



TORONTO FIELD NATURALIST

Number 605 September 2014



Orange sulphur butterfly on grass-leaved goldenrod at Leslie Street Spit.
Photo: Augusta Takeda. See note on page 6.

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Toronto Field Naturalist is published by the Toronto Field Naturalists, a charitable, non-profit organization, the aims of which are to stimulate public interest in natural history and to encourage the preservation of our natural heritage. Issued monthly September to December and February to May. Views expressed in the Newsletter are not necessarily those of the editor or Toronto Field Naturalists. The Newsletter is printed on 100% recycled paper.

ISSN 0820-636X

IT'S YOUR NEWSLETTER!

We welcome contributions of original writing of observations on nature in and around Toronto (up to 500 words). We also welcome reports, reviews, poems, sketches, paintings and digital photographs. Please include "Newsletter" in the subject line when sending by email, or on the envelope if sent by mail.

Please re-name digital photographs with the subject and your name (abbreviations ok); scale your photos *to less than 200kb each*. In the accompanying email include location, date and any interesting story or other information associated with the photograph.

Deadline for submissions for October issue, September 4

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Jenny Bull (co-editor), Vivienne Denton, Karin Fawthrop, Nancy Fredenburg, Elisabeth Gladstone, Judy Marshall, Toshi Oikawa, Wendy Rothwell (co-editor).

Printing and mailing: Perkins Services Inc.

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\$20 YOUTH (under 26)
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 \$40 SINGLE, SENIOR FAMILY (2 adults, 65+)
 \$50 FAMILY (2 adults – same address, children included)

No HST. Tax receipts issued for donations. Send membership fees and address changes to the TFN office.

Toronto Field Naturalists

1519-2 Carlton St, Toronto M5B 1J3

Tel: 416-593-2656

Web: www.torontofieldnaturalists.org

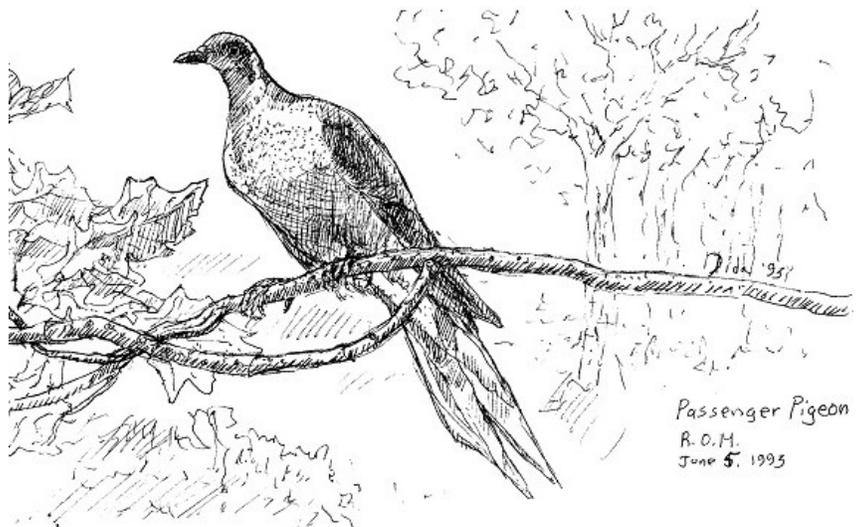
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IN MEMORY OF THE PASSENGER PIGEON

As the ROM celebrates its 100th anniversary, it is also marking the 100th year since the last passenger pigeon died at the Cincinnati zoo. Visit the new exhibit on passenger pigeons, conservation, and the future of our planet, as other species teeter on the brink of extinction.

On-line, you can visit passengerpigeon.org, also marking the centenary of the extinction of the passenger pigeon – once the most abundant bird species in North America. The website aims to "promote the conservation of species and habitat, strengthen the relationship between people and nature, and foster the sustainable use of natural resources."

You can also read about the decline of passenger pigeons at Birds of North America Online (bna.birds.cornell.edu/bna.html/species/611/articles/conservation). The article speculates about "the inability of the species to persist at low numbers."



Drawing by Diana Banville of passenger pigeon at the ROM

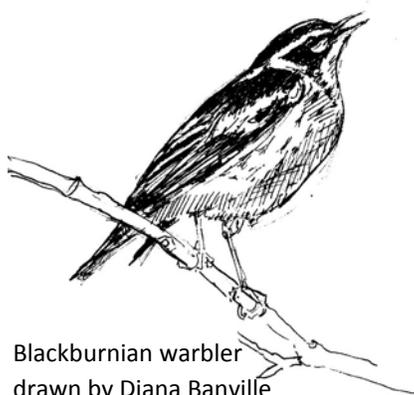
TFN MEETING

Sunday, September 7, 2014

2:30 pm

Migration in a Changing World: A Bird's Eye View of Geolocator Tracking

*Bridget Stutchbury, Conservation Biology Professor, York University
reveals research findings on the use of geolocators to track songbird migration*



Blackburnian warbler
drawn by Diana Banville

VISITORS WELCOME!

SOCIAL: 2:00 – 2:30 pm

Room 003, Northrop Frye Hall,

73 Queen's Park Cres East

Immediately southeast of Emmanuel College, south of the Museum subway station exit on the east side of Queen's Park. Enter on either the west or north side of the building. The west entrance is wheelchair accessible.

For information: call 416-593-2656 up to noon on the Friday preceding the lecture.

Upcoming TFN Lectures

- Oct 5 *Designing Toronto's Open Spaces*
James Brown & Kim Storey,
Brown & Storey Architects
- Nov 2 *Origin of Modern Ecosystems*
Jean-Bernard Caron, ROM
Paleontologist
- Dec 7 *What is Happening with Monarch Butterflies?*
Donald Davis, Citizen Scientist

NEW!

Discover the Don website

This website from the Don Watershed Regeneration Council and the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority has up-to-date information, news, events, and projects related to the Don River watershed in the Toronto Region.

The website replaces the previous "On the Don" quarterly newsletter.

``Whether it involves paddling the Don River, exploring the hundreds of kilometers of trails, or learning about the ecology of the watershed, Discover the Don has you covered!``

**Explore the Don River at:
www.discoverthedon.ca**

TFN OUTINGS

- TFN events are conducted by unpaid volunteers.
- The club assumes no responsibility for injuries sustained by anyone participating in our activities.
- Children and visitors are welcome at all TFN events. Children must be accompanied by an adult.
- If you plan to bring children in a stroller, be aware that there may be steps or other unsuitable terrain.
- Please do not bring pets.
- To get to outings on time, check TTC routes and schedules (www.ttc.ca or 416-393-4636).
- Outings go rain or shine: check the weather by calling 416-661-0123 so you will know what to wear.
- Wear appropriate footwear for walking on trails which may be muddy, steep or uneven.

- Thurs
Sept 4
10:00 am **WILD URBAN PLANTS (weeds) Part 1 – Nature Walk**
Leader: Miles Hearn
Meet at the southwest corner of Bathurst St and Queen St W. We will explore neglected land including alleys looking at spontaneous plants growing with zero maintenance. We will finish at a TTC stop on Fleet St (near Lake Shore Blvd W) close to Fort York. Morning only.
- Sat
Sept 6
10:30 am **WARD'S ISLAND – Nature Arts**
Leader: Joe Bernaske
Meet at the ferry dock at the foot of Bay St in time for the 10:45 sailing to Ward's Island. Bring what you need for writing, photography or sketching, and any work you wish to share with the group after lunch. \$ for ferry. Bring or buy lunch.
- Sun
Sept 7
2:30 pm **LECTURE – Migration in a Changing World: A Bird's Eye View of Geolocator Tracking**
Speaker: Bridget Stutchbury, Conservation Biology Professor, York University
Room 003, Northrop Frye Hall, 73 Queen's Park Cres E. See page 3.
- Tues
Sept 9
10:00 am **WILD URBAN PLANTS (weeds) Part 2 – Nature Walk**
Leader: Miles Hearn
Meet at the southeast corner of Eglinton Ave E and Brentcliffe Rd (just east of Laird Dr). We will explore the Thorncliffe Park industrial area looking at spontaneous plants growing with zero maintenance. We will finish at a TTC stop near East York Town Centre on Overlea Blvd. Morning only.
- Sat
Sept 13
10:00 am **WEST DEANE AND HEATHERCREST PARKS – Nature and History**
Leaders: Brian Yawney & Michael Bielecki
Meet at West Deane Park parking lot on the west side of Martin Grove Rd just north of Rathburn Rd. TTC bus 48 from Royal York subway station stops at this intersection. Allow 1 hour from Yonge St. A 2-3-hr loop walk on flat terrain with some dirt track. A washroom is available at the parking lot. Bring water and some munchies.
- Sun
Sept 14
1:30 pm **WARDS ISLAND – Nature Walk**
Leader: Jenny Bull
Take the 1:45 pm ferry to Wards Island from the ferry dock at the foot of Bay St. Meet the leader at Wards Island ferry dock at 2 pm. \$ for ferry.
- Thurs
Sept 18
10:00 am **COLONEL SAMUEL SMITH PARK – Nature Walk**
Leader: Kerry Adams
Meet at the bus stop opposite Tim Horton's at Humber College Lakeshore campus in the park (one stop prior to the turnaround for Kipling 44 bus. Morning only.
- Sat
Sept 20
10:30 am **E T SETON PARK AND THE FORKS OF THE DON – Nature Walk**
Leader: Margaret McRae
Meet at the southwest corner of the eastern intersection of Thorncliffe Park Dr and Overlea Blvd near the Esso station for a circular walk. Bring lunch.

- Sun
Sept 21
11:00 am **READING THE DON, LOST RIVER'S FOURTH BLOCKBUSTER POETRY WALK – Lost Rivers**
Leaders: poets Maureen Scott Harris, Maureen Hynes, Anita Lahey, Nick Power and Dilys Leman
A walk along the Lower Don as the poet leaders read its history, what it has become and what lies in store for it. Meet at entrance to Riverdale Park at St Matthews Clubhouse, south end of Riverdale Pk, west side of Broadview Ave, across from Langley Ave, 3 blocks north of Gerrard St. A joint outing with Toronto Green Community.
- Thurs
Sept 25
10:00 am **EDWARDS GARDENS AND WILKET CREEK – Birds and Insects**
Leader: Carol Sellers
Meet at the southwest corner of Lawrence Ave E and Leslie St. Bring lunch and binoculars. Duration 3 hours.
- Sat
Sept 27
10:00 am **EAST DON PARKLANDS – Fall Wildflowers and Salmon**
Leader: Phil Goodwin
Meet at the Cumming Ave bridge (halfway between Bayview and Leslie) north side entrance to the East Don Parklands. If driving, park on side streets near the bridge. Morning only.
- Sun
Sept 28
1:00 pm **TAYLOR CREEK PARK – Nature Walk**
Leader: Dianne Dietrich
Meet outside Victoria Park subway station for a circular walk. We'll go west following the creek to approximately Coxwell area and return using the hydro corridor. Suggest binoculars and footwear for muddy or uneven paths. Duration about 3 hours.
- Wed
Oct 1
10:30 am **GOLDIE FELDMAN RESERVE, HAPPY VALLEY FOREST – Nature Walk**
Leader: Mark Stabb, Central Ontario Program Director, Nature Conservancy of Canada
Come and enjoy early fall in the Oak Ridges Moraine as we explore the maple-oak woodlands and other headwater habitats of the Goldie Feldman Nature Reserve. In 2011, TFN funds supported the acquisition of this reserve property, and development of a public trail system is now complete. Bring water and lunch.
Contact Margaret McRae by Sept 27 re car pooling: [REDACTED]



Sketch of the pond just east of Victoria Park Road, near Taylor Creek, on June 7 Nature Arts outing . Drawn by Anne Leon

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It has been a wonderful summer but too short. We have had lots of rain so there is lots of greenery in our gardens and ravines even though we lost some good plants after the winter ice storm. Most of us lost our buddleias (butterfly-bush) which took many years to grow to their full size and had to be replaced by tiny plants which will take a few years to be of much use to the butterflies.

Our outreach program has been very active this summer leading walks for outside groups and having displays at events. We have led walks in Taylor Creek, Eglinton Flats, Wilket Creek, G. Ross Lord Park and the Guild and there are a few more scheduled for the fall. I have enjoyed many TFN walks. Thanks to all the members who have helped with the leading.

We have had a good season raising monarch butterflies. They were slow to arrive. I didn't see a monarch until July and they usually arrive in May. However, their breeding was exceptional. I am having my best year ever. I have about 80 on the go and have given away 50 eggs and

caterpillars to others who are raising them. I have had 10 monarchs emerge, 6 males and 4 females and have 35 pupas and 50 caterpillars and last week brought in 19 eggs in one day. The ones I am bringing in now will be migrating to Mexico this fall. So far, eleven of the people who signed up to raise butterflies have reported 25 caterpillars and 44 pupae and 3 butterflies on the go as well as some eggs. I don't think any of us have had any swallowtails. I have had black swallowtails in my yard but haven't found any eggs or larvae. I will give a full report at the end of the season.

Ward 29 Trees had a tree tour in my neighbourhood led by LEAF which I couldn't attend as I was leading a TFN walk, but I found it interesting that they stopped at my home to show my butterfly garden.

I have attended meetings about the East Don and Taylor Creek Park restoration plans this summer. They have big plans for restoration in Taylor Creek and new trails in the East Don. This year they are replacing the three bridges that were washed out in August 2012 and have replaced the Ferris Creek bridge.

We are updating our promotional material and will have new photos for the butterfly festival in late August. Thanks to Nancy Dengler for taking the lead on this. During the next year we will be renewing many of the display photos for trees, birds, plants etc. If any of you have high resolution quality photos you would like us to use, please send them in to photos@torontofieldnaturalists.org.

Please let us know if you would like to help with leading walks or with any of our stewardship activities. I hope to see you at a walk or lecture this fall.

Margaret McRae



Great egret at Todmorden Mills on July 23, photographed by Harvey Medland

On the front cover:

Carol Sellers identified this butterfly as an orange sulphur noting "it is not very orange but they do vary and are sometimes even white."

MONTHLY MEETING REPORT

Sand Dune Conservation

Sunday May 4, Patrick Donnelly, co-founder, Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation

Patrick Donnelly and Geoff Peach co-founded the Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation 14 years ago, an organization devoted to preserving one of the Great Lakes' most vulnerable ecosystems. The Centre promotes community education, provides stewardship guidance and planning, and gets communities to actively participate in coastal conservation. It has a dozen stewardship guides on its website, promotes community action through the Coastal Watchers (cottagers who walk the beach and submit notes and photos), and helps municipalities and landowners to preserve beaches and dunes by education, putting up fencing and erecting durable signs. Patrick Donnelly, in the concluding remarks to his interesting and informative talk, said that the Centre looks for passionate people on its Board, accepts donations, and asked those who value nature to educate family and friends. Please keep this in mind, especially if you have connections with the Lake Huron region.

The coastal environment for Lake Huron, including Georgian Bay, consists mainly of coastal wetlands, dunes and bordering beaches, and alvars. Patrick focussed mainly on dunes, a vitally important part of this ecosystem. Dunes are mounds of sand that, in the Lake Huron region, are stabilized by vegetation. They consist of sand carried ashore and deposited by comparatively gentle wave action. Their finer components are further transported inland by on-shore winds. Vegetation promotes the trapping of sand to build up dunes adjacent to the beach. In the Lake Huron region predominant northwest winds result in the dunes being confined to eastern shores. Point Clark is a dividing line between relict Pleistocene dunes, with finite sand, to the north, and prograding dunes, with ample sources of sand, to the south. Strong storm waves erode beaches and dunes and can form off-shore bars.

The whole coastal environment is a dynamic system, partly driven by wide natural fluctuations in water levels. Highs in the 1930s and 1986 were about 2 m above the lows in 1966 and 2013. Climate change may become an important factor in this system.

Dunes in this region provide not only a habitat for various rare and uncommon species but also a natural filtering function. This reduces pollution and the amount of bacteria and algae in lake waters, of particular importance because of the many cottages with septic systems. Dunes are in decline in quality and size because of ill-advised development and people destroying the stabilizing vegetation by trampling it or using dune buggies. This results in wind erosion, including sand blowouts that can migrate inland. The all important vegetation's ecological succession starts with the mustard American sea rocket (see TFN Newsletter, Feb 2013), followed inland by silverweed, wormwood, and little bluestem and then sand cherry and eastern white cedar. Important dune plants include American beach grass, long-leaved reed grass, and Great Lakes wheat grass, all with long tap roots that stabilize the sand.

To end on a positive note, more and more people and organizations are becoming aware of the necessity of working to preserve the Lake Huron dunes and the rest of the ecosystem. This is in no small part due to the Centre for Coastal Conservation.

Peter Money

For more information about the Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation, visit www.lakehuron.on.ca, or email coastalcentre@lakehuron.on.ca

Photos courtesy Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation



EXTRACTS FROM OUTINGS LEADERS REPORTS

Don Valley, Science Centre to Evergreen Brick Works, Mar 29. Leader: Ed Freeman. Today was the first day any of us had heard red-winged blackbirds chirping and telling us not to give up on spring, that spring was coming soon.

Colonel Samuel Smith Park, Apr 3. Leader: Kerry D. Adams. The highlight was a courtship dance performed by horned grebes. The dance started out with the two birds walking on the water side by side for about 3 m before dropping down. They then walked toward each other (again on the water) and just before colliding they stopped and then with one bird embracing the other with its wing they swam off toward the ice. A second highlight was an immature snowy owl that sat nicely for us to have a good look at his heavily barred plumage.



Bloodroot (left) and wild ginger in flower. Photos: Jenny Bull

German Mills Creek, Apr 26. Leader: Theresa Moore. We went to the recently designated German Mills Meadow and Natural Habitat, returning along the east side of the creek. Participants graciously agreed to collect litter along the way in honour of Earth Day with bags and pick-up provided by the Town of Markham. As well as looking for signs of spring, we discussed the area's history and past and current threats to the meadow habitat, including dog walking and the spread of dog-strangling vine. With input from the TFN, signage for the meadow should be erected soon. We encountered a large group organized by Evergreen planting trees. Bloodroot, violets and coltsfoot were flowering. We saw several song sparrows singing and many red-winged blackbirds and also heard blue jays, an American goldfinch and a cardinal. We saw 3 northern flickers, a veery, a downy woodpecker, a white-breasted

nuthatch, two rough-winged swallows and several tree swallows feeding over the pond. A great blue heron flew overhead.

Taylor Creek Park, Apr 27. Leader: Dianne Dietrich. We crossed new bridges replacing those wiped out by the big storm and observed the efforts to grade the banks. Construction has destroyed many plantings. We were joined by James McArthur from FODE (Friends of Don East) who pointed out areas of new plantings, destroyed plantings, and some future projects. There was much destruction in the ravine from the December ice storm, particularly to softwoods and Manitoba maples. There are plans for wetland improvements, with signs posted. A huge cleanup effort was made this year around Earth Day with little trash left compared to a few days before. We found bloodroot in flower and lots of trout lily in leaf. We heard woodpeckers thrumming and a red-bellied woodpecker call.

8th Annual Jane Jacobs Walk, May 4. Leaders: Pleasance Crawford and Helen Juhola. Having followed the same route on the same day for eight years, we know it well. This year we saw harbingers of the early spring that has usually come and gone before we arrive. Some particular delights were a lawn full of *Scilla siberica* 'Alba', emerging flower buds on an Ohio buckeye and the hundreds of buds on our favourite saucer magnolia. Sad to see were the brutal top-pruning of the line of weeping willows in Viewmount Park and the many emerald-ash-borer-afflicted ashes in Cedarvale Ravine Park. Thanks to Jane's Walk publicity, 36 people joined us, several saying this was their sixth Jane's Walk of the weekend! Many were very engaged and asked thoughtful and challenging questions.

Rouge Park, May 6. Leader: Orval White. We saw trillium, bloodroot, trout lily, ground ivy, coltsfoot and Dutchman's breeches in flower, water hemlock and may-apple in leaf. We observed 3 mourning cloak butterflies, 22 species of birds and 2 red squirrels.

Salamanders, Happy Valley Forest, May 7. Leaders: Ann and David Love. The temperature was 10°, still too cold to see many sallies. We observed eastern newt and red-backed salamanders, as well as western painted turtle, spring peepers and wood frogs. We saw lots of spring wildflowers including hepatica, bloodroot and violets in flower, and 22 species of birds including pileated woodpeckers, pine warbler, black-throated blue warbler, black and white warbler and brown creeper. A delightful ramble.

Continued on next page

COMMON TERN RAFT RETROFIT

By Karen McDonald, Project Manager, Toronto and Region Conservation (TRCA)

The Common Tern nesting rafts at Tommy Thompson Park, Toronto Islands and Frenchman's Bay were originally designed by TRCA and the Canadian Wildlife Service in the early 1990s. They functioned well over the years, but recently have become prone to predation from mink and raccoons. To address this, TRCA designed a new raft wall based on a German rat-proofing design – metal painted brown was bent into an angle so that mink and raccoons are unable to grip onto the surface and haul themselves over the lip. The ramp was eliminated as tern chicks are now unable to get off the raft until they can fly, plus it was easy predator access.



This past spring two of the new rafts were deployed at Tommy Thompson Park and were placed into deeper water in Embayments A and D as an additional deterrent. It worked! No mammalian predation incidents have been observed and productivity appears high. Portions of the Embayment D raft can be seen from the viewing platform and fledged tern chicks are now common, loafing on logs in the restored wetland. Given the success of this design TRCA plans to replace both the Toronto Islands and Frenchman's Bay rafts next spring.



Predator-proofed tern nesting raft (top). Common terns feeding chick. Photos courtesy TRCA

Another interesting tern note: this spring the TTP Bird Research Station captured an adult tern that they previously banded as a chick on the Cell 2 raft in 2010. It appears it returned home to nest!

East Don Parklands, May 10. Leader: Phil Goodwin. In flower were spring beauty, Virginia bluebells, blue cohosh, trilliums, toothwort, wild ginger, Jack-in-the-pulpit, bloodroot and scilla. Up, but not yet flowering, were may-apple and meadow rue. There were brown snakes, and a kingfisher was racing up German Mills Creek fishing.

High Park, May 15. Leader: Wendy Rothwell. The early start time (8 am) was a good experiment and worth doing again at this time of year. The best bird sightings were scarlet tanager, magnolia warblers, Baltimore orioles and gray catbird. Trilliums and violets were in bloom. The cherry blossom was very disappointing this year, perhaps due to the severe winter and late spring.

Leslie St Spit, May 17. Leader: Bob Kortright. The wind off the lake was cold but encouraged the birds to stay low for easy viewing, allowing us to find 72 species, including a late Iceland gull, 5 kinds each of swallows and sparrows, 12 kinds of warblers, 10 kinds of ducks, common terns nesting on the new mink-proof rafts [see article above], and great

views of nesting black-crowned night-herons. We also saw a raven, likely one nesting on the new power plant [see *National Post* article and photo: news.nationalpost.com/2014/04/19/ravens-spotted-in-toronto-set-the-birding-world-abuzz/].

Continued on next page

Trout lily,
Humber Bay Park
and Wildflower
Reserve,
TFN outing
11 May.
Photo: Joanne
Doucette



Outings reports continued.

Toronto Waterfront, May 20. Leader: Peter Iveson.

We went through Little Norway Park to the tip of the Western Gap, which is now repaired to the end, and saw Billy Bishop Airport and heard the noise of aircraft. TFN is among organisations being consulted by those researching environmental issues related to the airport expansion.

Morningside Park, May 24. Leader: Charles Chaffey.

In the swamps large leaves of skunk cabbage were very prominent and there were a few decaying flower spathes visible with some developing fruit. Spring wildflowers appear never to have been abundant in the areas we visited; only a few trilliums in just one place. Upstream along east Highland Creek we noticed the work done to stabilize the creek banks.

Warden Woods, May 28.

Leader: Betty McCulloch.

Birds seen or heard included warbling vireo, chickadee, chimney swift, great-crested flycatcher, eastern wood-

peewee, great blue heron and yellow warbler. There was no stench from the river as there had been a couple of years ago. Does this mean that the work to clean the environment in this area is being successful?

Crothers Woods, May 29. Leader: Ed Freeman. There were a multitude of flowering plants including dame's rocket, wild geranium, may-apple, lily-of-the-valley, honeysuckle and false Solomon's-seal. The trout lilies were going to fruit. A solitary kingbird perched for us to examine closely. We saw red-winged blackbirds and robins, and in the woods heard many bird songs including red-eyed vireo.

Wilket Creek Park, May 31. Leader: Lynn Miller. Native wildflowers blooming included Jack-in-the-pulpit, false Solomon's-seal, white trillium, wild ginger and may-apple. We also noted hepatica, early meadow rue, blue cohosh and poison ivy. The creek has flooded, likely last fall, and washed out an area that used to have a fairly large number of native flowers.

Centennial Park, Jun 1. Leader: Claire Bergeron.

Around the large pond we heard green frogs and spotted dark brown dragonflies as well as bumblebees and an egret in flight.

Wilket Creek Park, Jun 4. Leader: Tom Atkinson. The flood crests washing down the river valleys have scoured

the creek channel down a metre to 1.5 metres lower than they were a quarter century ago. We noted plant pests such as phragmites, purple loosestrife, swallow-wort, garlic mustard and purging buckthorn, but there were also marsh marigolds, skunk cabbage, cattail and asters. Woody plants included red, silver, sugar and black maple; bur, red and white oak; black cherry; white pine; cottonwood; bitternut hickory; butternut; osage orange; (dead or dying) ash; hemlock; leatherwood; alternate-leaf dogwood; nannyberry; and a weird buckeye (keyed afterwards as *Aesculus glabra* var. 'arguta', which has no business being planted by the City of Toronto).

Cherry Beach and Beyond, Jun 5. Leader: Richard

Partington. Perfect examples of Doric order columns on the old Beau Arts Greek revival bank building on Cherry opposite the Keating Bar were a delight, as was the old early 1900s Cherry Restaurant further south and the beautiful art deco lettering of the little Toronto Hydro building.

Taylor Creek-Dawes Road

Pond, Jun 7. Leader: Gail Gregory. In flower were blue flag, Canada anemone, sweet Cicely and Virginia waterleaf. We saw a tiger swallowtail, red darners, a red meadow hawk, white spots, red fire ants, and, especially abundant on dogwood blossoms, syrphid flies collecting pollen. A highlight was a snowy egret. [See also drawing on page 5.]

Woodbine Park, Jun 10. Leader: Linda McCaffrey.

The trumpeter swans in the pond now have 5 cygnets.

Rouge Campground, Jun 14. Leaders: Jim and Petra Grass. A very good park with a wide variety of plants and birds, terrain, and different environments. Trails are well marked. Plants noted included silverweed, trilliums, may-apple, false Solomon's-seal, bloodroot, Virginia waterleaf, wild columbine, prickly cucumber, cow parsnip and wild geranium. A slant white line moth was observed but not immediately identified. We heard a mourning warbler and an indigo bunting singing and saw belted kingfisher, pileated woodpecker, Cooper's hawk, red-tailed hawk and other common birds.

Poetry and Butterflies on Lost Garrison Creek, Jun 15.

Leader: Helen Mills. We enjoyed poetry readings and a discussion of the situation of the monarch butterfly and the work of the Homegrown National Park. We identified



Insect on dames rocket, and caterpillar on dogwood. Wilket Creek Park, June 4. Photos: Lloyd Mayeda

various host plants; e.g. elm for mourning cloak, tulip tree for tiger swallowtail. We ended at Massey Harris Park with poems about corn and the monarch butterfly, and a discussion of the impact of GMO corn on milkweed and monarchs.

Ed: From facebook.com/HomegrownNationalPark: "The Homegrown National Park Project aims to establish a green corridor through the heart of the City of Toronto, along the former route of Garrison Creek." See News (p18) for link to report on David Suzuki Foundation website of milkweed planting along this corridor.

Morningside Park, Jun 19. Leader: Orval White.

Invertebrates seen included white admiral, clouded sulphur, silver spotted skipper, eastern tiger swallowtail, silvery blue and ebony jewelwing. Birds included Baltimore oriole, common yellow-throat, cedar waxwing, red-eyed vireo, song sparrow and cowbird. There was a leopard frog, an American toad and a woodchuck.

L'Amoreaux Park, Jun 21. Leader: Charles Chaffey. A red-eyed vireo was singing. Fruits of many spring wildflowers were developing, including those of white and red trillium, blue cohosh, bloodroot, and red baneberry. Few plants were in bloom in the woodlot, but we noted white and yellow avens, and multiflora rose. Carol Sellers and others identified many butterflies, moths and dragonflies; the numerous mosquitoes were very evident without the guidance of experts. From the viewing area we saw a great blue heron standing in the middle of the pond with its legs submerged. After it managed to capture a quite large fish, we watched with awe as the bulge of the fish moved down the bird's long neck; clearly it had to work hard with its neck muscles to get its lunch down to its stomach. In a more open part of the park, summer field plants were in bloom, including white and red clover, wild rose, purple flowering raspberry, common milkweed, and dame's rocket.

Eglinton Flats, Jun 24. Leader: Madeleine McDowell. A lot of tree planting by a Native group has taken place over the past year. We descended the slope through the plantings and existing woods to the river, where we listened to its music and strolled the bank to near where John Scarlett had his mill. (I brought pictures from the 1850s of John, his wife, mill and bridge.) There was some bank erosion and a lot of excellent fossils present, as well as clam shells from recent racoon meals. Then we went to the place where Lt Gov Simcoe camped on the night of Sept 25, 1793 and I read an account of the crayfish and wild grapes that his men harvested for their dinner. We continued parallel to the river, turning back after passing a bubbling spring-fed stream. At the park land and soccer pitches, I passed around a newspaper article about the site from Oct 16, 1954, and a picture of the Queensbury Arms surrounded by water. We

noted the contrast of noisy Eglinton and the quiet natural refuge of the valley filled with bird song and tree noises.

Glendon Ravine, Jun 28. Leader: Nancy Dengler. The trail passes a wet marsh, home to white turtlehead (the major larval food plant of the Baltimore checkerspot butterfly). Our group first spotted a dead adult by the trailside. Although disappointed, we were glad to have a close-up look and to be able to handle this beautiful little butterfly. A bit farther down the trail a member spotted a live adult and then we found several more flitting in the sunlight and basking on the trail. Ken Sproule spotted empty pupal cases on nearby white ash, suggesting the caterpillars use this as a food source too. Our return up the Burke Brook trail was an obstacle course as we had to climb over, under and around two large trees that had fallen as a result of heavy rains a few days before.



Baltimore checkerspot butterfly and pupa, Glendon Ravine, June 28. Photos: Nancy Dengler



Leslie St Spit, Jun 29. Leader: Bob Kortright. On the way to see the nesting black-crowned night-herons and cormorants, highlights included a male green-winged teal, a couple of great egrets, many Caspian and common terns, canvasbacks, silvery blues, red admirals, European skippers, and many flowers including foxglove beard-tongue, 4 kinds of cinquefoil, 6 kinds each of mustard and clover.

FOR READING

Woodpeckers of the World A Photographic Guide

By G. Gorman,
Firefly, 2014, 528pp
\$31.47

This is a beautiful book with 2 pages for most species with range map, photos, and text covering vocalizations, drumming, status, habitat, variation and subspecies, similar species, and food/foraging. There is also a description of each of the 29 genera into which the 239 species described are grouped (versus 219 species covered by Birdlife international). There is an extensive bibliography.

Introductory material (taxonomy, distribution, anatomy, habitat, behaviour, breeding, plumage and moult, food/foraging, flight, calls, drumming, and the importance of woodpeckers) covers only 20 pages. For example, the book does not cover relationships among genera, except via occasional comments in the introductions to some genera.

Note that photographic guides, including this one, are less able to illustrate key features to distinguish one species from another than those that use illustrations. This book is also too big to recommend as a field guide.

I was surprised by the statement in the introduction that the Piciformes, the order that includes woodpeckers, includes some of the oldest avian lineages, since the latest family trees for birds suggest the opposite, with the Piciformes and their nearest relatives the Coraciformes (kingfishers et al) further out on the twigs of the tree than any other orders.

Bob Kortright

Plants of Southern Ontario

by Richard Dickinson & France Royer
Published by Lone Pine, softcover, 5.5" x 8.5", 528 pages, \$29.95

Covering 759 species in 138 plant families of trees, shrubs and vines, wildflowers, grasses, rushes, sedges and ferns. Common and scientific names, concise text and colour photographs help with plant identification. Notes provide info about habitat, ecology, similar species, edibility, traditional uses and origins of plant names.

The ROM Field Guide to Butterflies of Ontario

(the fifth in the ROM's series of field guides of Ontario)

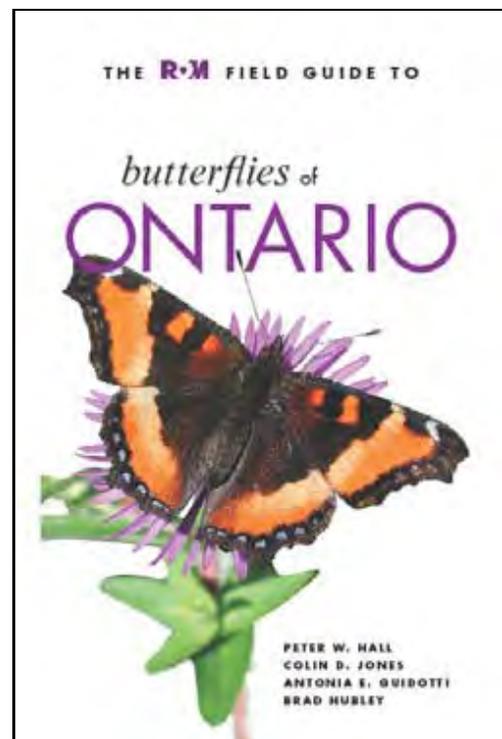
By lepidopterists Peter W. Hall and Colin D. Jones and ROM entomology technicians Antonia Guidotti and Brad Hubley.

\$29.99

Described as the "First ever definitive guide to butterflies of Ontario, this book features 167 species, easy-to-use navigation, and more than 800 colour photographs."

Highlights include:

- Quick and accurate species identification, using size, shape and colour
- Flight season graphs
- Best places to observe butterflies in Ontario
- First-ever use of computer-modelled predictive distribution maps
- Checklist to track your sightings
- 16 comparative plates for similar-looking species
- Conservation and protection of butterflies
- Additional species to watch for in Ontario
- List of plants used by butterflies and caterpillars
- A key to families for beginners



TORONTO WILDFLOWERS: GROUND CHERRIES

Ground cherries are members of the genus *Physalis*, part of the Solanaceae (potato family). This family, mainly tropical or subtropical, includes about 63 genera and 1200 species. Widely used food plants, besides potatoes, include tomatoes, eggplant, and various peppers. The family also includes tobacco and many highly poisonous species, notably deadly nightshade (*Atropa belladonna*). North America has 34 species of *Physalis*. Four of these occur in northeastern North America. Some more southern *Physalis* species produce edible fruits, including the husk tomato (*P. pubescens*) and tomatillo (*P. ixocarpa*).

The TFN's *Vascular Plants of Metropolitan Toronto* (1994, 2nd ed.) listed clammy ground cherry (*Physalis heterophylla*) as uncommon and occurring in the Humber Valley, the Black Creek area, along the East and West Dons, in High Park and in the Rouge Valley. *P. longifolia* (smooth ground cherry) was listed, in a supplementary list, as rare and found only in the Etobicoke Creek drainage. I have not been able to find it. *The ROM Field Guide to Wildflowers of Ontario* (2004) listed only *P. heterophylla* and noted it occurs in dry prairies, oak woodlands, and dry sandy soils in the Georgian Bay and more southerly ecoregions. Its range extends from Saskatchewan to Quebec and southwards. In Toronto I have seen an occurrence in an open area of dry sandy soils a short distance above the junction of the Rouge and Little Rouge and another in similar environments in High Park.

Physalis comes from the Greek *physis* (bladder), referring to the inflated calyx of the fruit. The orange calyx of an introduced species (*P. alkekengi*) is the "Chinese Lantern" of our gardens. *P. heterophylla* produces a calyx of similar shape but it remains green. Its 1.5 to 2 cm yellow flowers can bloom at any time from July to September.



Ground cherry, *Physalis heterophylla*
Photos: Peter Money

If you come across a *Physalis* in natural areas in Toronto check to see if it is hairy (*P. heterophylla*) or smooth (*P. longifolia*). You may be the first to find a new locality for the latter, locally rare, species. If so, become a trifle botanically famous, at least in TFN circles, by telling the TFN!

Peter Money

*Overnight it would seem
an impressionist has touched
summer's green canvas.*

Haiku by Arthur Wade

KEEPING IN TOUCH



This colorful *Antheraea polyphemus* visited our balcony last evening (June 26). A member of the giant silk moths (family Saturniidae), it is named after the one-eyed cyclops Polyphemus son of Poseidon and Thoosa from Greek mythology because of the large eyespots on the hindwings.

The adults have only vestigial mouth parts and do not feed during the week or so that they search for mates. This individual is a male as it has the plumose antennae used to detect the female's pheromones, and can fly for miles in order to reach a female. Needless to say it was gone from our balcony the next morning!

Although perhaps not as well known as the Cecropia moth, Polyphemus is widespread in continental North America with local populations found throughout subarctic Canada. Conservation status is demonstrably stable globally and not at risk.

Lloyd Mayeda



On August 3, on a walk in High Park I was admiring an old copper beech tree near Colborne Lodge and noticed this beautifully camouflaged moth resting on the bark. Not sure what this moth is - is it a gypsy moth?

Anna Carr

Ed: Carol Sellers informs us that it is not a gypsy moth.



It was a pleasure to go on the June 7 Nature Arts Outing led by Gail Gregory. I was happy to spot a beaver swimming along with a one metre branch in its mouth, then enjoyed sitting by the pond sketching. We were all invited to eat our lunches in Gail's garden, and she and her husband generously provided salads and ice cream with rhubarb from their garden. It was a delightful time which allowed us to socialize, and several of us listened to stories told by Joanne Doucette. My thanks to Gail and her husband and to TFN for making Nature Arts and all outings possible.

Anne Leon

Ed: see Anne's sketch on page 5.

The cheque I am enclosing is a donation in memory of my husband, Stephen J. Molnar. He loved nature and, when he was able, liked to join your outings. The magazine was read cover to cover as soon as it arrived. Thank you for the pleasure it gave him - especially in his later years.

Betty L. Molnar

Ed: We have been pleased to receive donations in memory of long time TFN member Charles Reeves who died recently.

Barry Singh sent us this photo he took last year on the Leslie St Spit of a groundhog up a tree!

BIRD'S NEST FUNGUS

Clusters of the button-sized bird's nest fungus, *Cyathus striatus*, can be discovered growing on organic matter such as decaying wood or manure. The vase-shaped “nest” is only 2 cm high. In it you will find several gray “eggs” (sacs) that contain the spores. Attached to the lower side of each egg is a hollow stalk filled with compressed air. Inside the stalk, and attached to the egg is a coiled cord with a sticky tip. This assembly, which resembles a cannon awaiting a match, is attached to the nest by a few threads.



That match is a well-aimed raindrop! When it hits the nest, the stalk explodes flinging the egg into the air like a catapult. The freed cord extends to its full length of 8 inches.

Suddenly, the cord is intercepted by a twig or pine needle. The cord twists and spins, but to no avail. Its sticky tip fastens to the twig. It's over. Some of the cord is now wrapped around its captor. From the rest hangs the egg that will dry, crack and release its spores.

Harvey Medland

CORKTOWN COMMON: A NEW PARK FOR TORONTO

TFNers have started using Corktown Common for personal walks as well as TFN outings. There is general enthusiasm about this new park.

Phoebe Cleverley, reporting on an outing she led in July, said: “We were all really pleased with the way this park has been planned and developed. From a wasteland, they have created a pleasant area for walking or cycling, with different levels (hills), a wooden walkway over a thriving wetland, native trees, shrubs and flowers, flat, grassy areas for casual games, benches, and an imaginative playground for children ... also an attractive shelter with drinking fountain and WASHROOMS! It was quiet on Tuesday evening, but humming with family activity on the weekend.”

A joint outing with Lost Rivers in April led by John Wilson and others (including Friends of Corktown Common) resulted in “enthusiastic discussion of the flood protection plan which created an elaborate watershed divide where previously a degraded brownfield comprised of compacted, polluted till sat on strata of fluvial and alluvial deposits from the Don River at several previous geological stages... The planting plan for naturalized areas is almost exclusively native vegetation. Upland trees and shrubs included hackberry, yellow birch, basswood, northern catalpa, trembling aspen, American hop hornbeam (ironwood),

tamarack, serviceberry, elderberry, red osier dogwood. Marsh species included several *Carex* sp., broad-leaved arrowhead, pickerelweed, white water-lily. We noted a Kentucky coffee tree in a stand of street trees in Lawren Harris Square.”

On May 22, an outing led by Linda McCaffrey reported sightings of marsh marigolds, frogs and red-winged blackbirds.

Some TFN members were disappointed that the park wasn't larger and felt that it might not be adequate for the number of people projected to be living in the area in the near future.

Apparently, trees have not been planted on the berm that protects the new communities from flooding from the Don River because flooding can knock trees over and cause additional trouble when they are swept down the river. An article in the Toronto Star on July 10, the official opening day, reported that there were 700 trees in the 18-acre park, including maples, red oaks, birch, pine and tulip-tree.

You can read about the park at Friends of Corktown Common website: www.friendsofcorktowncommon.com/sample-page/about-the-park/

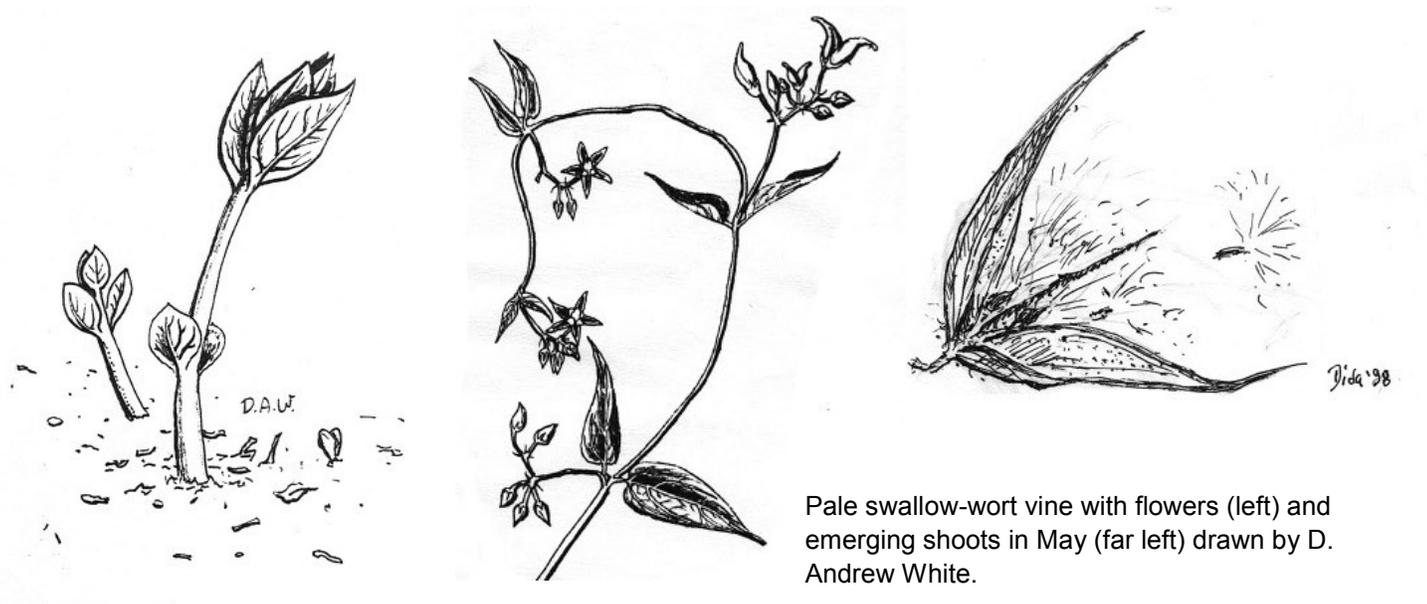
FROM THE ARCHIVES

From TFN #462, October 1996

Extracted from a response by then President Morris Sorensen to a member's suggestion that TFN take on the control of garlic mustard and swallow-wort (dog-strangling vine) in Toronto. See news item (Monarch butterflies) on page 18.

...Unlike many alien weeds which colonize mostly disturbed ground, pale swallow-wort and garlic mustard are taking over large portions of our parklands. As a plant which spreads its seeds via wind-borne "parachutes", swallow-wort is able to disperse rapidly. The City of

Toronto is aware of this problem and is attempting to rectify it, at least in High Park. Swallow-wort is a relatively new arrival to our area and perhaps in time its population will stabilize as other organisms adapt to its presence. TFN members should certainly be educated to recognize it, control it on their own properties and write letters of support for non-chemical efforts to limit its spread. The bottom line is, however, if we do not protect the entire biosphere, the control of pale swallow-wort ...will become a moot point as there will be no places left for any wild things to flourish...



Pale swallow-wort vine with flowers (left) and emerging shoots in May (far left) drawn by D. Andrew White.

The "swallow effect" - an open pod discharging plumed seeds drawn by Diana Banville (right).

WEATHER (THIS TIME LAST YEAR)

September 2013

Heat lurked a couple of hundred kilometres to the west this month, but only made one serious foray into our area. Overall, the month averaged very close to or even slightly below normal in both temperature and rainfall.

The first part of the month was characterized by fairly warm conditions, although the main warm air mass stayed to the west except on the 10th-11th when temperatures soared into the thirties and gave us the first significant hot weather in almost two months. Pearson Airport hit 34.1° on September 10th.

Thereafter it dramatically cooled down. A cold front on the 11th brought severe thunderstorms to the west of Toronto, but they were quieter by the time they reached us. By the 13th, daytime readings were in the 11°-12° range and the next morning had dropped to 5°, which is not exceptionally cold for a September minimum. Nonetheless, cool weather dominated most of the rest of the month, although it became sunny and quite pleasant with afternoon temperatures near 20°.

Gavin Miller

TORONTO WILDLIFE CENTRE OPEN HOUSE

I had a wonderful time this weekend at the Toronto Wildlife Centre (TWC) Open House event. The TWC invited TFN and other donors for a behind-the-scenes look at the work they're doing with sick, injured and orphaned animals. It was a fascinating visit. The TWC has cared for over 74,000 animals in their 20-year history. I discovered that a surprising amount of detail and planning goes into the rehabilitation of even the tiniest critter, including tailor-made diets, special medicines, and custom-made enclosures. They also take steps to reduce the animal's stress by keeping human contact at a minimum. Their ultimate goal, after rehabilitation is complete, is to release healthy animals back into the wild.

What can you do to help the TWC other than donate? Educate! I discovered that well-meaning individuals sometimes unintentionally create problems, or worsen an existing problem. Pass along these tips!

- Some species leave their offspring alone during the day. For example, baby rabbits are well-camouflaged and



mamma stays away during the daylight hours to minimize predation. So if you find a nest of baby bunnies, just leave it alone.

- If a bird hits your window, place it in a cardboard box so it will be safe from predators while recovering. Don't put it in a bird cage – that could damage its feathers and make it worse off.
- Turtles that are hit by a car should be brought to a wildlife centre. Even if the turtle dies, it might contain eggs that can be raised to help the turtle population.
- If you come across an injured porcupine, don't wrap it in something soft. Their quills will stick to it and come out, leaving them defenceless. Use something rubber or a really heavy-duty plastic.
- Don't feed injured animals. It's better to give them nothing than to give them the wrong food.

For more information about this wonderful organization, please check out their web page: torontowildlifecentre.com

Lynn Miller

2014 – 2015 TFN Grants Awarded

Bird Studies Canada: \$5000

to conduct public bird events and informative workshops to train urban volunteers for participation in citizen science such as Project Feeder Watch, Nighthawk Watch and Swift Watch.

EcoSpark Environmental Organization: \$2500

for an outdoor education program for Grade 8-12 students which brings students to local rivers for benthic water monitoring, stewardship and connection to nature.

Fatal Light Awareness Program (FLAP): \$5000

for education, research, rescue and rehabilitation programs aimed at safeguarding migratory birds in the urban environment.

Forests Ontario: \$5000

for "Tree Bee", a tree identification and forest awareness program for students in Grades 4-6 with the aim of helping instill a conservation ethic and encouraging young people to explore the forests around them.

Heritage York: \$4700

to help establish, and provide educational materials for, a Natural Heritage Specimen Garden of indigenous plants found in the Humber watershed, as described in Catherine Parr Traill's 1866 *Canadian Wildflowers*.

High Park Nature Centre: \$10,300

to provide support for Family Nature Walks and Nature Clubs for Kids programs, including a new program "At Home in High Park" for homeschooled children.

Ontario Nature: \$5000

to Nature Guardians to sponsor the Youth Summit for Biodiversity and Community Action and support the Youth Council and their new Pollinator Protection program.

Toronto Botanical Garden: \$5000

to help support the Kids Outreach programs, including Green Explorer, Green Adventure and Living Winter, all designed to provide opportunities for new Canadians and disadvantaged kids to learn about nature.

Toronto Wildlife Centre: \$2500

for a program on "Giving orphaned precocial baby birds a second chance at life in the wild", with an emphasis on public education through e-news, webcam and social media.

Toronto Zoo: \$5000

to help the Adopt-A-Wetland Conservation Program develop a "Terrific Turtles" education package, as part of the "Engaging youth in the protection of nature through turtle education and stewardship" program.

IN THE NEWS

Monarch butterflies

Monarch butterfly expert Don Davis is featured in an article “The Monarch’s Knight” in *ON Nature*’s summer 2014 issue at www.ontarionature.org (click on ON Nature at bottom right of screen). Don will also be presenting TFN’s December lecture.

As you read this, fall migration will be starting and can be tracked at the Journey North website. You can also view this summer’s reports of butterflies, caterpillars and eggs in Ontario and other parts of North America. First Toronto report was June 9, and butterflies were reported in Elliot Lake on July 5 with a note that this may be the first sighting there since 2011! See www.learner.org/jnorth/monarch, click on Sightings, This Season’s Sightings.

For recent history on low population numbers, see “Canaries in the Coalfield” at the Nature Conservancy blog. See blog.nature.org/science/2014/02/26/cornfield-monarch-butterfly-decline-pollinators-agriculture.

The Monarch Butterfly Fund website describes a conservation project that is reforesting previously-farmed areas in the buffer zone around the Monarch Butterfly Biosphere Reserve (www.monarchbutterflyfund.org, click on Our Strategy, Forest Conservation/ Reforestation).

In Toronto, 4000 milkweed plants were planted along the Garrison Creek corridor this summer by volunteers. See davidsuzuki.org/blogs/panther-lounge/2014/06/a-fitting-tribute-to-monarchs/

The Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs reports that 2 dog-strangling vine/swallow-wort species have been added to the noxious weed list while milkweed has been removed. “More management options have been developed for farmers to deal with common milkweed. Dog-strangling vines are aggressive, invasive plants that can interrupt the monarch butterfly’s life cycle. The butterfly is attracted to the plants, but eggs laid will not survive.” See www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/crops/facts/faq_weeds_act.htm#milkweed.

Meanwhile Agriculture Canada has allowed the release in the Ottawa area of a Ukrainian moth that defoliates dog-strangling vine. Caterpillars released last summer pupated over the winter. This type of biological control is very controversial because of the possibility of non-target plant species being attacked. See bcinvasives.ca/news-events/recent-highlights/agriculture-canada-releases-moth-to-eat-invasive-dog-strangling-vine.



Neonicotinoids in Ontario

From a news item posted July 7 on CBC website by Susan Noakes (www.cbc.ca/news/business/ontario-looking-to-restrict-use-of-bee-killing-pesticides-1.2698957)

Ontario plans to consult with growers and agricultural representatives to reduce or eliminate widespread and indiscriminate use of neonicotinoids (neonics), a class of chemicals implicated in the deaths of bees. The pesticide disrupts the central nervous system of insects for the life of the plant. Ontario doesn’t have the power to ban [them] but it can ban their sale in the province as it did with lawn chemicals.

[Most corn and soybean] is grown using neonics. Beekeepers have expressed

concern about neonics for years and the agriculture industry is worried it will not have the pollinators it needs for growing fruits and vegetables. The Ontario Beekeepers’ Association [has petitioned the province] to ban the pesticides [see Position Statement at www.ontariobee.com]. A Health Canada study linked widespread deaths of bees to use of neonics.

Evidence has been mounting linking neonics to bee mortality. In late June, the Task Force on Systemic Pesticides, a group of 50 scientists from around the world, released a study of the literature [800 articles] about the long-term impact of neonics and concluded they ought to be banned. They are already banned in the European Union.

Friends of the Earth Study Gardeners beware: Bee-toxic pesticides in “bee-friendly” plants

A study by Friends of the Earth showed that 51% of garden plant samples purchased at top garden retailers in 18 cities in the U.S. and Canada contain neonicotinoid pesticides, a key contributor to recent bee declines. Some of the plants contained neonic levels high enough to kill bees outright assuming comparable concentrations are present in the pollen and nectar. Further, 40% of the positive samples contained two or more neonicotinoids.

For more information see: www.foe.org/beeaction

COMING EVENTS

If you plan to attend any of these events, we recommend that you contact the organizing group beforehand to confirm time and place.

Jim Baillie Memorial Bird Walks – Toronto Ornithological Club

Aimed at the intermediate birder, but beginners also welcome. Free to the public. Information: www.torontobirding.ca

- Sat, Sept 6, 8 am - noon. High Park – Fall migrants, raptors. Leader: Gavin Platt. Meet at the parking lot inside the Bloor St entrance to the park at High Park Ave.
- Sat Sept 13, 8 am - afternoon. Leslie St Spit – Fall migrants, raptors and shorebirds. Leader: Justin Peter. Meet at the foot of Leslie St at Unwin Ave (south of Lake Shore Blvd E).
- Sun Sept 21, 8 am - noon. Lambton Woods – Fall migrants. Leader: Don Burton. Meet at James Gardens parking lot (access from Edenbridge Dr east of Royal York Rd, north of Dundas St W).
- Sun Sept 28, 7:30 am - afternoon. Toronto Islands - late fall migrants, raptors. Leader: Barry Coombs. Meet at Toronto Islands ferry docks at the foot of Bay St off Queen's Quay to catch the 8:15 am ferry to Hanlan's Point (\$6.50 ferry fee for adults; students/seniors \$4). Bring lunch.

High Park Walking Tours

1st and 3rd Sundays of each month, 10:30 am to noon. Meet at the benches across the road south of Grenadier Restaurant.

Information: 416-392-6916 or walkingtours@highpark.org or www.highpark.org.

- Sept 7 Myths and Legends, Colborne Lodge Staff
- Sept 21 Who Goes to the Park? – a poetic visit to sites from the well-known book

Rouge Park Weekly Guided Nature Walks

Explore Rouge Park's trails with a Hike Ontario certified volunteer leader.

Information: visit www.rougepark.com/hike, e-mail hike@rougepark.com or phone 905-713-3184, Monday thru Thursday.

The Market Gallery

To Jan 17, 2015. South St Lawrence Market, 2nd floor, 95 Front St E. Free. Toronto does her Bit – The Home Front in the Great War. Gallery closed Sun, Mon and holidays. Information: www.facebook.com/TorontoMarketGallery

Harbourfront Centre

To June 2015. No Flat City, Toronto's Incomparable Terrain. A photographic exhibit of the GTA landscape.

Lost Rivers Walks

Information: www.lostrivers.ca. Walking tours limited to 20 participants. Pre-registration is not required but, to ensure a spot on the tour, please email in advance to info@labspacestudio.com.

- Sun Sept 7, 6:15 pm. Bubbling Springs: Greek Town's water oasis on the Danforth. Leader: Ian Wheal. Meet at the entrance to Pape subway station. A walk of 1 1/2 hrs to the site of springs at Woodycrest Ave and Danforth Ave.
- Tues Sept 9, 6:30 pm. Tow-horse Station No. 1; Horse Memorial Walk – Yonge St from Deer Park to Yorkville, 1883-1914. Leader: Ian Wheal. Meet at Summerhill subway station.
- Sat Sept 13, 11:30 am - 1 pm. Don Was Here Part 2. Meet at Todmorden Mills, main bldg. Leader: Helen Mills. More info at www.donwashere.com.
- Sun Sept 14, 2 pm. Garrison Creek Ravine: Landfill by a Wonder Horse (CPR) with the Mind of a Computer in 1880s Toronto. Leader: Ian Wheal. Meet at the northeast corner of King St W and Tecumseth St. A 2-hr walk in the Liberty Village area.

Ian Wheal Walks

Sat Sept 6. Urban Heritage Walk - First World War Toronto. Meet at 2 pm at the northwest corner of Keele St and West Toronto St. A 2 1/2-hr tour of junction military sites, Union Stockyards, Scarlett Plains, Police Village and Military Remount Station..

Gem and Mineral Show

Sat 13 (10am - 6pm) and Sun 14 Sept (11 am to 5pm). Community centre at 2467 Eglinton Ave E by Kennedy subway station.

Adults & Seniors \$5, children \$1.

Dusk in the city

Cicadas buzzing sleepily

Finally, silent

Haiku by Helen Juhola

Toronto Field Naturalists
1519—2 Carlton St.,
Toronto, Ontario, M5B 1J3

Publications Mail
Registration No. 40049590



Yellow-necked scape moth photographed by June West in High Park