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Column: Ramblin' Round, by Virgil Johnson

Donald Smalley, a railroad man employed by the Pennsylvania Reading Seashore Lines, his wife Julie and three children, Cliff, Stevie and Neal, with Cliff being at 12 being the oldest, have just had the kind of family vacation they all enjoy, the kind they have had for the past four year, on an island on which they have been the only inhabitants, an island in Maurice river just north of Port Elizabeth.

It is one of two islands, the property of A. Gerry Moore and is a part of Sweet Meadows on the east side of the Mauricetown road. Sweet Meadows covers an area of some 200 acres, much of it meadow land owned by Mr. Moore, a skillful mechanic, who has created a home in the woods that most anybody would describe as a kind of Garden of Eden and from his brick home located on the a hill above the tide-water, the green meadows and sweet smelling wild flowers, one can see far in the distance, Acorn Island on which the Smalleys have built a Robinson Crusoe home with a large first floor room partially divided and bunks for the family in the loft.

Mr. Moore said Smalley took a liking to the island four years ago and he told him to go ahead and build himself a summer home there and spend as much time on the island as he desires. He did and now as soon as school is out, the Smalleys head for Acorn Island.

Smalley has been off on his vacation these last two weeks but they didn't go to the seashore nor to the mountains they spend all the summer weekends and many other days there also.

Mr. Smalley has a late model fiberglass, 17 foot boat which he puts in the water of Menantico Creek, off Russ Burcham's ramp and chugs off down the creek and into the river to Acorn Island. There's no other way to get to Acorn Island.

The Smalleys love it down there among the grass and the trees where the only sounds are the singing of the birds and perhaps the occasional chugging of a motor boat. They swim, water ski, fish, play and sleep, which they enjoy.

The island is about an acre in size and the cottage is 22 by 22 feet in size and every piece of lumber, nail, plumbing roofing and paint were lugged to the island by boat.

It is doubtful if there are many Millvillians who know of Acorn Island and probably even fewer who know that a Millville family vacations there every summer.