The Kauffmans have done significant research on the house. Unfortunately, they have not found original blueprints or photos. They do have original repair orders related to the home's heating system from the 1920s.

Interestingly, an original fuse box (no longer functional) in an upstairs bedroom still has labeling from the original wiring plan (e.g., Mr. Bacon's dressing room, Mr. Bacon's closet).

A 1966 listing for the house describes a single family structure with over sixteen rooms, six bedrooms, six baths, an extensive entrance hall, library, music hall, servants' quarters, and a greenhouse off the sunroom.

Teddy Bacon became an important Milwaukee businessman, and for a number of years served as an officer and director at Cutler-Hammer. He was a naval reserve commander during WWII and after the war, during the Eisenhower Administration, served at the

Export-Import Bank in Washington as Army assistant secretary, and in other subcabinet offices. His papers are archived and stored at the Dwight D. Eisenhower library in Abilene, Kansas.

*The chauffeur's quarters and garage.* The Bacons were among the first Milwaukeeans to have automobiles; they built a five-car garage just north of their home. (The garage was razed in the 1950s.) A chauffeur's house was added immediately west of the garage. David Smith bought the house in 1958 repurposing the quarters into the large, lovely house that we see today at 7861 North Regent Court. Edward and Sharon Hipke bought the house from Smith in 1964.

In the late 1990s the Hipkes removed a buried gas tank that had serviced the cars. The Hipkes also discovered a cement room under the house containing what appears to be a cistern. The only way to access it is down a narrow window well.

An arborist believes the four oaks on the property could be 400 years old.

*The Frank R. Bacon, Jr. house,* was also accessed from the private dirt road off Bradley Road and was listed as 225 E. Bradley Road. The Bacons built the house in 1931 with a design by architect Harry Dugner. The home, sitting just to the south-

west of the main house, is a large, tasteful, and secluded property that includes a swimming pool and tennis court. In 1954 the village pushed through Regent Road from the south, and in 1956 constructed MacArthur Road and Regent Court. The home is now accessed from MacArthur Road.

Elizabeth (Liz) Cutler, the granddaughter of Frank Bacon, Sr. and the daughter of Frank Bacon Sr.'s own daughter Elizabeth, acquired and expanded the home in the early 1950s. Daughter Elizabeth had married Edmund Fitzgerald, the president of Northwestern Mutual Life and the namesake of the Great Lakes





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**NICOLET**  
Recreation Department

By Nate Brooks, Assistant Recreation Director



*Dear Community Member,*

The Nicolet Recreation Department invites you and your family to participate in our extensive program offerings. As you page through our winter/spring bulletin you will find over 160 different programs, including 15 brand new programs at 16 different North Shore locations in the area. There is truly something for everyone! We have programs for toddlers, youths, teens, adults, and senior citizens. Online registration for winter/spring programs begins Monday, December 4th, or phone, fax, mail, walk-in, or use our drop box to register beginning December 18th. Programming season begins January 2nd and runs through May 31st.

Here's a sampling of the Nicolet Recreation Department winter/spring offerings:

<p><b>Toddlers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>KidsSports</li> <li>Learn to skate for tots</li> <li>Toddler/preschooler art</li> </ul> <p><b>Youth</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jr. Knights wrestling team</li> <li>Mad scientist – NASA</li> <li>Spanish</li> </ul> <p><b>Teens</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ACT workshop</li> <li>How to write a winning college essay</li> <li>Archery</li> </ul>	<p><b>Adults</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Co-ed volleyball league</li> <li>Pet first aid/CPR</li> <li>Zumba toning</li> </ul> <p><b>Senior Citizens</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sheepshead</li> <li>Walk the halls</li> <li>Chair yoga</li> </ul>
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Please visit our website at [www.nicolet.us/activities/recreation.cfm](http://www.nicolet.us/activities/recreation.cfm) or call 414-351-7566 for more details.



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