

Eddie's

EDDIE'S MEMOS

APGAR VILLAGE
GLACIER NATIONAL PARK

Early Apgar

There once was an area so primitive that only the animals were aware of its existence. The Indians, upon discovering this land, used it solely for religious ceremonies and sacred dances. Nestled in the land was a lake which the Indians called "Sacred Dancing Water." This is the story handed down from the Indians to the earliest white settlers. Today, this sacred land is known as Apgar and Lake McDonald.

The early settlers traveled from Belton, now known as West Glacier, to Apgar by stagecoach. The road into Apgar was a clearing of blown tree stumps and mud holes surrounded by a forest of dense cedar. The sun only penetrated the tree tops. As one early settler told it: "I find it very hard to describe just how beautiful it really was. The cedar was so dense that it gave off an eerie feeling and I was almost afraid to walk through it even in the daylight."

The late 1900s brought many settlers interested in hunting and trapping to the area. Each year brought new homesteaders and the community evolved rapidly.

On May 11, 1910, President Taft signed a bill setting aside one million acres of this primitive Montana wilderness. It became Glacier National Park, so named for its many glaciers. Despite the area's appropriation by the federal government and the many land transactions that took place, homesteaders continued to move into the area. Although the Park is federally owned, many privately owned homes remain around Lake McDonald and the Apgar area.

THE FIRST AUTOMOBILE MADE ITS WAY TO
GLACIER NATIONAL PARK IN 1911.

Logan Pass

Construction of Logan Pass began shortly after Glacier National Park was established and continued after 1933, when the Park was officially opened. Representatives from the Blackfeet, Flathead and Kootenai tribes as well as government dignitaries were present for the dedication ceremonies July 14, 1933. There has never been a more colorful or moving ceremony in Glacier National Park.

Going-to-the-Sun Highway is a masterpiece of early road construction. Using picks, shovels, dynamite and teams of horses, the pioneers worked for nearly two decades carving the narrow, winding road up to and over the Continental Divide. Although equipment has improved, it still remains challenging work to clear the 60 plus feet of snow from the top of the pass each spring.

On the way to the 6664-foot

summit of Logan Pass, visitors travel through the heart of Glacier Park. The thick stands of cedar, rugged mountains and cascading waterfalls are unsurpassed in beauty anywhere in the world.



Going-to-the-Sun Highway.



Eddie Brewster, checking cars into Glacier's West Gate during the 1920s.

Forest Fires 1910-1929

Forest fires were a key factor in the development of Apgar Village. The first major fire was in August of 1910. The fire's origin was uncertain and it covered thousands of acres in Montana, Idaho and Washington. In the Park, the fire burned the North Fork area, but did not reach Apgar. In 1925, there was a fire at Apgar, west of McDonald Creek, and extending toward Apgar Mountain. In 1926, there was a more extensive fire which started on the old North Fork road near Fish Creek. This fire swept up the west side of Lake McDonald before being contained. The extent of this fire is still visible today.

In 1929, Apgar experienced its most devastating fire, originating near a sawmill north of Columbia Falls, Montana. This fire crossed the Middle Fork of the Flathead River and cut a wide swath within the Park, burning the dense cedar forest between Apgar and Belton. In late fall, near Nyack, the fire finally burned itself out with the first snowfall.

Horace Chadbourne, a long-time resident of Lake McDonald wrote: "Once the fire got well started north of the river and the firemen were withdrawn to protect the buildings at Park headquarters and Belton, little could be done to save Apgar, the scattered homes along the Belton road or the many summer homes along Lake McDonald."

Eddie Brewster told how he had tried to reach Apgar to help the people, but that he was turned back near the area of the checking station due to the intense heat from the fire. It was all the people could do to save themselves and a few belongings in the lake before the fire came through.

Immediately after the fire, the American Red Cross came to the aid of those who had lost practically everything and gave grants for building materials and supplies to rebuild. This policy applied both to those living inside and outside the Park. Before long, new houses sprung up in the midst of the desolation and destruction.

The following spring, in 1930, the Department of Interior sent a purchasing agent to Apgar who was authorized to buy up as much of the private property as possible, especially land fronting the lake. The government hoped that after the recent devastating fires the people of Apgar would willingly sell their property. The idea was to clear the area, specifically the lakefront property of any vestiges of habitation. To that end, Mr. Solinsky, the agent, offered considerably more than the previous going price of \$10 a front foot. Many of the landowners did agree to sell their now barren property. Mr. Solinsky's price was too good to refuse. As word of Mr. Solinsky's offer got around, a sort of land speculation developed.

A number of the lakefront residents sold their property and with the rising land prices, caused others to refuse sale. To make things worse for Mr. Solinsky, several owners who had already sold to the government, turned around with their money in hand and bought land across the road from the lakeshore property.

Mr. Solinsky soon realized the futility of attempting to rid Apgar of inhabitation. The more land he bought the higher the asking price became. Mr. Solinsky not only failed to clear the waterfront, but actually caused a development spurt. After a few more months of fruitless negotiation within the limits of his authorization, Mr. Solinsky returned home. This spasmodic effort to buy out Apgar was really an impetus to a new growth in the village and its accommodations.

During this time, Going-to-the-Sun Highway was being built over Logan Pass, and U.S. Highway 2 was built, connecting Belton to East Glacier Park. The improved roads brought more automobiles and more demand for rental cabins and tourist accommodations. Even though the great country-wide Depression of the 1930s was in full swing, the tourist business increased.

Along with the Depression, CCC Camps were established in the Park and a clean up of the burned over area between Apgar and Park headquarters was accomplished. The new approach bridge over the Flathead River was built and the main entrance road was relocated to bypass Apgar. New vegetation and tree growth masked the ugly appearance of the burned-over land. Although Apgar was off the mainstream of travel, its potential as a destination point or merely an overnight vacation spot improved.

Accordingly, Apgar Village continued to grow and the accommodations for tourists continued to expand. The buildings were of a different kind from the log cabins of an earlier period, but the hospitality and friendliness offered to the tourist had not changed.

SPECIAL DINNERS

Mountain Fresh Rainbow Trout — pan fried	11.95
Fantail Shrimp — lightly breaded, served with hot sauce	13.95
Grilled Halibut Steak — basted with seasoned lemon butter	12.95
Montana Rib Steak — 16 oz. full cut	16.95
Top 10 oz. Sirloin Steak — thick and tender	14.95
Top 6 oz. Sirloin Steak — smaller cut	11.95
Tender Crisp Broasted Chicken — 1/2 chicken served after 5:00 - noon Sundays ..	9.95
Fish and Chips — fillet of cod with tartar sauce	8.95
Chicken Tenders — lightly breaded	8.95
Pure Ground Beef Steak — 8 oz. cooked to perfection	8.95
Roast Sirloin of Beef — cooked fresh daily	8.95
Roast Leg of Pork — with old fashioned stuffing	9.95

ABOVE DINNERS INCLUDE
CHOICE OF OUR HOMEMADE SOUP OF THE DAY
OR A CRISP GREEN SALAD, CHOICE OF POTATO AND DINNER ROLL.

Caesar Salad	6.95
Crisp lettuce greens tossed with Caesar dressing, Parmesan cheese and garlic croutons	
Chicken Caesar Salad	8.95
Topped with a grilled breast of chicken	
Chef Salad	8.95
Fresh garden greens tossed with lean portions of turkey, smoked ham, egg and tomato slices — choice of dressing	
Garden Salad	8.95
A medley of crisp garden vegetables, tossed greens, topped with tomato and artichoke hearts — choice of dressing	
Lite-Side Plate	6.95
Lightly breaded chicken strips, cottage cheese, tomato and egg slices	
Low-Cal Plate	6.95
Marinated chicken breast, fresh fruit, low fat cottage cheese	

SIDE ORDERS

Chicken Tenders	4.95
Garlic Bread	.75
French Fries	1.75
Jo Jo Potatoes served after 5:00 p.m.	3.95
Baked Potato served after 5:00 p.m.	1.95
Homestyle Potato Salad	1.75
Pasta Salad	1.75
Four Bean Salad	1.75
Cottage Cheese	1.75
Dinner Salad	3.25
Sliced Tomatoes	3.25
Sliced Tomatoes and Cottage Cheese Salad	4.95
Soup of the Day	cup ... 2.25 bowl ... 3.25

A 15% GRATUITY WILL BE ADDED TO ALL PARTIES OVER SIX.

SANDWICHES

Club Sandwich — with chips	7.95
Bacon-Lettuce-Tomato — with chips	5.95
Sliced Smoked Turkey Breast — with chips	6.25
Pastrami and Swiss on Rye — with chips	6.25
Tuna Salad — albacore tuna - with chips	6.25
Veggie Sandwich on Hazelnut Bread — with chips	6.95

The Above Sandwiches Are Made With Mayonnaise, Lettuce And Tomato.

Barbecued Ham and Swiss — with chips	5.95
Reuben on Rye — with homestyle potato salad	6.95
Steak Sandwich — top sirloin on garlic toast with choice of fries or salad	9.95
Patty Melt on Rye — with fries	6.95
French Dip — with chips	5.95
Peanut Butter and Huckleberry Jam — with chips	4.25

ALL THE ABOVE SANDWICHES SERVED FROM 11:30 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M. ONLY

Hamburger 1/3 lb. — with chips - cheese 30¢ extra	3.95
Deluxe Hamburger — all the garnish and fries - cheese 30¢ extra	5.95
Grilled Chicken Breast on Bun — with fries	6.95
Grilled Ham and Cheese — with chips	5.95
Grilled Cheese — made with American and Swiss - with chips	4.25

HOMEMADE TEMPTATIONS

Warm Apple Pie	2.75
Topped with Cinnamon Ice Cream ..	3.95
Carrot-Walnut Cake	2.75
Cheese Cake	2.95
Topped with Huckleberries	3.95
Bear Paw Pie	3.50



BEVERAGES

Freshly Brewed Coffee	1.15
Brewed Decaffeinated	1.15
Hot Tea	1.15
Hot Apple Cider	1.15
Hot Chocolate	1.15
Iced Tea	1.15
Lemonade	1.15
Soft Drinks	1.25
Milk	1.50
Shakes	2.95
Huckleberry Shakes	3.95



*Espresso, Cappuccino,
Cafe Lattè, and Mocha*

OLD FASHIONED HARD ICE CREAM

Dish or Cone	
Single Scoop	1.25
Double Scoop	2.25
Single Scoop	
Huckleberry	1.75
Double Scoop	
Huckleberry	2.75
Ice Cream Sundaes	3.25
Huckleberry Sundae	3.95
Hot Fudge Sundae	3.95
Banana Split	5.25

Experience Glacier, for it is the "Crown Jewel of America." The 52-mile Going-to-the-Sun Road is the most popular, but there are many trails leading into the Park's remote backcountry of 48 glaciers, 650 lakes, 10,000-foot peaks, and alpine forest.

Whether you choose to walk through the majestic "Trail-of-the-Cedars," or hike to a crystal clear lake, or merely lie back and take in the fresh mountain air along a roadside creek, we want you to enjoy your memorable stay in Glacier National Park.

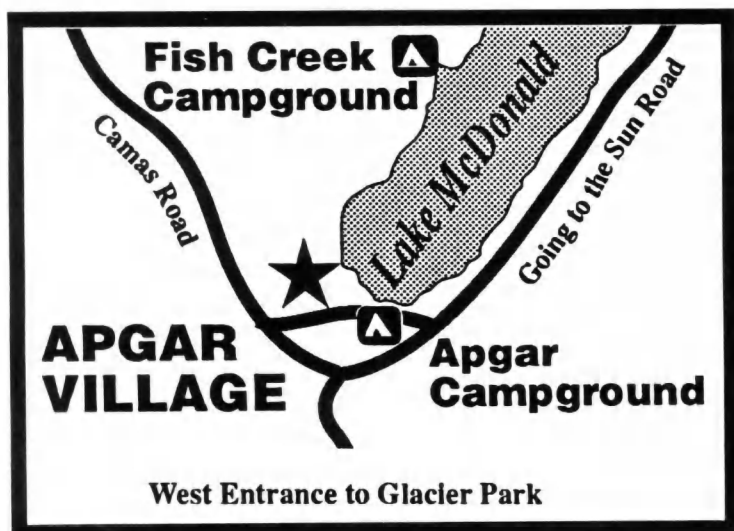
Eddie's will prepare picnic lunches for those planning on hiking, sight-seeing, and capturing on film the true natural rugged beauty of Glacier. Plan your day, order your picnic lunch, and be prepared to let nature do the entertaining.

EDDIE'S GIFT & CAMPSTORE

If you're planning a campfire cookout, don't forget the cold beer, pop and ice.

**T-shirts, Sweat Shirts, Gifts & Film
OPEN 8:00 A.M. TO 9:30 P.M.**

Apgar Village was named after Harvey Apgar, one of the first homesteaders in 1894. He was also among the first to build resort cabins.



The Brewsters

The name Brewster dates back in the history of Apgar to the beginning of Glacier Park. Horace Brewster, his wife, Clemence and son, Eddie, came to Apgar in August of 1910 - the same year as the big forest fire. Coming to Glacier from Hays, Montana, where he had been foreman of the Circle C Ranch, Horace Brewster became the first ranger in the Park under Major Logan. As a young foreman of the Circle C, Brewster gave a young (and now well known) cowboy artist his first job. The cowboy artist was Charlie Russell. Brewster and Russell became lifelong friends; first as cowhands on the Circle C and later as they became part of Apgar's history.

As a ranger, Brewster was first stationed at Fish Creek and later moved to every station on the west side of Glacier Park. The duties during these early days were rugged and treacherous. Each foot of the Park boundary was assigned to one particular man and he was responsible for the patrolling of it - winter and summer. Horace bought four saddle horses, along with his Park horse, in order to patrol his district. During the winter months, the snow depths were so great Horace used Bear Paw snowshoes and skis. Clemence Brewster tramped the trails right along with her husband. Whenever feasible, little Eddie would go along.

Eddie Brewster was raised in the North Fork area of Glacier

Park. It was there that he started school in a small tent. He continued his schooling at Apgar and later attended Columbia Falls where he was graduated from high school. In the twenties, he worked several seasons as a ranger stationed at Two Medicine and the West Entrance. He checked cars into the Park and also worked as a lookout on Apgar Mountain. Eddie also worked several years for the State Highway before starting his concession in Apgar Village.

Eddie's is a privately owned concession within Glacier National Park. The property was pur-

Charlie Russell

In the year 1908, Charles M. Russell, famed cowboy artist of the west, had his summer home built at the foot of Lake McDonald by Dimon Apgar, Sr. Russell called his cabin "Bull Head Lodge" after the buffalo skull that was his trademark. In 1916 or 1917, Charlie Russell had his studio built. This studio, with its bark door and flat rock steps, is still standing.

Charlie Russell was a familiar figure to the people of early Apgar; an outstanding figure with his cowboy hat, boots and the always present sash tied about his waist.

Aside from his artistic talent, Russell had a knack for telling fireside stories. One such story often told went something like this:

Two guides went out one morning to round up their horses and in crossing a strip of woodland, they met a belligerent moose who made it necessary for them to seek cover with no delay. One of the guides slid into a convenient hole and the other climbed a tree while the moose just waited around.

After a time, the man in the hole stuck out his head and asked: "Has he gone yet?" And the man in the tree said: "No!" After a few minutes, he raised up and again asked: "Hasn't he gone yet?"

The man in the tree replied, in not too refined language: "No! And he never will go if you keep popping out of that hole. Get back in there and keep out of sight!"

"Well," said the other fellow, "There is a bear in this hole."

Charlie Russell loved this area and spent a good portion of his later years at the lake — painting and spinning yarns with his friends.

History was made almost every day. Unfortunately, the early settlers and pioneers found little time to record it. Through the efforts of Mrs. Leona Harrington and her students at Apgar School, a short booklet of interviews with oldtimers of the area entitled "History of Apgar" was compiled. Using it as a reference, along with incidents retold by Eddie Brewster, we have prepared what we hope has been entertaining reading. We only regret that we haven't the time, space or talent to be more complete.

Lake McDonald

Fed by mountain streams, this clear blue lake with its snow-capped mountains in the background is a view that excites visitors each spring. Lake McDonald is the largest lake in the Park. It is ten miles long and approximately 450 feet deep. The lake received its name from Duncan McDonald, who while in this area in about 1878, carved his name in a tree.

The trip over Going-to-the-Sun offers many spectacular scenic wonders. After leaving the Lake McDonald area, there are no services available until you reach the eastern boundary of the Park. The fifty mile drive can take two hours, or up to the better part of a day, depending on time spent taking pictures, short hikes and scenic viewing areas. Lunch Creek is always a favorite turnout to enjoy a picnic lunch.

LET US PACK YOUR PICNIC LUNCH

Each lunch includes:

cookie
fruit
chips
and sandwich
(your choice of:
roast beef
ham
smoked turkey
pastrami
or
peanut butter and jelly)

\$6.95

Add 30¢ for
American or
Swiss Cheese



Brewster's store of 1946.