"Think we'll catch some fish today?" asked the youngster as he watched the Manomet shoreline fade over his dad's shoulder. "Dunno, son, depends on what the tide does, just keep a watch out for the birds." The elder strained at the oars as he pulled the 14' skiff a third mile from shore. It was a summer ritual for these two, a 10 year old and his rangey dad, setting out with drop lines and a quart of frozen clam bellies, two rods with mackerel jigs and a bunch of food. There was a smile that went with the line about watching the birds. Dad knew fishing was a secondary activity for this kid, bemused at his son's fascination for the birds that lived out here away from land. "Dad! Look! Here comes one!" said the youngster, straining the last word as he reached out over the rail towards the incoming storm petrel. "And here's two more" cheered dad, egging on the 10 year old. For half an hour, they watched, shared, twisted in their seats, never baiting a hook, yet going through most of the clam bellies. There the two of them sat, in a rowing skiff, three miles from shore, in a cloud of petrels.

MEETINGS:
March 14, 7:45 PM Cape Cod Museum of Natural History A Shorebird Identification Workshop. Peter Trull will teach a workshop describing the habits and field identification of 25 species of our most commonly encountered shorebirds. Preferred habitats and seasonal occurrence will be discussed. Handouts and photographic slides will be used. So bring a notebook and your field guide, I think this will prove to be an informative session.

April 11, 7:45 PM Cape Cod Museum of Natural History We are very pleased to present Donald and Lillian Stokes, authors of the Stokes' Nature Guides of which we are very familiar. Donald and Lillian will present a program entitled "Breeding Behavior of Hawks and Owls." Bring a friend to this meeting as I'm sure these Naturalists from Carlisle Mass will present one of our best meetings ever!

WALKS:
Wednesday, March 2- Falmouth- 9 A.M. Meet behind the town hall in the center of Falmouth. Mary Ropes. 548-6068.


Monday, March 14- Eastham- 9 A.M. Meet at the lower parking lot of Fort Hill. Art King. 255-8919.

Thursday, March 17- Yarmouthport- 9 A.M. Meet at the playground at the intersection of Rt. 6a and Union St. Charlotte Smith. 362-6891


Saturday, March 26- Hyannis- 8 A.M. Meet at Burgur King: Rt. 6 Exit 6. Sally Clifton. 775-4693. NOTE: This walk in the Mid-Cape is to get acquainted with various habitats. BEGINNERS WELCOMED.

Saturday, April 2- Chatham- Meet at Monomoy Refuge headquarters in the parking lot on Morris Island, Chatham. Peter Trull. 945-2153.

Wednesday, April 6- Falmouth- 9 A.M. Meet behind town hall in the center of Falmouth. Mary Ropes. 548-6086.

Saturday, April 9- Sandwich- 8 A.M. Meet at Sandy Neck parking lot. Bob Scott. 362-4866.
Monday, April 11- Eastham- 9 A.M. Meet at the lower parking lot of Fort Hill. Art King...255-8919.

Tuesday, April 12- Wellfleet- 9 A.M. Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary. Bob Prescott...349-2615.

Saturday, April 16- Westport Ct.- Meet at Burgur King 7:30 A.M. This is the Burgur King on Rt. 132- take route 6, Exit 6. All day long, off-Cape trip to look for ospreys. Bring a lunch. Dick Comeau...432-9033.

Thursday, April 21- Yarmouthport- 9 A.M. Meet at the playground at the intersection of Rt. 6a and Union St. Charlotte Smith 362-6891.


Saturday, April 30- South Shore- All day, off-Cape trip, looking for early migrants. Meet at Burgur King, Rt. 6, Exit 6 on Rt. 132. 7:30 A.M. Dick Comeau 432-9033.

Well, Birdbox day turned out to be great! It was only limited by my inability to know how much wood to buy. We used up all we had in record time, close to 20 of you showed up to help and when we were finished we had 20 bluebird boxes and 3 super screech owl nest boxes. It was great because although ther wasn't enough room for 20 people to work at once, everybody chipped in at one thing or another. It was a good opportunity for folks to chit-chat about this or that. Many thanks to all of you who helped or brought wood and thanks especially to Bob Prescott for allowing us to work in the shop at the sanctuary.

Also we should thank Miss Ruth Mayo of North Eastham for putting together a current membership list. — No small task. And appreciation to Sue Thompson for donating our stamp for publications in the museum library, "DONATED by the CAPE COD BIRD CLUB. (Now go and use it Peter.)"

Well then, the back of winter is broken, just listen to the Cardinals and Tufted Titmouse singing. We've got lots of walks scheduled so get out and enjoy our avian delights. And don't forget to listen to W-PCC 107 FM each morning at 8:45 See you next time ---- Good Birding.

Whoops - my thanks go out to Lee Roscoe for typing a part of this newsletter at a time that I had too many things to type.