



# Cape Cod Museum of Natural History

# Tidings

May &  
June '10

869 Route 6A, Brewster, MA 02631 Ph 508-896-3867 Fax 508-896-8844 - [www.ccmnh.org](http://www.ccmnh.org) E-Mail [info@ccmnh.org](mailto: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.*

## Thornton Burgess' *Old Mother West Wind* Blows into the Museum!

### "Tell Me a Story"

If you were born 65 or more years ago, there's a fair chance that you heard *Old Mother West Wind* stories when you went to bed. Peter Rabbit, Reddy Fox and Jimmy Skunk were as familiar to you as Kermit the Frog or Big Bird are to the youngsters of today.

Thornton Burgess grew up in Sandwich on Cape Cod and spent his boyhood in the woods, fields and marshes, learning about the animals and birds that lived there. When he had his own son, undoubtedly the boy said to his father, "Tell me a story." So Thornton, drawing on what he had learned as a boy, made up stories which soon turned into a book, *Old Mother West Wind* (1910). One hundred and sixty-nine books and thousands of short stories were to follow.

His good friend, Harrison Cady, illustrated most of the books, adding color and dimension to the tales.

In conjunction with the Thornton Burgess Society of Sandwich and the Cape Cod Museum of Art, the Cape Cod Museum of Natural History will present a display of Burgess' and Cady's work, entitled: "Tell Me a Story:" Celebrating 100 Years of *Old Mother West Wind*. The exhibit at the Museum will include a display case featuring "Peter Rabbit Calls a Meeting," and cases highlighting information about Burgess, drawings by Harrison Cady and the toys and gifts produced by Quaddy Playthings.

Programs and story-telling events have been planned in celebration of this exhibit which will continue through December.



## Mounted Birds "Land" in Their Special Habitats in the Renovated Bird Alley



This Osprey perches in the new habitat of Bird Alley.



Volunteer Charles Firnhaber applies his expertise to positioning the shorebird display in the dynamic setting of Bird Alley.

*Introducing  
our new summer program  
KidSummer Art  
7/12-8/6  
Mondays-Fridays  
9 am-noon Ages 13-18  
12:30-3 pm Ages 8-12  
\$170/M \$195/NM \$25 Materials Fee*

Discover nature using pencil & paintbrush. Guided by a certified art teacher, students will explore the spectacular vistas, plants and animals of the Museum.  
*Class size limited to ten.*

**Register by calling 508-896-3867**



## From the President & Executive Director

The weather is milder, the sun is out, and the Museum is getting ready for the spring and summer visitors. There has been an incredible amount of work going on behind

the scenes and I'd like to express my appreciation to a deep-behind-the-scenes activity by our collections and archaeology crew that has been diligently underway for the past six months. Most of our volunteers have the satisfaction of knowing what they worked on can be seen, if not always actually noticed, by the visitors. The collections rest in a room few folks ever get to see and unfortunately our volunteers seldom have the chance to show off their hard work.

The collections effort has included creating an overall comprehensive Collections Policy Plan and the process of reviewing and selecting a software program that could be used to document our holdings. Over the next few months decisions will be made on how to best "chunk" specific collections and prepare them to be logged into PastPerfect, a digital collection management software tool. This represents the first real effort by the Museum to comply with the American Association of Museums best practice standards.

Special thanks to Kate Modzelwski who field tested PastPerfect for ease of integration, usability, and consistency. We have a range of types of objects and mediums, and Kate needed to analyze if the software could accommodate the diverse collection and whether other institutions have successfully incorporated it into their organizations. She found many local historical societies and museums use the program and rely heavily on its many functions. CCMNH will be investing in the program and will start the time-intensive process of incorporating it into our collections management needs. Our thanks to everyone involved in all aspects of the collections.



## Around the Museum with Todd M. Kelley Aquarist and Field Guide

It is said, that in the Algonquin language "Terrapin" means delicious. And that the people lived with respect for the land and water. Yet because of our appetite for food and the shoreline this native turtle has been endangered. So through our Head Start Program we get to be stewards of five baby terrapins. And they need to eat too! More to come.

## Staff

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Robert Dwyer, Ext. 113  
*Volunteer Director*  
Barbara Knoss, Ext. 119  
*Office Manager*  
Julie O'Neil, Ext. 129  
*Gift Store Manager*  
Donna Durkee, Ext. 122  
*Administrative Associates*  
Joan Hood, Ext. 133  
Claire Tyner, Ext. 133  
Susan Jasinski, Ext. 133  
*Senior Aquarist*  
Doug Smith, Ext. 136  
*Aquarists*  
Jim Dudac  
Todd Kelley  
*Maintenance Supervisor*  
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Norman Gallagher  
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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



**Friends and volunteers packed the Museum March 29 for a farewell gathering in honor of Pam Fearn, seen here with her husband, Robbie, as they listened to the many fond remembrances of colleagues over her four extraordinary years in charge of our volunteers.**

### **Looking for Volunteers (ages 14-114) in June, July & August**

If you want to help the Museum but don't want a long-term commitment, now is your time to join the family. Who knows, you may love it so much you'll want to stay!

*Gift Shop:* Mondays 9:15 am-12:45 pm or 12:45-4 pm

*Greeters:* 1 shift per week. 9:30 am-12:45 pm or 12:45-4 pm. Seating can be arranged so you will not be standing for 3 hours.

One shift per week (am or pm). Training provided.  
*Front Desk Volunteers, Aquarium Volunteers, Museum Docents, Museum Library, Telephone Help*

There is an application and interview process. Please call Barbara Knoss, Volunteer Director 508-896-3867, Ext.119  
I'm looking forward to your call!



### **Plant Sale (under the tent)**

**Thursday, June 3 & Friday, June 4  
10 am-4 pm**

Plants for every occasion and location!  
Featuring Dot's Plant Cart

Volunteers are needed!  
Please call 508-896-3867, Ext. 122  
if you are interested in joining our group.

## The Friends Corner

What are the Friends? The Friends of CCMNH is an organization that exists to offer support to the Museum. Whether it's volunteering time or talent for a Museum or a Friends project, the Museum benefits.

By becoming a member of the Friends you will find opportunities to interact with interesting people who share a common interest in the natural world. You can choose your own level of involvement, participating as little or as much as you want.

The Friends have a brief monthly meeting followed by a guest speaker. Refreshments are provided and several of the meetings include pot luck lunches.

We do some limited fundraising for the Museum by charging membership dues, having a fee for non-member attendance at our speaker programs, supporting an annual plant sale and flea market along with a raffle. All proceeds are donated to the Museum annually.

We invite you to become a Friend. You and the Museum will be glad that you did. Single membership is \$15 or \$25 per couple for each calendar year. Checks can be mailed to: *Friends of CCMNH, 869 Route 6A, Brewster, MA 02631*

### Programs:

Tuesday, May 11 1 pm Friends Meeting & Refreshments  
1:30 pm Speaker: David Simser  
*What's Bugging You?*  
Tuesday, June 8 1 pm Friends Meeting & Refreshments  
1:30 pm Speaker: Wes Emmart  
*A preview of the major renovation & exhibit display on the 1st floor main corridor*

### **Museum Book Sale Saturday, June 5 9 am-1 pm**



In the March/April *Tidings* we asked you to set aside some books for the BOOK SALE.

In this issue, we are asking that you take them to the Museum during the week before the sale, May 26 through June 2, and leave them in the small classroom. Books, DVDs, and CDs are all gratefully received. This sale is not limited to natural history items.

*PLEASE...no out-of-date textbooks, condensed books or moldy books.*

See you at the Sale on JUNE 5TH!  
We promise you will find  
SPECIAL TREASURES!

## MUSEUM NEWS



### Meet our new Volunteer Director, Barbara Knoss

You have met Barbara in our November-December Tidings as our 2010 KidSummer Director. Barbara is now also our full-time Volunteer Director.

"I am walking into an amazingly well-run situation and am very impressed with the 'legacy' of Pam Fearn. I want to keep it going."

Barbara is looking forward to improving the Museum experience for our younger visitors, given her educational background and huge interest in this area.

"There is always something new and exciting at the Museum. I like the opportunity of having the Thornton Burgess exhibit here with school vacations and KidSummer coming up.

"I would like to add a group of volunteers for hands-on projects and find opportunities so students can join us. There are many possibilities for volunteers ... a couple of months, once a week or special projects. I'd like to give everyone a platform to help us out and take us to the next level. We can always use another hand."

Welcome aboard, Barbara!

### Elizabeth Taylor - Bringing Bird Alley to Life



It was CCMNH that drew Elizabeth Taylor from her home in Falmouth to a new home in Brewster about 1988. She was a full time volunteer working in collections and exhibits at the Museum, including Bird Alley, and the commute from Falmouth was just too long! This year, when we knew our birds needed help, we called on Elizabeth

once again and she rose to the occasion. After other volunteers had cleaned the birds, Elizabeth took over to do repairs and to correct the color on beaks, legs and feet, replacing eyes and more. "Many of these bird mounts are very old and have been worked over by various insects, leaving feathers loose or missing. Legs and feet look moth eaten - sort of like swiss cheese," said Elizabeth of her current project.

Elizabeth is no stranger to critters. She says her rescue farm in Brewster has "five sheep, one kindergoat, four geese and two ducks, plus assorted chickens and roosters. On the inside there are lots of cats, two dogs and four parrots. Needless to say - it is seldom quiet at home."

After growing up in Chappaqua, New York, Elizabeth graduated from Case Western Reserve University and had a short stint at Cleveland State School of Law. Her grandfather and mother, both botanists, had MBL- Woods Hole affiliations.

Elizabeth has contributed enormously to Cape Cod, the town of Brewster and to CCMNH which has benefitted from her skills and dedication. We feel very lucky that she has the time and energy to take on Bird Alley once again!

### Do you know...Connie Boyce?



"As a kid I was the quintessential 'Wild Child.' I spent every minute I could roaming the fields, woods, and pond edges of my neighborhood. I knew where the best berries were, hillsides full of lady slippers, and I watched many a black snake hunt in our back field," says Connie Boyce.

Connie prides herself on being as close as you can come to being a true Cape Codder - she was born in Wareham and grew up in Monument Beach in Bourne, went through the Bourne school system and then to Cape Cod Community College. A few years later she and her husband Manley moved to South Yarmouth where they brought up their three sons and where they still live.

"I first found the Museum when I started walking with Lee Baldwin on Wednesdays in the early nineties. From there I took the field guide course and I guess the rest is history. When Lee became ill I started to do the Wednesday walks and have been leading walks ever since," she says. She also regularly works in the Museum Gift Shop.

Outside her Museum life, Connie enjoys reading, gardening, taking her dog Molly on long walks, and spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren Morgan and Parker.

If you haven't already done so, we hope you'll soon be one with whom Connie shares her love of the wilds during her weekly walks around Cape Cod.

### Museum Bee News



The Museum Bee Team is already busy training for the up-coming season. After the scheduled three sessions of classroom training, we will continue with hands-on training at the outdoor hives off the South parking lot.

All the three outdoor hives survived the winter. I am convinced that is due to the skill of our volunteers, not luck!!! In April, we started feeding the bees with sugar syrup to get them strong and healthy when the nectar flow comes in late May.

For June, July and August we are planning again to have weekly hive openings for visitors on Tuesdays and Thursdays at noon. Visitors will be able to see how we keep bees and the inner workings of a bee hive, including the larvae, the workers, the drones and maybe the queen!

For this year we are discussing the possibility of adding openings over some weekends.

**George Muhlebach**

## PROGRAMS

### Wednesday Walks With Connie Boyce

*May-June 2010*

*10 am-12 noon*

Approximate length of walks: 3-4 miles

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

#### MAY

- 5 Morris Island, Chatham. Leave CCMNH 9:20 am.
- 12 Bourne Four Ponds, Pocasset. Leave CCMNH 9:00 am.  
Van trip.
- 19 Spruce Hill to Namsket Creek, Brewster.  
Leave CCMNH 9:50 am.
- 26 Green Brier Nature Trail, Sandwich.  
Leave CCMNH 9:15 am. Van trip.

#### JUNE

- 2 Mashpee River, Mashpee. Leave CCMNH 9:00 am.  
Van trip.
- 9 Flax Pond to Run Pond, Dennis. Leave CCMNH 9:40 am.
- 16 Annual End of Season walk and picnic.  
Time/Destination to be announced.

*Any questions? Call Connie at 508-394-2683*

*email: crafty02664@yahoo.com*

*Heavy rain cancels the walk.*



Discover Cape Cod on Wednesday Walks with Connie Boyce as these hikers are doing on a spring walk in the Punkhorn. Photograph by Lynn Bruneau

### 14th Annual Cape Cod Maritime History Symposium

**Saturday, May 22**

**8:30 am-2 pm**

**\$20** per person includes lunch and four programs

**Pre-register with the Museum staff at 508-896-3867.**

**9 am Carlo D'Este Author/Historian**

***Warlord: A Life of Winston Churchill at War (1874-1945)***

**10 am Adam Gamble Author/Publisher**

***The 1858 Map of Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard & Nantucket***

**11 am Lunch**

**12 noon Linda Coombs Historian**

***Respect for Water, Respect for Life: A Wampanoag Way of Being With Our First Relative***

**1 pm Richard Ryder Author/Historian**

***Guardian Outposts - A History of Cape Cod Life Saving Stations***

The Museum and its grounds will be open to participants free of charge following the Symposium.

**Peter Budryk**

***The Innermost Waters:***

***Fishing Cape Cod Ponds & Lakes***

**Lecture and Booksigning**

**Tuesday, May 11 7:30 pm**

**\$3/M \$5/NM**

Few residents and even fewer visitors are aware that the fishing in Cape Cod ponds and lakes is arguably the best in the entire Northeast.

In 2007, Peter Budryk's second book, *The Innermost Waters: Fishing Cape Cod Ponds & Lakes*, was judged the #1 Best Book, All Outdoor Categories, New England-Wide, by the New England Outdoor Writers Association (NEOWA).

The author has earned degrees from Boston College, Harvard University, and Southern Connecticut State University. He founded and directed the Great Hollow Wilderness School.

Mr. Budryk is a resident of Orleans and Cambridge, MA. His family have been Museum members for many years. His wife, Elinor, has served as a Museum volunteer.

### Alzheimer Project

***Nature and Conversation***

**Tuesday, May 18 and Tuesday, June 15**

**10:30 am-12 noon**

Docents Earl Beardsley, Bill Fuqua, Gayle Kenerson, Pam Pike, Sam Rocray, Fuzzy Rogovin and Kathy Sherman will lead the conversation on items of natural history.

### Nature Photography for Digital Photographers with Stan Godwin

**Mondays April 26-June 7 (no class May 31)**

**9 am-11 am**

Sponsored by the Cape Cod Art Association (CCAA),

Stan Godwin Photography Workshops

and the Cape Cod Museum of Natural History (CCMNH)

**Register with the Cape Cod Art Association**

**3480 Main Street, Barnstable, MA 02630**

**(508) 362-2909 [www.capecodartassoc.org](http://www.capecodartassoc.org)**

**\$100 CCAA Members and CCMNH Members**

**\$125 Non-Members**

An introduction to the technique of fine nature photography using digital capture. Students with basic digital camera knowledge and/or students from any of Stan's previous classes or workshops are welcome. The complete schedule allows for two off-site field trips!

This will be a shooting class. We will discuss the techniques and aesthetics of shooting in nature as well as archiving and printing your images on your home computer. Images may also be printed at a local camera store.

## PROGRAMS

### Mudflat Mania 2010 TRAINING SESSIONS

#### Auditorium/Class Sessions

Thursday, June 3, 2010  
9 am-12 noon

Thursday, June 10, 2010  
9 am-12 noon

#### Outdoor Sessions

(Participants must attend  
at least one)

Thursday, June 17, 2010  
9-11:30 am

Monday, June 21, 2010  
1-3:30 pm



Heading out to the flats  
Photograph/Sue Carr

### Orleans Camera presents

**Canon Discovery Day at the Museum**  
Wednesday June 30, 2010 4:30-7:30 pm  
Cost \$49, includes all class materials

#### Sign up at Orleans Camera locations

**Skaket Corners Shopping Center**  
9 West Rd. Orleans, MA. 02653  
508-240-1300

**Patriot Square Shopping Center**  
500 Rte. 134 S. Dennis, MA. 02660  
508-394-5800

also, online at  
[www.orleanscamera.com](http://www.orleanscamera.com)

### Friends Flea Market Saturday, May 1 9 am-3 pm

*Antiques-Household Items-White Elephants-Tools*  
Find your special treasures  
and support the Museum  
at the same time!



*You are not seeing  
double!  
The Museum's  
Blue Crab settles  
above his molt  
in this  
special moment  
photographed by  
Bob Smith*

**Artifacts ID Day with Dr. Fred Dunford**  
**Saturday, June 12**  
**11 am-2 pm**  
*Free with Museum admission*  
*Donations appreciated*

*Artifacts  
should be of historical significance,  
e.g. fossils, pottery shards, rocks, arrowheads.*

**Beginning June 3**  
**Barbara's Pre-School Story Hour**  
**Every Thursday**

**10 am-11 am**

**in the Clarence Hay Library**

Join the fun telling stories  
and reading about the animals around us!

### Greg Skomal Biologist

State Division of Marine Fisheries  
**Great White Shark Tagging**

Wednesday, June 23  
7:30 pm

\$3/Member \$5/Non-Member

Register with the Museum at 508-896-3867

An exciting presentation on pop-up satellite transmitting tags placed on Great White Sharks off Chatham last summer and what the scientific community is learning about the travels and behavior of this ancient and mythic animal. Cape Cod's growing seal population points to continued and greater sightings of the Great White.

**Cape Cod Bird Club**  
**May 10 7:30 pm**  
**Free to the public**  
*Last meeting of the year!*

### Scott Hecker

**Executive Director of the Goldenrod Foundation**  
(The Goldenrod Foundation conserves and protects coastal habitat and coastal shorebirds in Southeastern Massachusetts)



### **The Piping Plover as an Umbrella Species for the Barrier Beach Ecosystem**

This presentation will describe how Piping Plover conservation has played a major role in the overall conservation of the barrier beach ecosystem, including other species of birds, animals and plants.



# MAY 2010

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

| Sunday | Monday   | Tuesday   | Wednesday              | Thursday   | Friday   | Saturday  |
|--------|--|---|------------------------|--|--|---|
|        |  <b>Osprey family: Keep your eyes on the OspreyCam! So much to observe...the chicks are growing each day.</b><br><b>Book in the Library: A YEAR ON THE WING: FOUR SEASONS IN A LIFE WITH BIRDS by Tim Dee</b> |   |                        |  |  | 1<br>9 am-3 pm Friends Flea Market<br>9 am Field Guide Training |
| 2      | 3<br>9-11 am Stan Godwin's Photography Class   | 4   | 5<br>9:20 am Wed Walk  | 6  | 7  | 8   |
| 9      | 10<br>9-11 am Stan Godwin's Photography Class<br>7:30 pm Cape Cod Bird Club  | 11<br>1 pm Friends Mtg Dave Simser<br>1:30 Innermost Waters with Peter Budryk | 12<br>9 am Wed Walk    | 13<br> | 14<br>Have you seen your favorite bird in Bird Alley? How many of these birds have you actually seen here on Cape Cod? | 15  |
| 16     | 17<br>9-11 am Stan Godwin's Photography Class  | 18<br>10:30 am Alzheimer Project  | 19<br>9:50 am Wed Walk | 20   | 21   | 22<br>8:30 am-2 pm Cape Cod Maritime History Symposium          |
| 23     | 24<br>9-11 am Stan Godwin's Photography Class<br>4-6 pm Volunteer Ckout  | 25  | 26<br>9:15 am Wed Walk | 27   | 28   | 29  |
| 30     | 31   |   |                        |  |  |   |



# JUNE 2010

Open to the public  
**Every Day**  
**9:30 am-4 pm**  
and for scheduled events.

| Sunday  | Monday                                       | Tuesday   | Wednesday   | Thursday  | Friday                | Saturday  |
|---|--|---|---|---|-----------------------|---|
|  <b>Have you looked at the Osprey family lately? Any unusual activities?</b> |  | 1<br>12 noon Beehive  | 2<br>9 am Wed Walk                                  | 3<br>10 am Plant Sale<br>9 am Mud. Mania Tr.<br>10 am Story Hour<br>12 noon Beehive   | 4<br>10 am Plant Sale | 5<br>9 am-1 pm Book Sale                        |
| 6   | 7<br>9-11 am Stan Godwin's Photography Class | 8<br>12 noon Beehive<br>1 pm Friends Mtg<br>1:30 Wes Emmart | 9<br>9:40 am Wed Walk                               | 10<br>9 am Mud. Mania Tr.<br>10 am Story Hour<br>12 noon Beehive  | 11                    | 12<br>11 am-2 pm Artifacts ID with Fred Dunford |
| 13  | 14   | 15<br>10:30 am Alzheimer Project<br>12 noon Beehive         | 16<br>TBA Wed Walk (last of the season)             | 17<br>9 am Mud. Mania Tr.<br>10 am Story Hour<br>12 noon Beehive  | 18                    | 19  |
| 20  | 21<br>1 pm Mud. Mania Tr.                    | 22<br>12 noon Beehive                                       | 23<br>7:30 pm Greg Skomal Great White Shark Tagging | 24<br>10 am Story Hour<br>12 noon Beehive   | 25                    | 26  |
| 27  | 28<br>KIDSUMMER Begins!                      | 29<br>12 noon Beehive                                       | 30<br>4:30-7:30 pm Canon Discovery Day              |  <b>DVD in the Library: FROGS: THE THIN GREEN LINE produced by Allison Argo</b> |                       |   |



= Special Sightings



Cape Cod Museum of Natural History  
869 Route 6A  
Brewster, MA 02631

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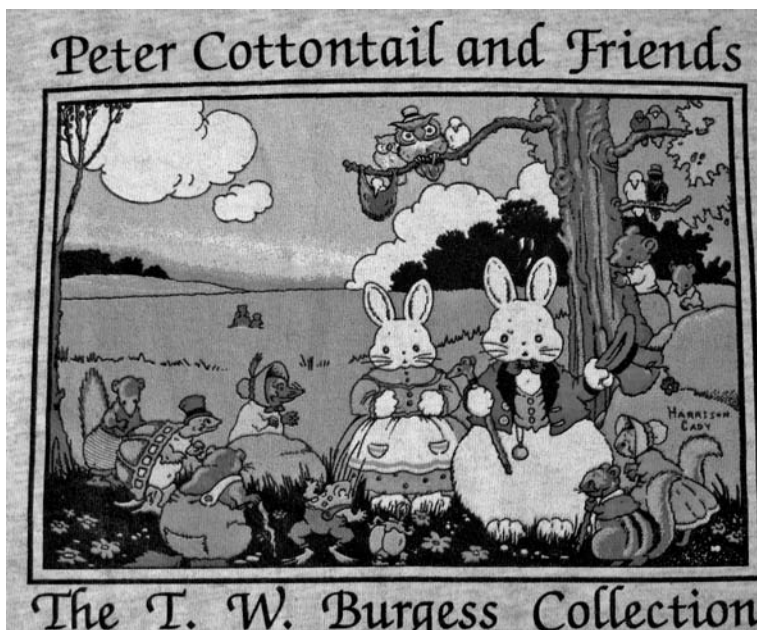
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***They're here...in the Gift Shop!  
Hop over and find your nature friends!***

***Throws!***

***Tee  
Shirts!***

***Books!***



***Mugs!***

***Toy  
Animals!***

***Magnets!***

**Become a member!  
Join us  
for a continuing  
journey  
of exploration  
at your  
Cape Cod Museum  
of Natural History.**

**For information  
about membership  
call the Museum at  
508-896-3867.**

**Check our website  
[www.ccmnh.org](http://www.ccmnh.org)  
for  
on-going programs.**