



The Bourne Conservation Trust

NEWSLETTER Number 11

Spring 1990

Oh, If I'd Only Had a 3.1 Zoom 3MM
Handy Cam With 3 Lux and High
Speed Shutter.



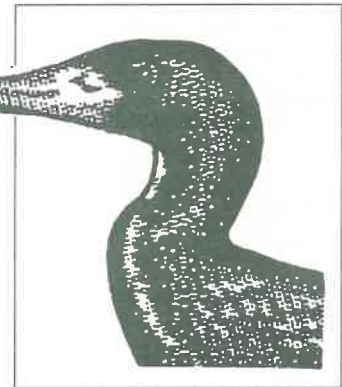
In the fall, as the temperature drops and the days shorten, change comes over Red Brook Pond. Turtles and frogs, sleeping out the cold embedded in mud for the winter, are not conscious of the changes on the Pond's surface; but the swans, mallards and great blue herons find themselves sharing the Pond with winter visitors — buffleheads, mergansers, almost anyone who drops in. Here, for those who winter off-Cape, are 'pictures' of the Pond during this yo-yo of a winter when ice fishermen and skaters came and went as the Pond froze and thawed in temperatures as unpredictable as a Buzzards Bay breeze. And the snow! Snow too— light and dry, heavy and wet, predicted and unexpected— came and went, at least once to the accompaniment of distant thunder. The temperature rode a roller coaster, decoying the gullible. During a mid-February warm snap, misled skunk cabbages sent up shoots in the marshes. A week later while frigid rhododendrons curled their leaves into green enchiladas, hasty robins pecked hungrily at the scarlet seed pods of staghorn sumacs.

Then the vernal equinox hit the Cape like a wet towel, ushering in a see-saw spring with gale-force winds, horizontal rain and close-by thunder, thunder of the dish-rattling sort.

On the Pond, then, it was a normally chaotic winter followed by a typically turbulent spring. And what great photo-ops!

Picture these:

-----Near the center of the Pond a low-riding black bird plows the icy February water like a tugboat. He keeps shaking his outside bill, wagging his head, craning his neck and aiming that bill at the sky while he swims in circles. He turns out to be, not an exotic, off-course visitor, but the 'resident' cormorant who flies over from the Bay to bathe and fish. As a bather he's a noisy exhibitionist, and he's a serious fisherman. But on this visit he let himself get too greedy. That immense 'bill' turns out to be a half-swallowed yellow perch that he can't choke down and certainly won't give up. He keeps up that brisk round-and-round, craning-wagging routine for a half hour all the while waving the perch's tail at the heavens before attempting one of those hair-raising, interminable cormorant take-offs and skimming off to the west just a foot off the water.





-----A sudden December snow squall dusts the Pond's gray ice with fine white powder that reflects the midday sun with eye-zapping brilliance. Waddling across this field of hyper white,

the swans look sullied and awkward, quite outclassed for the moment by a strutting crow dressed in eye-grabbing opalescent black.

-----In the late afternoon sun, the Pond glints like an infestation of fireflies. On adjacent tines of an oak branch that crashed and embedded itself in



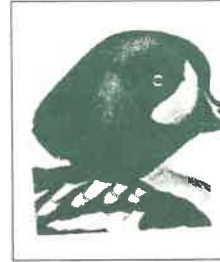
the pond during a winter ice storm, two kingfishers face one another. They are peering down, trying to espy dinner under the sparkling water. At the same moment they spot the same minnow and dive headlong from their perches. Just inches above the water, when they are about to side-swipe one another, they veer off and trace long, graceful arcs— one north, one south.



-----In the windless January dawn a thin curtain of mist drifts southwest across the hushed Pond

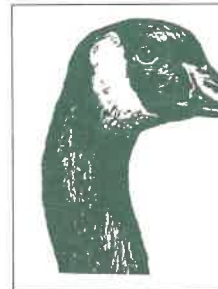
almost obscuring a hungry merganser, his pointed, serrated bill and bright orange eyes thrust down under the water. He's looking for breakfast.

-----Just off the south shore peninsula on a gusty February day four buffleheads—



two males, two females— are hove to. These roly-poly black and white diving ducks provide the comic relief on the Pond and delight in acrobatic take-offs. Suddenly

one of the males dives and disappears beneath the whitecaps, and immediately the other three leap into the air and head north. A second later, the abandoned male— wings already flapping— bursts from under the water like he's been fired from a submarine cannon and begins a spirited pursuit.



-----Early on a raw March morning the crisp air over the Pond is rattled by the raucous yelping of rusty hinges, then the sky disgorges Canada geese like a tour bus

at a rest stop. In a matter of seconds, a lone swan— a low-flying SST— beams in from the west and the war of nerves is on again. The swan splashes down. The geese move off— maybe ten cautious yards. The swan puffs himself up. Wary, the geese watch. The swan bears down on them. Impressed, they retreat. This 'turf war' will last as long it takes the swan to rid the neighborhood of undesirables.

“I have my fondest memory of growing up in Pocasset and fishing with my Dad in Red Brook Pond. (We hope to keep that memory alive by keeping Red Brook Pond and environs alive.)

“I feel you’re an integral part of the overall land management of the Cape.” (And so we are. We coordinate with similar conservation efforts down-Cape and ours is among the strongest of those efforts.)

“I was disappointed in Bourne’s vote on the Cape Cod Commission Act . . . that’s all the more reason to support (you).” (We too were underwhelmed by the vote but suggest that the BCT effort is far more clean-cut and does not raise the problems inherent in Cape-wide legislation.)

“We love the newsletter!” (Publishing has been compared with dropping a rose petal down the Grand Canyon and listening for the echo. We appreciate such melodious reverberation.)

“Really enjoyed your newsletter while wintering in the Bahamas. One more star for your atlas?” (We are striving to “cover the world” with our contribution sources. The Bahamas, as well as Delaware and Costa Rica, will appear on our next map. No word, yet from Mongolia.)

“

CONSIDERING YOUR COMMENTS

Winston Churchill
regarded

“No comment” to be a
“splendid expression.”

We are made of
sterner stuff. Along
with donations, we
elicit and consider
comments carefully.

”

“Wish we could give more!” (We get a number of these, many more, we suspect, than does the IRS.)

And from Washington, D.C.; “Although I no longer own property in Cataumet, my heart is there always.” (Bobby Burns’ heart was “in the Highlands”, but to many, our piece of the Cape exerts no less an emotional pull. For the BCT, it is our special province.)

A doctor from Georgia, in addition to offering a “great job” comment, posed the following questions:

“What is the budget?” (See page 4.)

“What are the costs of managing the land?” (Managing costs will be treated in the next newsletter).

“Who owns the land and can it ever be developed?” (Those lands paid for are deeded to the Trust and are permanently covered by conservation restrictions. Our current effort, the Red Brook Pond Project, will also be under permanent restrictions when we have satisfied the mortgage.)

**If This Were A Form 1040
---it would look like this---**

Requirement	\$1,300,000	100%
(98% for land; 2% for expenses)		
Income	450,000	35%
Amount Owed	850,000	65%

(Of that amount owed, here is our retirement plan)

Payment Schedule		
Year 1990	340,000	25%
Year 1991	255,000	20%
Year 1992	255,000	20%
	850,000	

NOTE:

Without federal, state, or local tax money, we have **already raised \$450,000**: A fine achievement! We have struck our "points of light."

If we don't raise the remaining \$850,000 by January 1992, we will buy time by borrowing the shortfall. Of course, that will add interest costs to our obligation.

BUT WITH YOUR HELP WE WILL SUCCEED!

The Bourne Conservation Trust
Post Office Box 203
Cataumet, MA 02534

The BCT is tax exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Donations to the BCT are tax deductible.
(ID Number: 04 2767827).

Board of Directors
Stephen Ballentine, President
Walter Everett, Treasurer
Philip De Normandie, Trustee
John Corcoran, Trustee
David Dimmick, Trustee

FLEUR-DE-LIS AND FRIENDS

We all know that the fleur-de-lis is the flower of France, appearing not only in fields but on shields. While we of the BCT do not presume to claim such heraldic devices, we do have within our acquisitions botanic specimens that we claim as more-or-less our own.

Lady Slippers, with their puffs of exotic orchid-like blooms, are an endangered species and are for looking only. If you are content to look, the Robinson property has Lady Slippers in bloom in numbers sufficient to excite the envy of Imelda Marcos.



The Red Brook Pond property, in whose bounds exists so much of what nature has to offer, has also been identified as a shelter for rare plant species and is so listed with the Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species program. State botanists examining the Red Brook Pond parcel have cited it as a habitat of the Bushy Rockrose and the Butterfly-weed. (One must remember that a weed is but an unloved flower and this particular weed bears spectacular orange flowers.) Both species have been threatened by overdevelopment.

Our properties, held in trust, sequester areas in which Nature is permitted to take her own way, an eminently rational condition. After all, she better understands her own affairs than we do.

BE A GOOD SCOUT

Not a phase that we hear much anymore but we do have them, right by our own holdings.

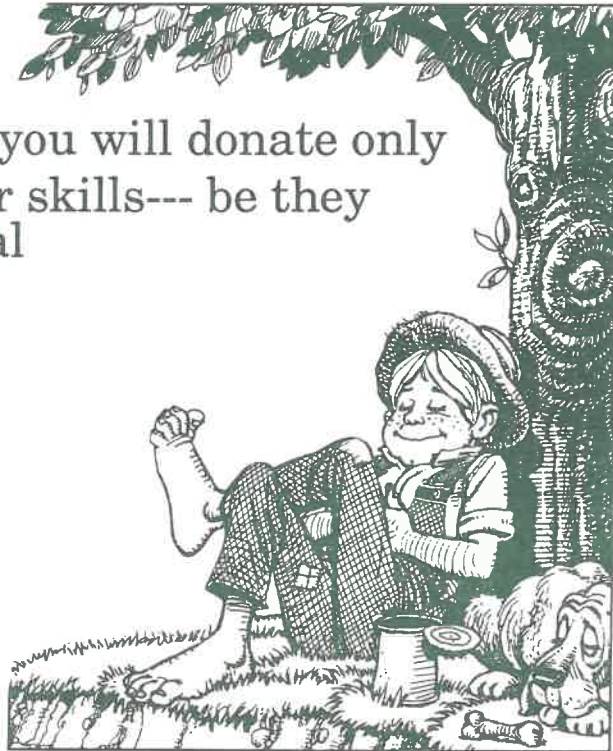
Jeff Moon, in preparation for becoming an Eagle Scout, plans to help maintain and mark the trails through the Red Brook Pond project. Those who take advantage of our trail walks will be most appreciative of the benches that he hopes to install.

Jeff is a sophomore at Falmouth Academy and resides close to the northern boundary of the Red Brook Pond Project.

As part of a science project, Jeff also gathered data from prior U. Mass studies measuring the acidity of Red Brook Pond, then compared those findings with his own data analysis. He noted that there was little difference in the results. For that effort, he received an "honorable mention" in an area science competition and will compete in a state-level science fair.

Time on your hands?

Unload it on the BCT. If you will donate only two or three hours of your skills--- be they clerical or manual, mental or physical--- we will make good use of them. If you are available to help, let us know on the "comments" space of the return envelope. (Please include phone number.)



1990 DONATING BUSINESSES



(508) 548-7303 • 1 (800) 696-7303 • FAX (508) 540-8103



Storage - Repair - Custom Building

**BALLENTINE'S
BOAT SHOP**
inc.

CATAUMET • MASS.
563 - 2800

Specializing in Classic Sails

**CUBBY
CONSTRUCTION
AND DEVELOPMENT, INC.**
CUSTOM BUILT
HOMES



BUILDER - DEVELOPER
Cubby Gummow
Tel. 563-7236

131 Birch Lane
North Falmouth, MA 02556

**BEST
BOAT
BUYS**

**STACK
PUBLICATIONS**
Box 449
No. Falmouth, MA
02556
(508) 563-5252



1990 Donations In Memory of:

Mary Jane Maguire

Thomas L. Blakeman

Kilmer Joyce

by

Mrs. Laurent Dubois
James & Margaret Flynn
Gale & Mildred Huntington
Therese Joyce
Joan Mayhew
Elizabeth B. Phinney
Mr. & Mrs. Lewis Schlotterbeck
Wednesday Morning Bridge Girls

by

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Barnes III
The Blakeman Children
Mrs. Martha Bryant
Linda Carpenter
Marie Johnson
Mrs. Heidi Lewitt
Amanda Barnes Muckle
Mr. George Seaver
Mr. & Mrs. Nelson Seaver
Mr. & Mrs. T. C. Thurlby
Mrs. Laura B. Wyman

by

Mrs. John Cobb
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Collins
Jane Dalton & Family
Patricia Heidi
Mrs. Heidie Lewitt
The Meade Family
Mr. Steve Wintermeyer

Dr. & Mrs. John Morrall in Memory of John Milton Alden
Margaret Endres in Memory of Elfreda N. Augustin
Mr. & Mrs. Carl Finton in Memory of Phillip Burgess, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Robert DeNormandie in Memory of Philip Y. Cannon
Mrs. Robert Fish in Memory of Mary Welden Draper
Margaret Endres in Memory of Vera N. Forrester
Amy Richard in Memory of Wanda Forziati
Mr. & Mrs. George Hampson in Memory of Mr. Clinton Hampson
Mrs. J. Hartwell Harrison in Memory of Goodwin W. Harding
Mrs. J. Hartwell Harrison in Memory of J. Hartwell Harrison
Mrs. Martha Bryant in Memory of Mr. George Hatch
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Kane in Memory of Robert Haxford
Mrs. Martha Bryant in Memory of Audrey Bolton Hill
Mr. & Mrs. Kaare Karstad in Memory of Peggy Johnson
Mr. Heidi Lewitt in Memory of Peggy Johnson
Mr. & Mrs. Nelson Seaver in Memory of Grace Kenney
Mr. & Mrs. Maurice Danials in Memory of Eazemiro Markin
Mr. & Mrs. David Masch in Memory of Matthew Masch
The Beal Family in Memory of Mrs. Kathryn McNamara
Ernest Miller in Memory of Gladys Miller
Mrs. Heidi Lewitt in Memory of Dr. George Nardi
Mr. & Mrs. H. Holton Wood in Memory of Dr. George Nardi
Mrs. Helen Odom in Memory of Warren Odom
Dr. & Mrs. Paul Reich in Memory of Martin & Ellen Reich
Amy Richard in Memory of Guy Richard
Dr. & Mrs. Morton Kliman in Memory of Dr. & Mrs. Joseph Schleifstein
Mr. Norman Seaver in Memory of Edith York Seaver
Mr. & Mrs. T. Christopher Thurlby in Memory of Lawrence Shaw
Edith Stokey in Memory of Roger Stokey
Mrs. Heidi Lewitt in Memory of Josef Teplow
Mrs. Virginia Blakeman & Family in Memory of Esther Thurlby
Mrs. Heidi Lewitt in Memory of Esther Thurlby
Jane Ann Willis-Pearce in Memory of Anna Walden
Miss Jean Fraser Walsh in Memory of Myles & Louise Phinney Walsh
Madeline Woodruff in Memory of Randolph Woodruff
Mr. & Mrs. Elmer Porter in Memory of Mr. & Mrs. George Wurst

Special Donation--to Francine Lostowski in Honor of her Birthday from her brother, Joe Lostowski.

1990 Donations to the RED BROOK POND PROJECT

Mr. & Mrs. Ben Allen
 Mr. David Ammering
 Aptucket Garden Club of Bourne
 Mr. & Mrs. E. S. Arsenault
 Anna Austilli
 Mr. & Mrs. Arlan Baillie
 Mrs. Hope Baker
 The Baker Family
 Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Ballentine
 Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Ballentine
 Mr. Franklin Barlow, Jr.
 Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Barnes III
 Mr. & Mrs. James Barrett
 Mr. & Mrs. David Beal
 Dr. & Mrs. Harold Berk
 Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Berk
 Mr. & Mrs. Franklin Beveridge
 Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Beyer
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Birch
 Mrs. Thomas I. Blakeman
 Elizabeth Bourne
 Mr. & Mrs. Charles Brooks
 Mrs. Royal Bryant
 Deborah Burgess
 Mr. & Mrs. Phillip Cahill
 Rep. Thomas Cahill
 Dr. & Mrs. Bradford Cannon
 Mr. & Mrs. Louis Caron, Jr.
 Ms. Linda Carpenter
 Mr. & Mrs. Richard Carter
 Mr. Louis Cellineri
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Clapp
 Mr. & Mrs. Hildreth Clark
 Coalition for Buzzards Bay
 Mrs. John Cobb
 Mr. Frederic Cobb
 Ms. Cynthia Coffin
 Mr. & Mrs. Larson Coffin
 Mr. & Mrs. Warren Collins
 Mr. & Mrs. Charles Collins
 Mr. & Mrs. Martin Conway
 Dr. & Mrs. Henry Cote
 Mr. & Mrs. W. Robert Courey
 Mr. & Mrs. Edmund Coye
 Cubby Construction
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Curry
 Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Curtis
 Mrs. Herman Dalker
 Mrs. Jane Dalton
 Mr. & Mrs. Maurice Daniels
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Denormandie
 Mr. Phillip Denormandie
 Mr. & Mrs. Harry Dickson
 Mr. Henry Donovan
 Mrs. Laurent Dubois
 Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Dunlavey
 Mr. & Mrs. George Eckstrom
 Mrs. Olivia Joyce Eldridge
 Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Elmlblad
 Margaret Endres
 Mr. & Mrs. Hans Engelmann
 Mr. & Mrs. Peter Eustis
 Mr. & Mrs. Walter Everett
 Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Feldman
 Mr. & Mrs. Carl Finton
 Mrs. Robert Fish
 Frances Fitzgerald
 Mr. & Mrs. James Flynn
 Mr. & Mrs. Charles Fuller
 Mr. David Garland
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Gaynor
 Mr. & Mrs. Maurice Gillespie
 Mr. & Mrs. Warren Gibbons
 Mr. & Mrs. Minot Guild
 Mr. & Mrs. John Gwynn
 Mr. & Mrs. George Hampson
 Mrs. Alberta Harding
 Mrs. J. Hartwell Harrison
 Mrs. Elizabeth Hathaway
 Patricia Heide
 Ms. Irene Hill
 Mr. & Mrs. E. G. Huntington
 Mr. & Mrs. David Jarvis
 Mr. & Mrs. George Jespersen
 Marie Johnson
 Dr. T. Stephen Jones
 Mrs. Kilmer Joyce
 Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Kane
 Mr. & Mrs. Kaare Karstad
 Dr. & Mrs. Morton Kliman
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Knapp
 Janis Knorr
 Mr. & Mrs. Frank Knowlton, Jr.
 Mr. & Mrs. John Laird
 Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Langhauser
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Larosa
 Mr. F. Joseph Lastowski
 Ms. Wendy Laurell
 Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Leavitt
 Mrs. George Lee
 Mrs. Heidi Lewitt
 Mrs. Henry Locke
 Mrs. Eugenia Lombard
 Mr. Ted Lyon
 Mr. Leo Maguire
 Mr. & Mrs. William Malcom
 Karin Martineau
 Jeanne Swan & David Masch
 Mrs. Joan Mayhew
 Mr. & Mrs. Jim McIntosh
 Mr. & Mrs. Winfred McLane
 Mr. & Mrs. Albert McSweeney
 The Meade Family
 Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Wealy
 Mr. & Mrs. Donald Mears
 Mr. Ernest Miller
 Mr. & Mrs. Kingsley Mitchell
 Dr. & Mrs. John Morrall
 Jane Mosher
 Ms. Amanda Barnes Muckle
 Mr. James Mullan
 Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Murray
 Mr. Arthur Nilson
 Mrs. Helen Odom
 Catherine Offinger
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Olson
 Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Ostby
 Dr. & Mrs. John Palfrey
 Mr. & Mrs. Ransom Parker
 Jane Ann Pearce
 Mr. & Mrs. William Percival
 Elizabeth B. Phinney
 Mr. & Mrs. Elmer Porter
 Dr. & Mrs. Paul Reich
 Mr. & Mrs. George Reynolds
 Mr. William Ribich
 Mrs. Guy Richard
 Mr. Marshall Ries, Jr.
 Mr. & Mrs. Edward Rose
 Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Ryan
 Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Sands
 Mr. & Mrs. Lewis Schlotterbeck
 Mr. & Mrs. Ilwellyn Seaver
 Mr. George Seaver
 Mr. Norman Seaver
 Mr. & Mrs. Nelson Seaver, Jr.
 Mr. & Mrs. Lewis Silveira
 Edith M. Stockey
 Mr. & Mrs. F. Warren Sylva
 Francis Sylva
 Dr. Gary Tabor
 Mr. & Mrs. Edward Thompson
 Mr. & Mrs. F. Christopher Thurlby
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Troy
 Mrs. Charles Tuck
 Mr. & Mrs. John Tucker
 Miss Jean Fraser Walsh
 Mr. & Mrs. Walter Weld
 Mr. & Mrs. Roy Wiggin
 Mr. & Mrs. B. Grant Willis
 Mr. & Mrs. Henry Winslow
 Mr. & Mrs. H. Holton Wood
 Mrs. Madeline Woodruff
 Mr. & Mrs. Donald Worley
 Mrs. Laura Wyman
 Mr. & Mrs. Richard Yoder

A Special thanks to Peg Johnson who, through an insurance policy, left us \$6300.