



Cape Cod Museum of Natural History

Tidings

January &
February '10

869 Route 6A, Brewster, MA 02631 Ph 508-896-3867 Fax 508-896-8844 - www.ccmnh.org E-Mail info@ccmnh.org

The mission of the Cape Cod Museum of Natural History is to inspire appreciation, understanding and stewardship of our natural environment through discovery and learning.

Alive and Well - The Clarence Hay Library

Though some libraries may be abandoning their collection of books, the CCMNH Clarence Hay Library is embracing its exquisite collection as well as incorporating the materials of the future.

In 1975, John Hay's father, a generous supporter of the CCMNH, who was then a fellow and anthropologist at the American Museum of Natural History, donated the funds for an addition to house the many books that had collected since the Museum started in 1954. These books included those written by Darwin, Muir and many other stars in the field of natural history. Since that time, hundreds of pertinent and exciting materials have been added. Picking a few out of the hundreds:

Sustaining Life: How Human Health Depends on Biodiversity by Eric Chivian and Aaron Bernstein with a foreword by E. O. Wilson. This is a fascinating presentation about the delicate balance that sustains us.

Omnivore's Dilemma by Michael Pollan. The very popular book that opens a window on the agribusinesses that control our food supply.

Planet Earth: a set of 5 DVDs that presents the story of the earth with fantastic photography.

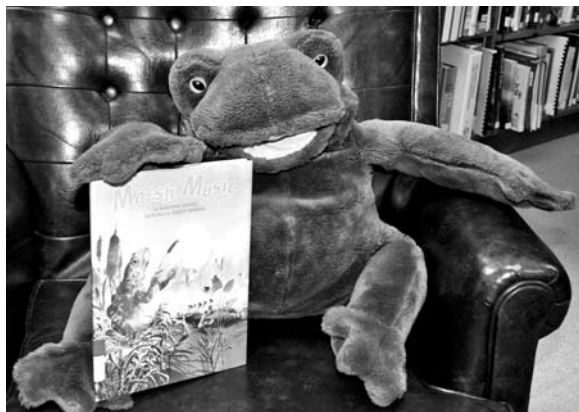
On Meadowview Street by Henry Cole. A children's story about creating a meadow.

Currently the library consists of books, DVDs, magazines, pamphlet files, and multiple natural history sites on the computer. Arranged around the room are puzzles and stuffed creatures for the children. See especially Froggie who talks with a bit of assistance.

Various books are "Featured" on a monthly basis and three book discussions are held each year. Programs for children and adults are supported with library materials as well as ***Reading with Ruby and Friends***, a story-hour for children with doggie participation, like Nelson, the black pug. (See below.)

And looking ahead - the librarians are planning a series of interviews with noted naturalists to feature their work and hear their plans for a new world. These will be available in the library and on our website.

Keep your eye on the Clarence Hay Library!



Hey, kids, a book just for us in the Clarence Hay Library!





From the President & Executive Director

Going into the New Year is a time to reflect as well as look forward. This past year we improved the aquarium with new graphics and bigger tanks for some of our residents; we finally managed to get our OspreyCam to play on all computer platforms for everyone's enjoyment; we raised the money to replace our roof through the donations of many members and a large grant from the Mary-Louise and Ruth Eddy Foundation; we're moving forward on improving the South Trails as an add-on to the Rt. 6A culvert expansion; the Bird Alley exhibit renovation is well underway thanks to a number of Friends taking down and cleaning the birds, our Facilities Management team fixing the foundation leak that has plagued us for years, and local artist Marjorie Mellor volunteering her time to create new murals and signage for the exhibit; the whale bone exhibit was completed; and there have been numerous infrastructure jobs that have made the Museum a safer and more attractive place.

While all of the above was going on, we worked on completing the American Association of Museums self-assessment program; worked with C3TV in producing a video titled "A Sense of Place"; completed the Massachusetts Cultural Council's Data Base Project, an online financial management and reporting tool to ensure we're eligible for future grants; and started the Museum's presence on both Facebook and Twitter.

But, that was then, and this is now, so we look forward. In 2010 we'll be partnering with the Thornton Burgess Society and the Cape Cod Museum of Art to develop an exhibit recognizing the 100th anniversary of the Old Mother West Wind book series. Our visitors will be treated to artistic renditions of famous characters such as Peter Rabbit, Reddy Fox, Johnny Chuck, Jimmy Skunk, Billy Mink, Grandfather Frog, Spotty the Turtle, and many others. Of special note is that the art will be the product of many talented 7th -12th graders across the Cape.

We also have some exciting news about plans that will unfold in 2011 for the front hall exhibit area and in the Marshview Room. More on that later.

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The Museum is very grateful to the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a State agency, for its support.



The Museum is handicapped accessible.

MUSEUM NEWS

Do You Know....Susan and Ray Jasinski, Our IT Team?



Susan Jasinski



Ray Jasinski

What a great two-for-one special we have in the Jasinskis! Between them, they are our IT Department, keeping our computers and all the technical things computers do for us going strong. Ray upgrades and maintains the museum's computers, electronics, and audio/visual hardware and software. Susan, a part-time office staffer, is involved in membership, mailings, database administration, and general software support. They credit Mike Page for his initial upgrade of our computer network and for his continuing role as consultant.

The Jasinskis retired to Brewster in 2001 and started volunteering at CCMNH in 2004. Susan grew up in Sharon, MA, and has a BA in Biology from Emmanuel College. Ray, a native of New Hyde Park on Long Island, has a BS in Chemistry from the University of Michigan and a PhD from Iowa State University. They have three daughters, three sons and nine grandchildren.

Susan has worked for Tyco, the University of Texas Health Science Center/Dallas, the University of California/Irvine, as a development chemist for Beckman Instruments, and in database operations at GM in Michigan.

Ray worked for Universal Oil Products, Allis Chalmers, Tyco, Texas Instruments, Occidental Petroleum and Schlumberger on various aspects of electrochemistry (batteries, fuel cells, chemical synthesis, corrosion and computer simulations).

In 1995 he transferred to the Schlumberger field operation in Aberdeen, Scotland where he was seconded to Shell Expro. There he did computer simulations of oil and water chemistries during production. With such impressive work histories, it's no surprise that the Museum's IT Department is in good hands!

Around the Museum

The Brewster Herring Count from the 2009 APCC Herring Run Monitoring Program

APCC began this year's Herring Run Monitoring Program with volunteer training in early spring. The counts continued through the summer. Using a statistical method developed by the state Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF), APCC's Senior Scientist, Dr. Jo Ann Muramoto, has analyzed the counts at Stony Brook: The size of the 2009 herring run in Stony Brook is estimated at 19,197 fish, considerably lower than 2008 and 2007 when the estimated numbers of herring were 33,384 and 30,252, respectively. Run size refers to the estimated number of herring passing a given point, in this case the mouth of Lower Mill Pond at the Stony Brook Mill. The reasons for the apparent decrease in the Stony Brook run from previous years are not known. At Stony Brook, an undersized tidal culvert under Route 6A will be replaced with two larger culverts, which should lead to restoration of 20 acres of salt marsh and improved passage for herring and American eels, a species that is also declining in numbers. Culvert construction is planned for fall 2010. APCC will continue the volunteer count in spring 2010, before the culvert is replaced.



with Todd M. Kelley,
Aquarist and Field Guide

Every morning I check the minnow trap that we have in Paine's Creek for mummichogs. Along the way I usually see fresh raccoon tracks, sometimes otter tracks and frequently kingfishers chattering away as I disturb their fishing rights from the big rock next to the creek where we set the trap. On this particular day as I walked the North Trail I heard a sound and thought maybe it was a blue jay trying to fool me. As I stepped out onto the marsh there was a juvenile red-tailed hawk on the wires along Route 6A. It sounded out its untrained *keeer* and then flew across the Museum parking lot and up to the staff parking lot. I stood and watched. As I continued out onto the marsh there was another juvenile red-tailed hawk on the wires and it sounded out as well and then flew off to the South Trail.

This is where I get my solace, because unfortunately, I also see evidence of people and their pets who demonstrate a disregard for these sensitive habitats where they are the visitors.

**2010 KidSummer
Special Registration Offer
10% off 2010 prices ends January 31, 2010!**

WK #	DATES
1	6/28-7/2
2	7/5-7/9
3	7/12-7/16
4	7/19-7/23
5	7/26-7/30
6	8/2-8/6
7	8/9-8/13
8	8/16-8/20



Call the Museum staff
at 508-896-3867



KidSummer Positions

Spend summer mornings getting paid while exploring the marshes, woodlands and beach, playing games, observing live animals and facilitating craft projects!

Instructor and Assistant positions:

Half-days, approximately 20 hrs/wk (8:30 am-12:30 pm)

Full days, approximately 35 hrs/wk (9 am-4 pm)

Qualifications:

Art & preschool instructors: certification/previous experience.

College graduates: teaching certification preferred for 3-4 yr old program

College students working toward an education degree

Experience working with young children; an interest in natural history, an ability to lead lessons and activities outdoors; be creative and have a positive attitude!!

Training: The week of June 21, 2010

Program Dates: June 28 - August 20

Pay Rate: \$10-\$15/hr

Please contact:

Barbara Knoss, KidSummer Director 508-896-3867, Ext. 133

or send resume to kidsummer@ccmnh.org

See the Museum's website at www.ccmnh.org

Faith Kirkbride Dibble

In October her family and her many friends lost Faith Dibble, the perpetrator and cheerleader for Brewster in Bloom, co-owner of The Brewster Store, wife and mother, historian and gardener. She volunteered at the Brewster Ladies' Library and the CCMNH, painting posters and planning displays. And she knew all the old stories. When asked about the old foundation at the Herring Run, she reported that those are the remains of the "Haunted House," known to all Brewster youngsters in the old days. At a Brewster history program at the BLL, her husband, Bob and she sang a duet about the gas station at the corner. "Get your gasoline at the Flying A and you'll fly right out of Brewstah." We've missed seeing her with her cup of coffee, sitting outside the Brewster store and now we'll miss her stories and her sense of humor.

Her life was a wonderful gift.

Sue Carr

Bobbie Williams Memorial

Bobbie was a lifelong educator who joined the Museum as a field guide volunteer in 1998 and who became a guiding force in the rebuilding of the CCMNH Education Department since 2004 as the Field Guide Course Coordinator. She served as Friends' President and Museum Trustee. Her energy and enthusiasm have been evident in so many aspects of the Museum's success in recent years. The Williams family has decided to honor Bobbie's memory in a most fitting way: all funds contributed by her many friends will be earmarked for a complete renovation of the Museum "camp building". With the planned improvements, the facility will become a three-season resource for school groups and KidSummer program as well as a conference and course center. Plans include structural work, shingling, window and door replacements, new lighting, counters and cabinets, furniture and teaching aids, ceiling fans, roof and floor work and painting. These improvements will make the 1965 structure an attractive and functional part of our vibrant Museum. Tax-deductible donations are still being accepted. We hope to reach our financial goal shortly to make this all happen.



CCMNH Trustee Myles Marcus presenting IFAW gifts (rulers and pencils recycled from denim) at a Masai school in Kenya during his fall trip to East Africa.



Myles with parents of school children in the Masai village he visited.

Wednesday Walks With Connie Boyce

January-February 2010

10 am-12 noon

Approximate length of walks: 3-4 miles

\$4/M - \$6/NM Van trip - \$2

January

- 6 Yarmouth Woodlands to Horse Pond, Yarmouth. Leave CCMNH 9:30 am.
13 Bridge Creek Conservation Area & Bogs, Yarmouth. Leave CCMNH 9:15 am.
20 Isabel Smith Monomoy River Conservation Lands, Harwich. Leave CCMNH 9:20 am.
27 Murkwood Conservation Area & Scorton Creek Nature Trails, Sandwich
Leave CCMNH 9:15 am. Van trip

February

- 3 Calf Field Pond Area of the Punkhorn, Brewster. Leave CCMNH 9:50 am.
10 Flax Pond to Run Pond, Dennis
Leave CCMNH 9:40 am.
17 Wellfleet Walk
Leave CCMNH 9:15 am.
24 Eagle Pond, Cotuit
Leave CCMNH 9:50 am. Van trip

Any questions? Call Connie at 508-394-2683

email: crafty02664@yahoo.com

Snow or heavy rain cancels the walk.



CCMNH volunteer Nancy Hipp checks the identity of a shorebird with volunteer Kenneth Cheek as part of the Museum's current project to complete an inventory of its mounted bird collection in preparation for renovating Bird Alley.

February School Vacation Programs

February 15-19

1 pm in the Auditorium

Free with Museum admission

Programs will include:

Beachside Comes Inside

Creature Features

Frog Fantasies

Paper Plate Pandemonium

Where the Wild Things Are:

WILD CARE wildlife emergency clinic in Eastham

Division of Marine Fisheries Public Hearing on Horseshoe Crab Fishery Management

Tuesday, January 19

6:00-9:30pm

The Future of Coastal Marshes and Sea Level Rise

with John Teal

Scientist Emeritus

Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution

Saturday, February 27 2 pm

M/\$3 NM/\$5

John Teal was one of the first people to identify the importance of salt marshes in the delicate balance of our coastal ecosystems. He co-authored the classic book *Life and Death of the Salt Marsh* in 1969 and has since gone on to be a champion for salt marsh protection and restoration.

Book Discussion in the Clarence Hay Library

Creation: An Appeal To Save Life On Earth

by E.O.Wilson

Wednesday, February 24 2 pm

Free Admission to the Museum

Dr. Wilson, the pre-eminent Harvard entomologist (bugs!), has written about the crisis for life on earth. His examples of endangered species are clear and fascinating. His wisdom is unparalleled.

Join us for the discussion led by Marcia Dalton, professor at Cape Cod Community College.

Creation is available in the Clarence Hay Library, CLAMS and the Brewster Bookstore.

The Indians Who Lived in the Woods

with Dr. Fred Dunford

Thursdays February 4, 11, 18, 25

10-11:30 am

M/\$40 NM/\$50

Each session: M/\$12, NM/\$15

During the past twenty years, Museum volunteers under the direction of archaeologist Fred Dunford have brought to light discoveries which show that for almost 10,000 years Native Americans, Cape Cod's first people, made their homes and sought their living in the richly wooded, watery corridor which winds through the Herring River and Stony Brook Valley of Brewster and Harwich. Now, in this new class discover the fate and fortunes of those native people who lived along the banks of the two "Herring Rivers" when the first of the English began to settle at "Saquatucket" in the middle of the 17th century. Dr. Dunford will use a combination of recent archeological discoveries, important primary source documents and colorful 19th and early 20th century narratives to bring us back to the lives of *The Indians Who Lived in the Woods*.

2008 and 2009 CCMNH Donations in Memory and in Honor of...

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The Cape Cod Museum of Natural History is most grateful for the many donations that have been given in memory or in honor of individuals who have contributed so much to the growth of the Museum and to the preservation of our special environment.

This list reflects contributions from October 2, 2008 to November 30, 2009. If there are any omissions or errors, we apologize and trust that they will be brought to our attention.



JANUARY 2010



Closed to the public for the month of **January**.
Open for scheduled events.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 This spring look for our renovated Bird Alley with a spectacular habitat mural highlighting our Cape Cod birds - resident, migrant and vagrant visitors.					1	2
3	4	5	6 9:30 am Wed Walk	7 3:30pm Energy Summary Planning Mtg.	8 9am Nauset Garden Club Workshop	9
10	11 7:30 pm Cape Cod Bird Club	12 1 pm Friends Meeting & 1:30 pm Speaker Bob Dwyer	13 9:15 am Wed Walk	14	15	16
17	18	19 10:30 am-12:30 pm Alzheimer Training Program 6-9:30 pm Public Hrg Horseshoe Crabs	20 9:20 am Wed Walk	21	22	23
24	25	26	27 9:15 am Wed Walk	28	29	30
31						



FEBRUARY 2010

Open to the public **Thursday-Sunday**
11 am-3 pm
and for scheduled events.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 Sustaining Life by Eric Chivian and Aaron Bernstein in the Clarence Hay Library	1	2	3 9:50 am Wed Walk	4 10-11:30 am The Indians Who Lived in the Woods Dr. Fred Dunford	5	6
7	8 7:30 pm Cape Cod Bird Club	9 3 pm Friends Meeting	10 9:40 am Wed Walk	11 10-11:30 am The Indians Who Lived in the Woods Dr. Fred Dunford	12	13
14	15	16-17 School Vacation Programs daily at 1 pm		18 10-11:30 am The Indians Who Lived in the Woods Dr. Fred Dunford	19	20
21	22	23 10:30 am-12:30 pm Alzheimer Training Program	24 9:50 am Wed Walk 2 pm Book Discussion Creation	25 10-11:30 am The Indians Who Lived in the Woods Dr. Fred Dunford	26	27 2 pm Future of Coastal Marshes with John Teal
28					 In the Aquarium - Our baby Diamondback Terrapins on a Head-Start Program for release next spring.	



= Special Sightings

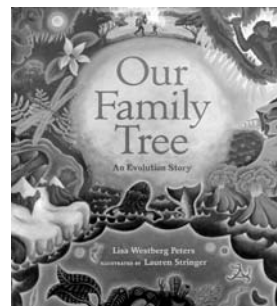
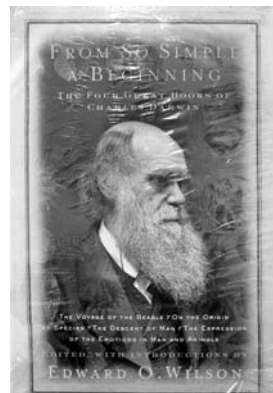
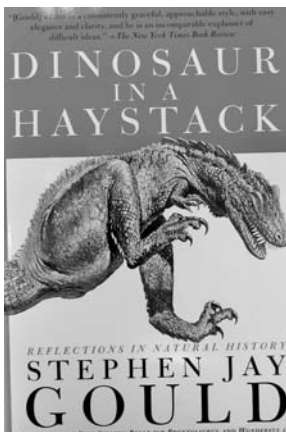


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Let the winter land and seascapes of Cape Cod be your inspiration to stop by the Museum Gift Shop and select that special book you have always wanted to read from our superb collection on regional natural history. Here are three suggestions that will surely capture your interest!



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