

Bourne Conservation Trust

NEWSLETTER Number 27

Late Fall 1997



Indigo Bunting



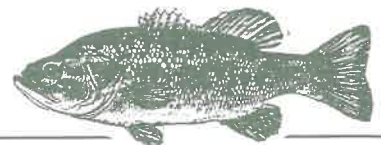
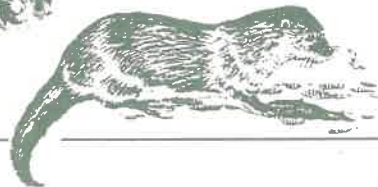
Osprey



Double-Crested Cormorant



Belted Kingfisher



I SPY

Glimpses, Espials and Double-takes



Sightings of local wildlife-- some of it pretty tame-- reported to the BCT Newsletter indicate that you needn't face up to a pre-dawn bird walk, stumble down a nature trail or even leave the coziness of your own back deck to catch sight (or sound) of some pretty interesting fauna going about their business.

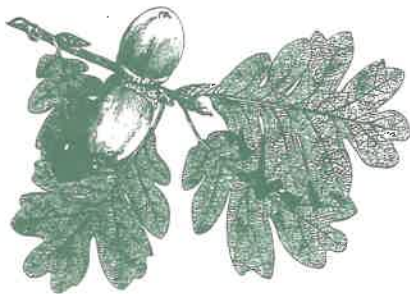
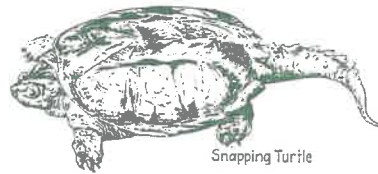
Reported seen were: **Cormorants** splashing themselves silly while rinsing off the salt from Buzzards Bay. A surprised **woodchuck** scurrying for cover just after sun-up. **Red-winged blackbirds** taking no chances about the intentions of a **red-tailed hawk** by ganging up on him and driving him out of sight. A bewildered **mole** sniffing at the wind as if trying to figure out just where he was. A determined **cardinal** battling his own unyielding reflection in a window. **Turtles**-- painted and snapping-- plodding across roads, halting traffic as they searched for just the right place to deposit eggs. A mother **mallard** followed so closely by eight ducklings that she seemed to have grown a long, fuzzy tail. **Fox kits** wrestling rough and tumble in a woods out on Scraggy Neck. A **great blue heron** dodging a red-winged blackbird onslaught, bobbing and weaving like a prizefighter, never losing its dignity. **Gluttonous muskrats** munching their random way through a feast of water shield. A trio of **kingfishers** playing their version of leapfrog circling Red Brook Pond. A **night heron** atop a tree flexing its wings in broad daylight. On a wire an **owl** caught in the beam of a flashlight, caught a second time, then gone--without a sound. A courting **osprey** couple imitating one another's aerial antics. A **titmouse** sunbathing spread-eagle on a bed of brown leaves. A touring **egret** taking a breather and calmly surveying Red Brook Pond from an oak branch. A **baltimore oriole** high up in a locust tree swaying in the 15-knot on-shore breeze. A **cormorant** sailing in for a landing on a turtle-laden log, scattering the sun bathers in all directions. A very proper **swan** couple showing their two adolescent cygnets how to cadge food from a passing cyclist. A fastidious **raccoon** rinsing its forepaws in fresh water. A fishing **tern** maneuvering adroitly through a whirling filigree of darting swallows. Caught in headlights at dawn beside Red Brook Harbor Road a **bobwhite** silhouetted against a back-



ground of green. A trio of cedar waxwings swaying in a heavy southwest wind as they stuff themselves with pussy willow buds. A startling iridescent flash of indigo bunting turquoise. At the blustery height of Tropical Storm Danny a dozen or so swallows blithely taking a roller-coaster ride on the vehement wind. And, of course, chipmunks, fiddler crabs and fireflies.



Reported heard were: The terrifying screech of a night heron. Splashes of fishing ospreys hitting the water at high speed. Dusk-to-dawn (and in between) bullfrog grumbings and mutterings. A sudden splash of a hungry fish (a large mouth bass?) smacking the water following a leap after its lunch, probably an air-borne dragon fly.



Pocasset Park Revisited



In the spring 1995 issue of the BCT newsletter, we noted that the Pocasset Village Association, with the assistance of the BCT, succeeded in a grassroots campaign to purchase land in the village center. It was noted further that the area, off of Barlow's Landing and Shore Roads, would be made a park, with plans to clear it of underbrush and install benches and a memorial plaque.

Take a few pleasurable moments to see how persistence can pay.

The entrance is marked by a handsome bronze plaque mounted on a large rock, encircled with the names of major donors. Inside, the area has been cleared to the lot lines by volunteers and will be maintained by them on a weekly basis. A Bourne High School science class helped clean up those ever-present briars and the poison ivy has been poisoned! To keep the natural setting, wood chips have been put down and, so that one can pause to enjoy that setting, two park benches have been donated. These benches were made by Peter Virbasis, President of the PVA.

The delights of the park have been discovered by residents of nearby Roland Phinney Place, who picnic there. Won't you join them? (Bring your own lunch!)

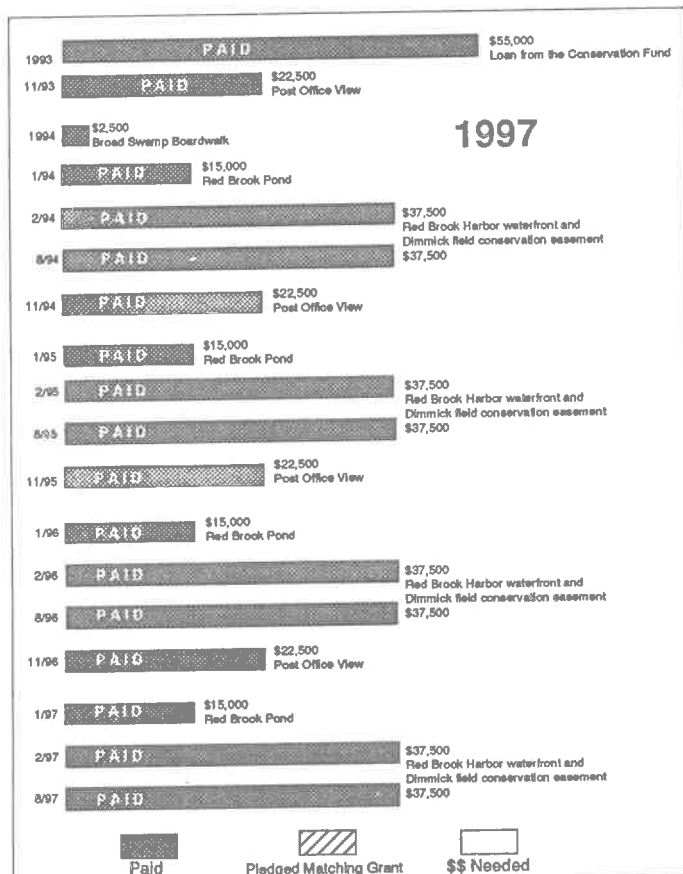
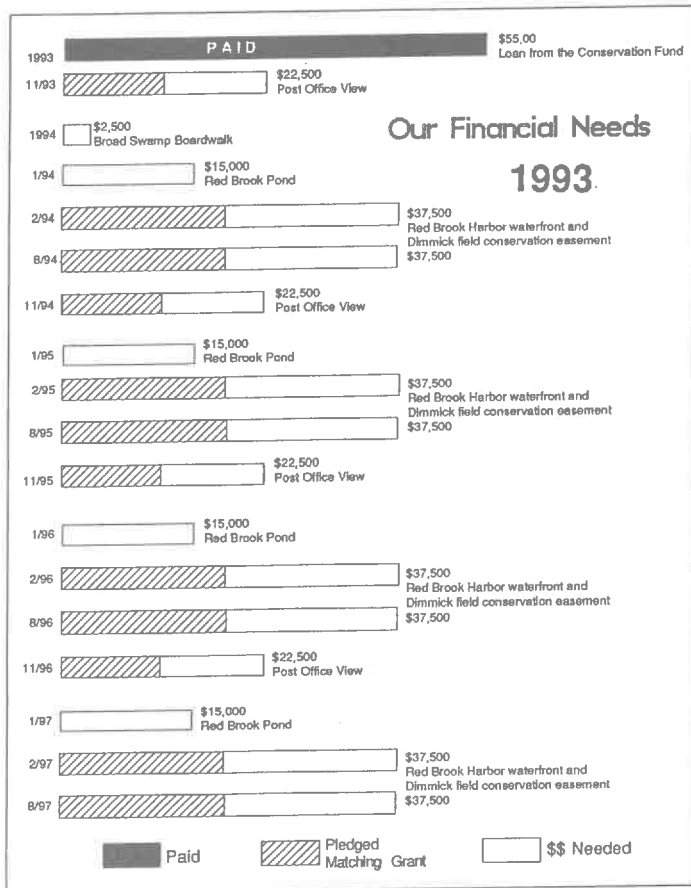
Time (And Money) Marches On!!

One of the truly great moments in science was said to be when Einstein discovered that time, was indeed money.* Sure enough, our time--that short space between the fall of 1993 and the present--has "metamorphed" into money and thence into land (see charts). This is a transformation that has made us all richer.

What remains to be done? By January of 1998, we need \$20,000, a sum less than the price of many new cars, to complete a purchase that will appreciate and not depreciate: Pocasset Park. This section of land, a jewel of an acquisition off of Barlow's Landing and Shore Road, represents a joint effort between the Pocasset Village Association and the BCT. See article on facing page.

As all homeowners know, with property comes responsibility. In order that the public can enjoy the conservation land, trails and access must be maintained. While much has been done by volunteers, there are tasks that require professional help. To this end, we have established an endowment with the proceeds going for that purpose.

*Sadly, we will never know what Einstein might have concluded upon learning that there was a "stitch in time. . ."



Armchair Auction Concludes. . . with a bang (of course!)

The bidding at the Armchair was spirited. Eighty-six people responded with 145 bids/donations plus 19 non-bid donations. In a sense, everybody won, since the BCT cleared \$5,908.32 with which to enhance the community's holdings.

The results, by item, were:

#1. Tomatoes! Veggies! Flowers! Received the most different bids, although the "blest infusions" will not be available until June, 1998.

#2. The hand-carved raven, which now may be perched above someone's chamber door, attracted the most money.

#9. The Joseph McGurl signed marine lithographs received the most bids, as befits a seaside community.

The winning bid, as explained in the catalogue, was based not on the highest bid but rather on that offer closest to the average. This gave everyone a chance to win. However, ploys, especially pluperfect ploys, can enhance one's odds: one individual offered multiple low bids, plus one reasonable bid, assuming that that system would increase the chance of winning. It did. And he did. Well, almost. He tied . . .and lost the toss!

Raven
won by
Philip DeNormandie

Red Sox Tickets
won by
Susan Tsimortas

Joseph McGurl Lithograph
won by
Catherine Largay

Thank you to the bidders/donors,
one and all.
Thank you to the many volunteers who collected
auction items, created the auction catalogue, and ad-
dressed and stuffed envelopes.

Horse drawn Cart Ride
won by
L. Vardack, S. Giancole, & J & M Henry

Binoculars & Sailing Lesson
won by
Todd Hahn

Just Desserts
won by
Clarita Bright

Thank you to the auction
items donors:

**Bogside Farm
Richard Jason
Shoreline Sign Company
Bruce Marshard & Major
Cataumet Garden Center
Courtyard Restaurant
The Chart Room
Craigville Pizza
IHOP
Somerset Creamery
West Marine
Jay Jenkins
Cathy Munsey-Kano
Ultramarine Press
Peter Gammons
Wendells Diner
Corner Cafe
Ballentine's Boat Shop**

Feed the Birds
won by
Linda Carpenter

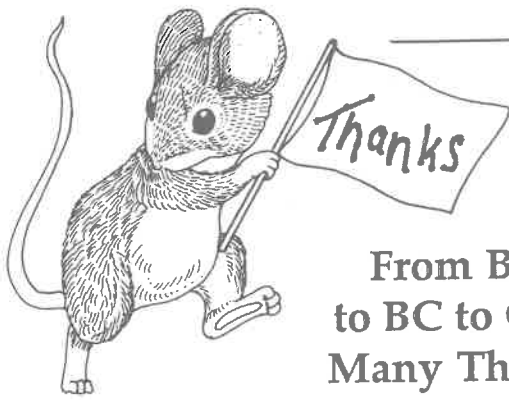
Hand carved Quarter Board
won by
Brenda Baxley

Rise & Shine
won by
Dorothy Erickson

Tomatoes! Veggies! Flowers!
won by
Nancy Holden

Fire the Cook
won by
Mrs. F.F. Thomas

Flowering Tree
won by
David Beal

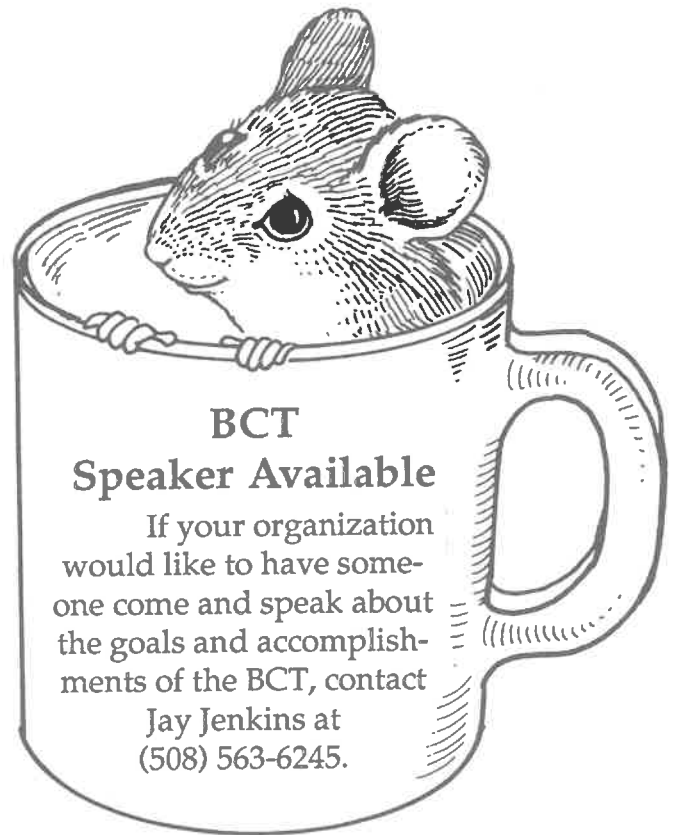


From BCT to BC to CCA: Many Thanks!

It's been yet another productive and rewarding year for the Beautification Committee of the Cataumet Civic Associates. In addition to staging a smashing auction, how's this for twelve-months of accomplishments by BC volunteers?

Perpend:

Some 2500 daffodil bulbs distributed, more than 300 planted around Washington Park and the Cataumet Depot which now boasts a new flower garden (and, thanks to Walter Robbins, a gas furnace), a fine white fence for the park plus flower boxes and an evergreen planter. Thanks, BC. Keep beautifying!



BCT Speaker Available

If your organization would like to have someone come and speak about the goals and accomplishments of the BCT, contact

Jay Jenkins at
(508) 563-6245.

R
E
C
L



K

We Get . . . a, b, c, d, e . . . (letters)

From out in Holyoke, we hear that "reading the newsletter always reminds me of the good friends I still have in Cataumet." (And they remember you too, Joe.)

B



From N. Falmouth, a contributor wonders "when your membership year begins." And, "if the (donation) is late for 1997, my apologies." (We have no membership year. The mailing label on the newsletter number in the right upper corner is the date of your last donation (year/month). Once a year, minimally, it shows your continued support and interest.)

A Floridian (snowbird?) finds that our newsletter releases a flow of "nostalgia, happiness and sadness, admiration and pleasure." Also, we must have some "creative talents involved," and, that our Armchair Auction Catalogue was "awesome." (And so, o kindly Floridian, is your praise).

W

R

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Kahlin's Korner

is dedicated to the memory of Kahlin Jespersen, a child full of sunshine and a love of nature, and also to all children for whom we preserve a part of the natural world.

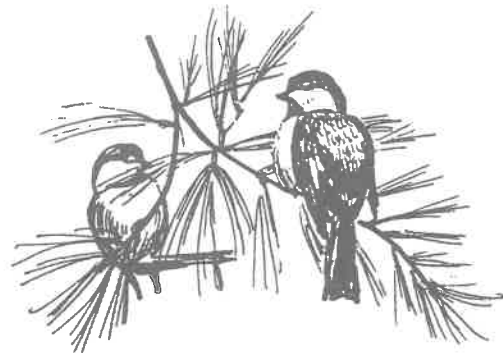
Mrs. Robinson

by Jessie M Parker (age 10)

Mrs. Robinson was born July 29th, 1921. While she was in high school her favorite color was pink and the sports she played were field hockey and basketball. Meanwhile she hung out with her best friend, Barbra Cates. They both liked to garden and they always ate ice cream and chocolate. Later on in her life she married Mr. Robinson. They liked to sail with their children Rob, Dave, Steve and Susan. She loved the bird the chickadee. She always wanted to go to Washington D.C. in the springtime to see the cherry blossoms. On February 19, 1996 at age 74 she died of cancer.

The Mears, who lived down the street and were good friends, built a memorial bench in her memory. They put it on conservation land in Cataumet near the Robinson's house. This place is special because Mrs. Robinson

loved to watch the sunset and listen to the birds chirp. The bench is made of granite. The stone has a bird and flowers carved in it on each of the ends and her name, Ferne, in the middle. Mr. Robinson and the Mears got flowers from Mrs. Robinson's friends to put around it because she loved gardening. It is a pretty place to go because it has trees, birds, flowers and fish jumping up high in the lagoon. It feels very comfortable, like being at home when you are there.



Kahlin's Korner is a regular feature of the Newsletter, featuring children's articles or drawings. Included will be activities that are fun and will also help children to understand their natural environment. We hope you will submit ideas for future issues. (BCT, Box 203, Cataumet, MA 02534)

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Dr. & Mrs. Hugh O'Shaughnessy & Family
In memory of PAMACO Jiao
Diane Dreher
In memory of Scooter, Sam, Pilgrim, & Burt
Roland Dupont & Charlotte Stiefel

Happy Birthday, Jane O'Shaughnessy
O'Brien, Major, Cassie, & Cinny

Happy 92nd Birthday, Kay Laurie
Debbie Laurie

In honor of
Anna P. Austill, the Creche Lady,
and her 95 years of serving others.
Dr. & Mrs. Henry Cote

In honor of
Steve Ballentine's kindness
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In memory of Granny Hallowell
Dr. Phillips Hallowell

In memory of deceased
Members of the Handy Family
The Amend Family



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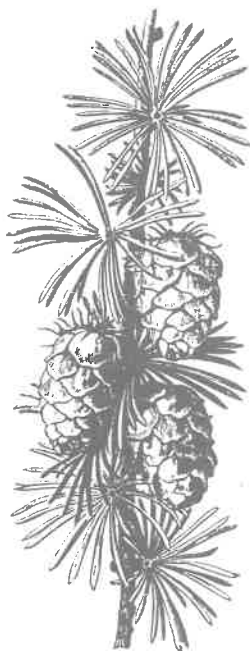
Given in memory of Louise Alden whose character embodied the beauty of the flower, the grace of the tree, the gentleness of the breeze and the strength of the sea.

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Jean & Ransom Parker
Noreen Redmann
Irene Scribner
Barbara Winslow
Nancy York
Sara York



Given in memory off Robert W. Willman whose love of the natural beauty of Cataumet will live on through conservation of its land.



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LIFE INSURANCE: The Bourne Conservation Trust can be named as a beneficiary on a life insurance policy.

WILL: Naming the BCT in your will creates a gift and can reduce or eliminate federal estate taxes.



SECURITIES: Gifts of appreciated securities may save on capital gains taxes.

LIFE INCOME GIFTS: The transfer of cash, securities, or other property to a charitable trust will provide a life income to the donor, donor's spouse, or other beneficiaries. After the death of the last named beneficiary, the principal becomes available for use by the BCT. Current tax deductions and eventual estate tax deductions provide a double benefit.



The BCT is tax exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Within IRS guidelines contributions may be deductible from your taxable income. (ID number: 04 2767827) Donors should consult their own tax advisor for financial and legal advice.



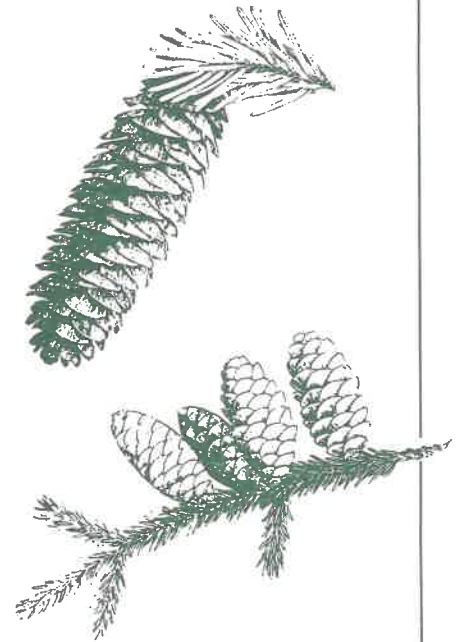
BARGAIN SALE: By special arrangement, you may sell your property to the BCT for less than its fair market value (a bargain sale) and the difference is considered a charitable gift.

REAL ESTATE: Real estate can be given as an outright gift. Such donations have both real estate and income tax benefits.

Gifts to the Bourne Conservation Trust are charitable contributions with resulting tax benefits. The amount of the benefit depends on the kind and size of gift. A well-planned gift can combine financial and charitable objectives by providing tax benefits, thereby meeting personal and charitable goals.



CASH: Cash donations provide immediate funds for use by the BCT and can result in tax savings for the donor.



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Please call (508) 563-5196 or write to the Bourne Conservation Trust, Box 203, Cataumet, MA 02534-0203



CHARITABLE LEAD TRUST: Cash or securities can be placed in a charitable trust for a specified period of time, with the income directed to the BCT. At the end of the trust period, the principal reverts to the donor or some other beneficiary.



Winter Run Benefits BCT

The Cape Cod Roadrunners/Bourne Conservation Trust 18th annual Winter Run is scheduled for Sunday, January 4, 1998, at 10:30 A.M. The five-mile course originates at the Weary Travelers Club in Monument Beach. Awards and refreshments will follow the race.

Applications are available by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to Steve Ballentine, Box 457, Cataumet, MA 02534.

Additional information may be obtained from Steve at 508-563-2800 (days) or Bob at 508-759-8364 (evenings).

BCT Mini-Doc

Still available is the Bourne Conservation Trust film which includes shots of BCT properties--Lawrence Island, several wooded areas, marshes and fields, and Red Brook Pond--and glimpses of local bird, animal and plant life. Copies of the locally-produced 10-minute VHS cassette are on sale for \$18.00 and can be ordered by calling (508-563-5196) or writing (Box 203, Cataumet, MA 02534) the BCT.

Board of Directors

Stephen Ballentine, President
Walter Everett, Treasurer
Philip DeNormandie, Trustee
John Corcoran, Trustee
Robert Birch, Trustee
Donald Mears, Trustee

\$\$ Help Us Save Postage Charges \$\$

If you receive more than one Newsletter or have a new mailing address, please let us know.

LITTLE THINGS MEAN A LOT

Those of us of a certain age will remember that phrase as a 1950-ish song title (who recorded that, Joni James? Help!), but it contains more than a musical truth to our effort.

Some people have apologized for sending in "only a small contribution." These contributions, regardless of the amount, result in more than just dollars. Those friendly folks at the IRS--you remember them--consider the NUMBER of donors to determine if an organization such as ours qualifies as tax-deductible. Also, of course, many small amounts have a large financial effect.

So, whether your pockets be shallow or deep, wide or narrow, extract what you can. We will appreciate it. . . more than the IRS.

The BCT is tax exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Within IRS guidelines contributions may be deductible from your taxable income. (ID Number: 04 2767827).



WHERE THERE'S A WILL. . .

We are all going to reach a time when life plays its last practical joke and we must accept Patrick Henry's second choice. There are few ways that one can better memorialize one's passage than in a bequest to the BCT. This is an inheritance whose impact is perpetual: it cannot be misspent or mislaid. It will do honor to yourself and to your family, linking past to future.

Examples of an appropriate format for such gift-giving are:

"I give and bequeath to the Trustees of Bourne Conservation Trust _____% of my total estate (or \$_____, or other property)."

Such a provision in your will creates an unrestricted bequest, which assures that your gift will be used where it is most needed. However, you may want to designate your gift for some special purpose within the scope of the BCT's mission. You can restrict the use of principal, income, or both in this fashion:

"I give and bequeath to the Trustees of Bourne Conservation Trust _____% of my total estate (or \$_____, or other property) to be used for the following: (Your purpose here)."

BCT Remembered in Wills

The BCT is most grateful for two recent bequests-- one from Alice Locke who spent more than sixty-five summers on Scraggy Neck, Cataumet, and who greatly respected the work of the BCT; the other from Frances Doane Martin whose home on Lewis Point overlooked Buttermilk Bay, and among whose many interests were the environment, animal life and nature study.



*Bourne Conservation Trust
Post Office Box 203
Cataumet MA 02534-0203*

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