

# Kelly's Corner



by Jan Kelly

July is here, the hottest and most populated month. By August many insects have died and many species of birds begin to migrate. The human species on Commercial Street will be all that can fit, though. July will have two full moons, the second and the thirty-first. The next time there will be two full moons in one month, it will be May, 1988. July is also the peak for wildflowers. Stop anywhere in the woods or a disturbed area and you will be sure to notice many species of blossoming wildflowers you may never have seen before. They have their own casual beauty in nature. Nobody tends them; they live in freedom and the wind, insects and birds carry their future growth at whim. A great plan or no plan?

Well, Divil, the resident parrot, is twenty-five years old this year, so one night this summer you will see him out on the town celebrating the anniversary of his birth. People often ask me what he eats, seeds, lettuce and fruit? Not at all. One guest looked at the cage bottom which had not yet been cleaned from Divil's dinner of the night before. Incredulously, they spied a lamb chop bone, an oyster shell, dry; red cabbage, bits of pasta, a touch of Essene bread, bits of a cherry, a strawberry and fig and just a fleck of goat cheese left. Yes, Divil's diet is the same as mine and from the first day he has joined in, except for the home-made wine, no stimulants. People can't believe it when they are here for dinner. The patient parrot waits until each course is served and then starts, "Polly want a cracker, Polly want a cracker," until he gets just what he wants. Familia and yogurt for breakfast, pistachio nuts for lunch and that's it. Cleans his beak with a bit of paper towel and never yearns for crackers.

The Center for Coastal Studies has a schedule of weekly field trips, held on Fridays. The back beach, dunes, flats, salt marsh and quaking bog are on the agenda. The trips are free for members, \$5 for non-members. In either case, please call the Center to pre-register. The number is 487-3622. Volunteers are needed to plant beach grass for the stabilization of the dunes. It's fun to work in a group, the work is not demanding, so you will not need to be an experienced gardener. The beach grass will do most of the work. Those rhizomes will spread four lateral roots each year to help control the shifting of the sand. An easier function to attend will be the "Trash Fish Fry" at the VFW Hall on July 10. The fish will be delicious and the price is \$5. There will be a cash bar and tickets are available at the VFW that night or at the Center for Coastal Studies beforehand. This is a mini version of the Trash

Fish Banquet held by the Center in September each year.

If you like to play contract bridge or would like to begin, there is a group playing every Monday evening from 7:30 on. Partnerships are arranged and reservations are requested. Cards are supplied as well as coffee and cake. The group is sanctioned by the ACBL, American Contract Bridge League. Call 487-1914 for more information. All are welcome.

The Provincetown Art Association and Museum has quite an impressive annual report this year. I'm looking forward to seeing many of the new acquisitions. The programs for this season are solid, one backing the other. The young artists' show finished June 28. Chaim Gross, Alvin Ross, Charles Hawthorne, as well as assemblages, collage and construction and some paintings from the museum's collection will be next. This show will be on until July 26. Do try and see these exhibits. Remember, it's a pleasant outing before or after dinner or a cooling pastime on a hot summer afternoon. The artists are international as well as local and there is enough variety to suit all tastes.

Speaking of artists national and international, our own Romolo Del Deo has managed to be both, at his youthful stage of life. When Romolo graduated from Provincetown High School he was awarded a full art scholarship to Harvard University. Wise beyond his years, Romolo decided to live and work at his art in Italy for a year before entering Harvard. Since Romolo would be studying sculpture, he took himself off to the spot on the earth that all sculptors would want to be, Pietrasanta, near the quarries of Carrara marble. Carrara marble is considered the purest of metamorphic marbles. It was and is the marble preferred by sculptors. Most of Michelangelo's work is in Carrara marble. The Italian masters used Carrara marble, the Greek masters used mostly Pentelic marble from Attica. You can note the differences in the marbles when you see the ancient statuary.

The foundries for casting sculpture are at Pietrasanta also. Sculptors from all over the world have their works put into bronze here. A railroad goes through the town for the loading and unloading of heavy pieces of art and for the shipping of the fine Carrara marble.

Romolo returned with the gleam of knowledge. Certain of his life's work, he entered Harvard and excelled. He was chosen as monitor, he was chosen as tutor and was allowed to help his professor execute difficult commissions. During his senior year, Romolo went back to Pietrasanta to work on his senior thesis,



*Romolo Del Deo*

Polychrome sculpture. At the end of six months, Romolo and thirty-six pieces returned. Romolo graduated Harvard in 1982, proud grandmother Osma Todd had the loudest applause, mother Josephine and Father Sal beaming, sister Giovanna all smiles, three generations and five artists. Romolo worked the next year at Harvard with his sculpting professor, and then back to Pietrasanta for the third time, stacked with knowledge from both sides of the water. All this study, dedication and sacrifice is coming to fruition. Romolo Del Deo has been chosen to compete in the 1985 International Competition for Sculpting at Carrara. The event takes place over a three week period, outdoors and in the main square of the city of Carrara. The artists will work every day for these three weeks and at the end of that time the city of Carrara will buy some of the pieces and give awards to some. This is how the city builds up its impressive collection. There is only one other American in the competition, a young American from Princeton. Romolo has started his pro-

fessional career. This winter he worked on four bronzes. They will be shown at the Cherrystone Gallery in Wellfleet this summer. Romolo will return home and in September go to New York to set up a studio. Not an easy task. Not an easy life ahead, but one of work and compelling interest and let us hope many rewards of self-satisfaction. Good luck, Romolo.

Watch for schedule of Chronicle on Channel Five at 7:30. The program will be on Provincetown. Watch for yours truly, Que Linda, Charlou and all the gang at Nelson's Riding Stable. We were to ride into the sunset. Well, look for down jackets and a multi-colored scarf knit by Gemma in Munich, Germany. It was during that rainy spell, so between the rain and the sea spume we looked more like a Christmas ride than a summer resort sunset ride. It was great fun. Emilio cooked spaghetti for the sodden cowgirls. Aunt Marion and recuping Robin Garran were happy for so much company. We're just wondering how they're going to edit all our ribald asides. We were wired for sound.