



## CALENDAR

May	10	7:30 P.M.	DHS Board meets with Susan and Henry Kelley.
May	13-14	2-4 P.M.	"Maritime Disasters" exhibit at Josiah Dennis Manse.
	20-21		
May	16		Town Elections. Get out and vote!
June	4	9:00 A.M.	Annual Lady Slipper Walk led by Dr. Norton Nickerson on the
		10:30 A.M.	Indian Lands. Reservations required. See below.
June	9	5:00 P.M.	Annual Birthday Dinner at Lighthouse Inn. See other side for reservation form.

### MARITIME DISASTERS

The annual Cape Cod Maritime Week this year will run from May 12-21. This will be a Cape-wide celebration featuring all the best and most interesting of the Cape's maritime past, present, and future. Seven lighthouses will be open and special open houses and exhibits will be held in a number of places. Look for a brochure in your post office or library. The Josiah Dennis Manse will have an exhibit on Maritime Disasters. Dennis people have been involved with the sea from our very beginning and have come to know the dangers of the sea very well. Nancy Thacher Reid has compiled a list of 330 Dennis people who have lost their lives at sea. Three great storms accounted for a large number of our losses. Come to the Manse and find out what ones they were. There will also be parts of shipwrecks on display from private donors. The exhibit will be open May 13, 14, 20 and 21 from 2-4- P.M.

### THE DENNIS ORCHIDS

One of the nicest things that happens in Dennis is when our native American orchids bloom--better known as Lady Slippers. The ones that grow on the Indian Lands Conservation Area are one of the premier displays on the Cape. The usually are at their peak at the end of May or first of June. We are most fortunate to have both the Lady Slippers and a peerless guide. Dr. Norton Nickerson, who grew up and still lives a stone's throw from the Indian Lands will lead the walk again this year. His wealth of information makes the walk so much more enjoyable. As always, there will be two walks on Saturday, June 4 at 9:00 and 10:30 A.M. Please make reservation with the Natural Resources Office at Town Hall, 394-8300 ext. 23. Each walk can only accomodate 40 people and last year we were at that limit, so call early to make your reservations. We will meet at the Town Hall parking lot.

### ADDITIONS, CORRECTIONS, AND ET CETERAS

Ye Olde Ed does try to be correct in these monthly missles but sometimes it doesn't quite work out that way. To set the record straight: Long-time archivist at the Cape Playhouse Margaret Adams' middle name is Hoxie, not Hollis.....Mary Raycroft donated to the Jericho Fence Fund.....Rebecca Crowell Munroe's mother Pearl was not the daughter of William Gillion (Jan. 1995 newsletter). Pearl came from Taunton. William's daughter was Harriet who married William Kelley of North Dennis. Thanks wo their daughter Amy Kelley Babineau for setting this straight.....There was more to the H.M.S. Somerset story that I reported (March 1995 newsletter). Although Provincetown and Truro men did take items from the wreck they were not allowed to keep them. The state confiscated everything which was later sold at public auction. A decision of the Maritime Court held in Boston on March 30, 1779 gave the State of Massachusetts 2/3rds of the proceeds from the auction and 1/3rd to the representatives of the Provincetown/Truro men. The Cape Cod men appealed that decision. They did not feel that a 1/3rd share came near compensating for their losses to the crew of the Somerset. A second Maritime Court held in Ipswich on June 19, 1779 changed the award giving  $\frac{1}{2}$  to the state and the other  $\frac{1}{2}$  was divided among the 202 salvors according to their individual losses.....Ever-willing, hard working volunteer Susan Kelley was omitted from the cleaning crew at the Manse. Susan's domain is the back chamber where she does our spinning and weaving and cleaning. Thanks, Susan!.....Sincere thank yous to Arthur Loughton of Dennis-Yarmouth Regional High School Audio-Visual Dept. for transferring a second set of our post cards onto slides.....and also thanks to Charter Member Eleanor Baker Hall for finding the February 1978 and June 1990 menus that were missing. We still need June 1978, June 1979, June 1980, February 1983, and June 1984 to complete our collection. Maybe they'll turn up in your spring cleaning.....The Cape Cod Tech students have installed the white picket fence at Jericho and it looks great! The new donors are Mr. and Mrs. George Wilson and Marion Low. Thanks!

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