

TORONTO FIELD NATURALIST

Number 477

September 1998



"Thrush territory", based on a photograph by Alf Buchanan at Pickering Museum Village.

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TFN MEETINGS

Sunday, September 13, 1998 - TORONTO ZOO'S NEW AFRICAN SAVANNA,
an illustrated talk by Paul Harpley,
Project Manager of this new exhibit.

at 2:30 pm

in the Northrop Frye Hall
Victoria University

73 Queen's Park Cres. East

- Zoos are controversial institutions so it will be interesting to hear about the biggest, most ambitious redevelopment in the Zoo's 24-year history. This exhibit has been 10 years in the making and has grasslands, rivers and waterholes, kopje rocks, an elephant highway, a rhino midden... animals grazing in a habitat especially created to replicate their natural home.

+ before the lecture, the TFN will hold its ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING at which the financial statements, directors, and photos of our new property will be presented.

+ a social hour beginning at 2 pm with free juice and coffee

+ a chance to buy TFN publications and memberships

NEXT MEETING: Sunday, October 4, 1998

NEXT NEWSLETTER: October (to be mailed in mid September)

IT'S YOUR NEWSLETTER

Requested: Essays (no longer than 500 words), reviews (no longer than 300 words), poems, cartoons, sketches and newspaper clippings.

Subjects: plants, animals and natural areas in the Toronto region, especially reports of personal experiences with wildlife.

Please include your name, address and telephone number so submissions can be acknowledged. With newspaper clippings, include source and date of each clipping.

Time dated material such as notices of meetings should be submitted at least six weeks before the month in which the event is to take place.

Send material to: Toronto Field Naturalists
605 - 14 College St.
Toronto, Ontario M5G 1K2

TFN OUTINGS

REMEMBER: Children and visitors are welcome on all outings but please, **NO PETS!**
 To get to outings on time, check TTC routes and schedules by calling 393-4636.
 Check the weather by calling 661-0123 so you will know what to wear on outings which go rain or shine.

- Thursday WARDEN WOODS - insects Taylor Creek, Scarborough
 Sept. 3 Leader: Merne Powers
 10:30 am Meet just outside the Warden subway station (southeast corner of Warden Ave. and St. Clair Ave. East). Bring lunch. Bring a jar and magnifying glass so you can see the insects which we will capture and release. This will be a leisurely ramble in a wild valley.
- Saturday METRO ZOO - nature arts Rouge, Scarborough
 Sept. 5 Leader: Alf Buchanan
 10:30 am Meet at the zoo entrance (on the west side of Meadowvale Rd., north of Sheppard Ave. East.)
 \$ entry Bring camera or sketching materials and stool or just come and enjoy the zoo.
 \$ fee At lunch (bring your own or buy one at McDonald's) we get together and look at each other's work.
- Sunday REGENT PARK COMMUNITY GARDENS - urban nature Toronto
 Sept. 6 Leader: Ian Wheal
 2 pm Meet at the northeast corner of Queen St. East and Sumach St. Learn about the built and natural heritage of this historic district.
- Wednesday TORONTO ISLANDS - nature walk lakeshore, Toronto
 Sept. 9 Leader: Jenny Bull
 9:45 am Meet at the ferry docks at the foot of Bay St. Bring lunch.
 \$ ferry This is a lovely time of year at the Island, with plenty of flowers in bloom
 \$ tickets and birds and butterflies beginning to migrate.
- Saturday HIGH PARK - habitat study Toronto
 Sept. 12 Leader: Joanne Doucette
 10 am Meet at the park entrance on the south side of Bloor St. West opposite High Park Ave. Bring lunch.
 This will be an introduction to the habitats of the park and the plants and animals that live there. Bring notebook and pencil.
- Sunday TFN ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND ILLUSTRATED TALK
 Sept. 13 See page 2 for details.
 2:30 pm
- Thursday WIGMORE PARK - mystery tour East Don, North York
 Sept. 17 Leader: Rosemary Aubert
 10:30 am Meet at the school on the west side of Sloane Ave. north of Eglinton Ave. East. Bring lunch.
 The leader has written a mystery novel set in this part of the Don Valley. Come and learn how the landscape inspired her to write FREE REIGN in 1997.

SEPTEMBER OUTINGS (cont'd)

- Saturday
Sept. 19
1:30 pm
- DON VALLEY HILLS AND DALES - discovery walk Don, Toronto
Leader: Jerry Belan
Meet at the Castle Frank subway station.
Explore the scenic hills and dales of the Don River Valley. Discover panoramic views, an urban farm and the splendid park-like atmosphere of Toronto's oldest cemetery.
- Sunday
Sept. 20
1 pm
- URBAN SPRAWL - human & natural history Toronto
Leader: Michael McMahon
Meet at the Toronto Archives at 255 Spadina Rd, north of Dupont St., south of Davenport Rd.
First we will tour the archives and then take a walk through Wychwood and the Annex.
- +
- Sunday
Sept. 20
2 pm
- LAKESHORE PARKS & GARDENS - nature walk lakeshore, Toronto
Leader: Peter Iveson
Meet on the south side of Queen's Quay at Spadina Ave.
This walk will take us along the shoreline to look at the new fish spawning area and other new parks and gardens that have recently been created.
- Wednesday
Sept. 23
10:30 am
- LAMBTON WOODS - nature walk Humber, Etobicoke
Leader: Ann Millett
Meet at the park entrance on Edenbridge Drive which is east of Royal York Rd. and north of Dundas St. West. Bring lunch.
This is a lovely wild park beside the Humber River -- a favourite place to see migrating birds and unusual wildflowers.
- Saturday
Sept. 26
10:30 am
to 5 pm
- TFN NATURE RESERVES - a day in the country northeast of Metro
Leader: Robin Powell
Call 968-6255 if you want to attend this outing. Leave your name and telephone number. The bus leaves from the south exit of the York Mills subway station (on Old York Mills Rd. just east of Yonge St.) promptly at 10:30 am and returns there at 5 pm. Bring lunch, something to drink and waterproof footwear. Send \$10 to the TFN office to cover the cost of the bus.
The trip includes a visit to our newest property and time at our original Jim Baillie property to have lunch and walk the trails, including time to walk to the Emily Hamilton property. These are all wetlands of different types which the club has purchased since 1970.
- PMCL
school bus
\$10
- Sunday
Sept. 27
11 am
- HIGHLAND CREEK - restoration project Scarborough
Leader: Paul Albanese
Meet at the McCowan stop of the LRT -- at street level.
This will be a brief outing (about one hour) to look at plans to renaturalize a section of Highland Creek which had been straightened and directed into a cement channel some years ago.

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Although we do not have monthly meetings during the summer, the work of the TFN goes on and your directors have been busy representing the club at various environmental functions and displays. Your president who freely admits that he is much more at home in the field (or woods) than at meetings, has still managed to attend and participate in a number of the latter.

On June 29th I attended a special meeting at Black Creek Pioneer Village, coordinated by the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) which brought together the various organizations in the Greater Toronto Area which are concerned with the well-being of the Don River watershed.

Save the Oak Ridges Moraine (STORM) and the Richmond Hill Naturalists emphasized the importance of protecting the Don's headwaters in an area of rapid population growth. Richmond Hill, the main town in the area, has grown from a population of 35,000 in the early 1980s to over 100,000 today and may well have over 200,000 people early in the new millenium. Any pollution in the upper reaches of the Don will have repercussions further downstream and eventually an impact upon Lake Ontario. Nature does not recognize our artificial political boundaries and we must think beyond Toronto in protecting our environment.

Closer to home for me is Taylor Creek, a major tributary of the Don. I was pleased to hear of work in progress to restore Taylor Creek (also known as Massey Creek) at its headwaters near Terraview Park, at Pharmacy Avenue in Scarborough, just south of Hwy. 401. The original headwaters extended slightly north of Hwy.401 and were cut off by the building of that highway. Taylor Creek south of Hwy. 401 is presently channelized between high concrete banks for some distance. I hope to arrange a TFN walk sometime this fall to highlight the proposed restoration.

Other meetings I've attended included a discussion of the proposed interpretive plan for the Rouge Park and reports from the Great Lakes St. Lawrence and Boreal East roundtable of Lands for Life (see my May report for information on the latter).

Don't forget that our regular monthly meetings begin September and that our special 75th anniversary meeting will be in December. Please plan to attend!

President's Field Notes #8, September 1998

For a number of years now I have been recording the flowering dates of wildflowers I have observed. I could not help but notice how early everything was this year. In checking my notes since 1993 I noticed that some species seemed to be flowering a month ahead of normal. Furthermore, although things usually even out by mid June, this year saw species two weeks in advance even at the end of the month.

Of course, this study is not scientifically accurate as some plants may have come into bloom long before I visited their habitats in any given year. Note, however, how consistant the dates have been for yellow sweet clover, chicory and common milkweed for all years except 1998. Is this a sign of global warming? One cannot make such an assumption based on a

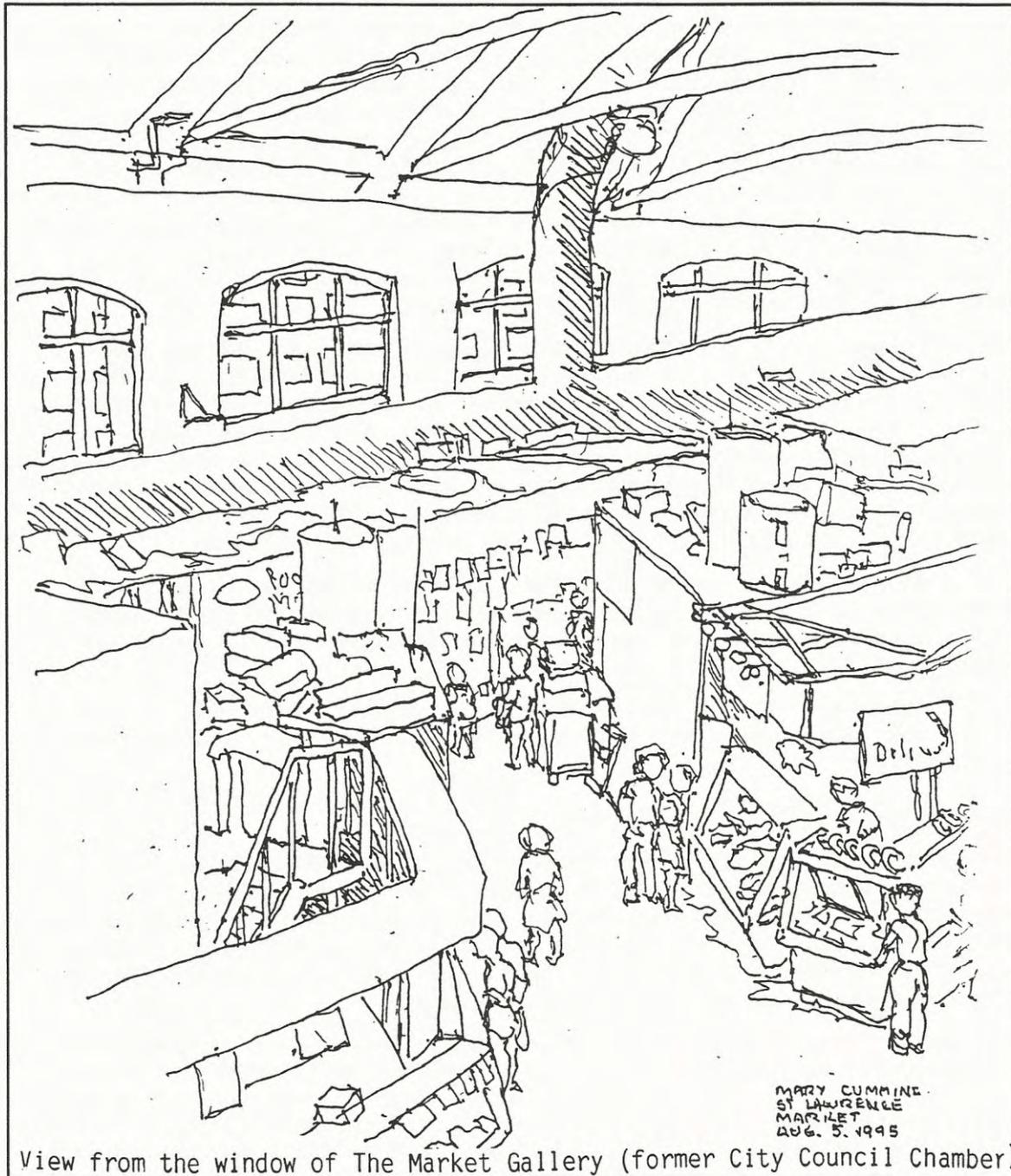
PRESIDENT'S REPORT (cont'd)

single year. Weather conditions do fluctuate greatly. However, observations made by many observers over a period of time may help to identify a trend. I urge you to keep your own nature diaries, not only for your personal interest but for future study for other observers.

All the observations in the chart which follows were made by me in Southern Ontario, mostly in the Greater Toronto area.

Morris Sorensen

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View from the window of The Market Gallery (former City Council Chamber)

Species	1998	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993
scilla or squills						
<i>Scilla sibirica</i>	Apr 4	Apr 22	Apr 21	Apr 15	-	Apr 23
common dandelion						
<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>	Apr 4	Apr 26	May 5	Apr 24	Apr 29	Apr 28
yellow trout lily						
<i>Erythronium americanum</i>	Apr 10	May 2	May 3	May 1	May 8	Apr 28
Carolina springbeauty						
<i>Claytonia caroliniana</i>	Apr 10	Apr 26	May 12	May 2	-	-
bloodroot						
<i>Sanguinaria canadensis</i>	Apr 12	May 2	May 3	Apr 23	Apr 23	Apr 24
red trillium						
<i>Trillium erectum</i>	Apr 22	May 4	May 4	May 5	May 21	Apr 28
marsh marigold						
<i>Caltha palustris</i>	Apr 25	May 7	May 5	May 14	May 21	-
garlic mustard						
<i>Alliaria officinalis</i>	Apr 28	May 12	May 19	May 10	May 7	May 9
dog violet						
<i>Viola conspersa</i>	Apr 29	May 4	May 14	May 14	May 21	May 13
dame's rocket						
<i>Hesperis matronalis</i>	Apr 30	May 23	June 6	May 18	June 1	May 13
jack-in-the pulpit						
<i>Arisaema triphyllum</i>	Apr 30	May 11	May 19	May 13	May 21	May 9
English plantain						
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	May 1	June 14	July 13	May 30	June 18	June 18
black medick						
<i>Medicago lupulina</i>	May 1	June 3	June 6	May 27	May 31	May 20
Tartarian honeysuckle						
<i>Lonicera tatarica</i>	May 6	June 3	June 3	May 28	May 15	May 28
creeping buttercup						
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	May 14	June 27	June 21	June 1	June 4	June 10
silverweed						
<i>Potentilla anserina</i>	May 16	June 14	June 9	June 7	June 5	May 22
ox-eye daisy						
<i>Chrysanthemum leucanthemum</i>	May 17	June 9	June 6	June 8	June 11	May 29
swallowwort						
<i>Cynanchum sp</i>	May 20	June 13	June 17	May 30	June 11	-
bird's foot trefoil						
<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	May 20	June 20	June 20	June 17	June 16	May 29
Canada anemone						
<i>Anemone canadensis</i>	May 23	June 13	June 20	June 14	June 18	June 6
bladder campion						
<i>Silene cucubalus</i>	May 26	June 14	June 16	June 15	June 26	June 9
chicory						
<i>Cichorium intybus</i>	May 30	June 28	June 29	June 24	June 25	June 26
yellow sweet clover						
<i>Melilotus officinalis</i>	June 5	June 20	June 22	June 17	June 18	June 12
white sweet clover						
<i>Melilotus albus</i>	June 5	June 24	July 4	June 24	July 4	June 24
common milkweed						
<i>Asclepias syriaca</i>	June 12	June 30	June 25	June 24	June 29	June 26
day lily						
<i>Hemerocallis fulva</i>	June 24	July 19	July 4	June 24	July 16	July 7
Michigan lily						
<i>Lilium . superbum</i>	June 30	July 12	July 13	July 1	-	-

**J. Alistair
Kennedy**
Chartered Accountant

REVIEW ENGAGEMENT REPORT

**To The Members Of
Toronto Field Naturalists**

I have reviewed the Balance Sheet of Toronto Field Naturalists as at June 30, 1998 and the Statement of Revenues and Expenditures and Operating Surplus and Changes in Financial Position for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Corporation's Directors.

A review does not constitute an audit and consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on these financial statements.

Except as explained in the following paragraph, my review was made in accordance with generally accepted standards for review engagements and accordingly consisted primarily of enquiry, analytical procedures and discussion related to information supplied to me by the Corporation.

In common with many non-profit organizations, the organization derives revenue from donations and publications, the completeness of which is not susceptible to satisfactory review. Accordingly, my review of these revenues was limited to the amounts recorded in the accounting records of the organization and I was not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to revenues, net income, assets and operating surplus.

Based on my review, except for the effect of adjustment, if any, which I might have determined to be necessary had I been able to completely review the revenues referred to in the preceding paragraph, nothing has come to my attention that causes me to believe that these financial statements are not, in all material respects, in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

Toronto, Ontario
July 22, 1998


ALISTAIR J. KENNEDY
Chartered Accountant

TORONTO FIELD NATURALISTS
 (incorporated without share capital under the laws
 of the Province of Ontario)
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT JUNE 30, 1998

ASSETS

	<u>1998</u>	<u>1997</u>
Current Assets		
Cash	\$ 91,349	\$ 87,292
Inventory at Cost	<u>3,343</u>	<u>3,595</u>
	<u>94,692</u>	<u>90,887</u>
Other Assets		
Photo Library at Cost	<u>9,650</u>	<u>9,200</u>
	<u>\$104,342</u>	<u>\$100,087</u>

LIABILITIES

Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	\$ 642	\$ 642
Membership Fees Received in Advance	<u>9,030</u>	<u>10,380</u>
	<u>9,672</u>	<u>11,022</u>

OPERATING SURPLUS

Operating Surplus	<u>94,670</u>	<u>89,065</u>
	<u>\$104,342</u>	<u>\$100,087</u>
Working Capital: Dollars	\$ 85,020	\$ 79,865
: Ratio	10:1	8:1

NATURE RESERVES - RESTRICTED FUNDS

Current Assets		
Cash (Note 2)	\$176,876	\$179,930
Property and Equipment		
Land	<u>175,278</u>	<u>109,187</u>
	<u>\$352,154</u>	<u>\$289,117</u>
Operating Surplus		
Reserve for Future Expenditures	\$176,876	\$179,930
Property	<u>175,278</u>	<u>109,187</u>
	<u>\$352,154</u>	<u>\$289,117</u>

APPROVED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD

 Rame Gulata (Director) Morris Adams (Director)

The accompanying 'Notes to Financial Statements' are an integral part of these financial statements.

UNAUDITED

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TORONTO FIELD NATURALISTS
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND OPERATING SURPLUS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1998

	<u>1998</u>	<u>1997</u>
REVENUE		
Membership Fees	\$ 20,885	\$ 23,000
Publications	<u>190</u>	<u>376</u>
	<u>21,075</u>	<u>23,376</u>
EXPENSES		
Outings	\$ 1,325	\$ 1,304
Meeting Expenses	1,001	2,441
Newsletter, Printing and Mailing	11,885	12,307
Other Printing Expenses	277	471
Other Mailing Expenses	1,275	1,579
Accounting	642	642
Advertising and Publicity	991	754
Office Supplies	575	1,101
Telephone	518	514
Rent	6,310	5,419
G.S.T. Rebate	<u>(968)</u>	<u>(991)</u>
	<u>23,831</u>	<u>25,541</u>
Operating Income (Loss)	(2,756)	(2,165)
Interest Income	<u>2,228</u>	<u>1,614</u>
Net Income (Loss) before Donations	(528)	(551)
Donations	<u>6,133</u>	<u>4,226</u>
Net Income for Year	<u>\$ 5,605</u>	<u>\$ 3,675</u>
Operating Surplus, at Beginning of Year	<u>\$ 89,065</u>	<u>\$ 85,390</u>
Operating Surplus, at End of Year	<u>\$ 94,670</u>	<u>\$ 89,065</u>

The accompanying 'Notes to Financial Statements' are an integral part of these financial statements.

**TORONTO FIELD NATURALISTS
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FINANCIAL POSITION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1998**

	<u>1998</u>	<u>1997</u>
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Net Income for Year	\$ 5,605	\$ 3,675
Decrease (Increase): GST Recoverable	-	858
: Inventory	252	(221)
: Photo Library	450	-
Increase (Decrease): Membership fees received in advance	<u>(1,350)</u>	<u>(1,820)</u>
Increase (Decrease) in Cash for Year	<u>4,057</u>	<u>2,492</u>
Cash at Beginning of Year	<u>87,292</u>	<u>84,800</u>
Cash at End of Year	<u>\$ 91,349</u>	<u>\$ 87,292</u>
 RESTRICTED FUNDS - Nature Reserves		
Receipts		
Designated Donations	\$ 58,600	\$ 5,000
Interest Earned	<u>3,683</u>	<u>3,626</u>
	<u>62,283</u>	<u>8,626</u>
Expenditures		
Purchase of 200 acres of "Wetland"	\$ 66,091	\$ -
Property Tax Rebate, net of other expenses	<u>(754)</u>	<u>301</u>
	<u>65,337</u>	<u>301</u>
Increase (Decrease) for Year	(3,054)	8,325
Restricted Cash at Beginning of Year	<u>179,930</u>	<u>171,605</u>
Restricted Cash at End of Year	<u>\$176,876</u>	<u>\$179,930</u>

The accompanying 'Notes to Financial Statements' are an integral part of these financial statements.

**TORONTO FIELD NATURALISTS
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
AT JUNE 30, 1998**

Note 1: Status and Objects of Organization

Toronto Fields Naturalists is a registered charity under the Income Tax Act and as such is exempt from Income Taxes.

The objects of the Organization are to stimulate public interest in natural history and to encourage the preservation of our natural heritage.

Note 2: Significant Accounting PoliciesCapital Assets

Capital Assets are recorded at cost. Other than the nature reserve property, the organization does not own any other capital assets.

Nature Reserves

Donations received for the Nature Reserves are segregated on the financial statements, and are to be used solely for Reserve purposes.

Contributed Services

The Organization depends heavily on the use of volunteers to provide services. Because of record keeping and valuation difficulties, these contributed services are not recorded in the Accounts.

Note 3: Commitment

The organization is committed to the following annual rental payments under leases:

	<u>Year Ended</u>	<u>Annual Rent</u>
Building	June 30, 1999	5,857
	June 30, 2000	6,136
	June 30, 2001	<u>6,136</u>
		<u>\$18,129</u>

UNAUDITED

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KEEPING IN TOUCH

April 18, 1998

Green snake, observed on 18 April 1998, Lambton Park

The afternoon was sunny, mid to high teens C. The green snake was observed on the eastern slope of the Humber Valley very close to the crest, just south of the railway. It was resting on one of the small paths leading down the slope from Lambton Park, through open woods with herbaceous and shrub growth. Shortly before meeting the green snake, we had encountered a garter snake on the tableland, basking on the edge of the lawn near the top of bank. I didn't notice the green snake and almost stepped on it by accident. My wife remarked on a snake and I assumed it was another garter; she then pointed it out, almost curled around my foot. The snake presently disappeared into dense groundcover beside the path. I was very excited because I can't recall seeing a green snake since childhood, some thirty years ago, and I take it that they are now quite rare in Toronto. I recall hearing that a population of green snakes formerly existed on a site near the lower Black Creek not far from Lambton Park, but the site had been disturbed by construction a decade or more ago.

Allan Greenbaum

April 20, 1998

Fifty years ago as a young man, I was in Toronto to further my education. I had a hard time adjusting to the hustle and bustle of the city, as I grew up in a rural environment, and missed the open spaces.

One day after swimming in the pool at the YMCA on College Street, I noticed an invitation on the bulletin board to a "nature walk". It said "visitors welcome".

After all these years, it feels like only yesterday. It was a beautiful warm sunny day with a few fluffy white clouds in a blue sky. At the meeting place there were over a dozen people of all ages, and a very friendly and knowledgeable TFN leader.

I remember an open meadow and a well worn path beside a small stream, and the leader pointed out various plants, birds and insects as we went along.

What really amazed me was the discovery that there were other people, with whom to share my love of nature.

A great big "Thank you" TFN on your 75th anniversary.

Stephen Molnar

April 26, 1998

We are looking forward to the September newsletter already!

Janos & Amy Pataki

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KEEPING IN TOUCH (cont'd)

May 4, 1998

Re "The Great Blue Heron", TFN 476 - pg.6, you might be interested to note that the nearest Heronry to Toronto that we know of is located near the Pickering/Scarborough Townline, just north of Taunton Road. This heronry contains approximately 35 nests. (active)

Murray Speirs

May 13, 1998

On behalf of Heritage Toronto, I would like to thank Helen Juhola, Louise Herzberg and the Toronto Field Naturalists for helping to make our recently-completed lecture series about Toronto's Natural History so successful.

The series was a hit! Attendance totalled 415 or an average of 69/week, despite some rather grey weather days and the speakers you recommended were uniformly excellent. Our staff have received several compliments about the series and I know that the audiences left feeling that they had learned something worthwhile each week.

I am always pleased when we can work with other organizations like yours. Working together we increase the variety and range of our programming and are able to provide more public service than either of us can do alone.

George E. Waters
(Acting) Managing Director
Heritage Toronto

June 8, 1998

We enjoy all the articles and hope to go on lots of walks this summer and fall.

Mrs. P. Lonergan

June 10, 1998

The newsletters are great!

Tessa Edward

June 22, 1998

The walks are great, especially the evening ones. A perfect way to "discover Toronto". It is so nice to have walks listed for May-August in the May issue. Thank you.

Anne Cipollone

June 23, 1998

I really enjoy the newsletter. Thanks.

Mary Jones

June 25, 1998

Though I no longer get to meetings or outings I do enjoy the newsletter. The sketches and haikus are so very enjoyable -- and what would I do without the weather report to remind me about what transpired the previous years.

V.M. Clarke, Aurora

KEEPING IN TOUCH (cont'd)

June 28, 1998

...The TFN is so active and creative at the "people" level...

Jean Milner

June 2, 1998

Flying low (5-20 feet) over an open field on the "Downsview Lands" (adjacent to the CN rail line) were approximately 40 ring-billed gulls. Judging by their shifting head movements and sudden changes in flight direction, it quickly became apparent that they were preying upon something. After spotting their prey the gulls would "dive" and land in the tall grasses. More often than not they would take to the air again with nothing for their efforts. Every now and then though, one would fly off with a prize, a vole.

Gerry Cuccio

Ed. Note: Arthur Cleveland Bent, in his LIFE HISTORIES OF NORTH AMERICAN Gulls and Terns, 1921, mentions hawking of insects and following the plow as habits of the ring-billed gull, and the fact that it "does effective work by feeding on field mice and other small rodents." Now we have some idea of its hunting procedure. Thanks, Gerry!

D.B.

June 1998

Enclosed are some photos you might be interested in. Three are of the lupins in High Park and why they are not as abundant as they should be [one shows a young couple carrying a bouquet of these lovely flowers]. Another is of a large beaver in the Don Valley Brick Yard. He ate one dead birch and was not seen again. He stayed 2 days. I don't know if he was evicted or left voluntarily. The other photo was taken in Mt. Pleasant Cemetery. I saw 2 red squirrels there. A great sighting since very few parks in Toronto have these beautiful creatures. The squirrel is on the left side of the trunk of the middle spruce.

Roger Powley

Ed Note. Thanks, Roger. We've put the photos in our collection.

H.J.

July 11, 1998

Thanks to all at TFN, I read every issue of the newsletter and have finally seen a bluebird, thanks to the Rouge hike in the spring. The leader was great.

Anne Leon

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QUILT RAFFLE for Bird Studies Canada. The winner of the quilt was Marilyn Connell of North York.

Sixteen tickets were bought by TFN members and friends for a contribution to the raffle of \$80.00.

KEEPING IN TOUCH (cont'd)

July 31, 1998

We need your help!

We are carrying out research on the invasive alien plant *Cynanchum rossicum* (dog-strangling vine) and its effects on natural habitats in the Toronto area. We have found articles from around the world in our research but we could use the help of some readers on a few.

Three of the articles we have found are written in Ukranian and Romanian. Is there anyone out there who can translate botanical literature in these languages? Also, do TFN members have any unusual observations about the plant -- where it doesn't like to grow, anything eating it, wildlife use?

PROJECT

Stephen Smith (423-3387)

August 4, 1998

The Friends of the Cawthra Bush in Mississauga would appreciate help from anyone who could come out to the Bush to help save the rare Jefferson salamander by listing the tree species that still exist in an old growth ecosystem in an urban setting. Insects are a main focus, and as no one has yet made an inventory, you can be the first. Other listings are welcome, such as animals, fungi and plants. Anyone who knows wetlands and hydrology is most needed.

PROJECT

Donald Barber (905-278-7877)

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TFN BOARD OF DIRECTORS - 1998-1999

President: Morris Sorensen, 29 Janet Blvd., Scarborough M1R 1H7 (755-6030)

Vice-President: Phoebe Cleverley, 506 - 110 The Esplanade, Toronto M5E 1X9
(369-0546)

Past President: Allan Greenbaum, 873 Palmerston Ave., Toronto M6G 2S3 (757-0890)

Secretary-Treasurer: Aarne Juhola, 112 - 51 Alexander St., Toronto M4Y 1B3
(924-5806)

Other Directors:

Alexander Cappell, 109 - 35 Cedarcroft Blvd., Willowdale M2R 2Z4 (663-7738)

Ken Cook, 154 Drayton Ave., Toronto M4C 3M2 (699-8506)

Elaine Farragher, 23 Wright Ave., Toronto M6R 1K9 (537-5877)

Karin Fawthrop, 347 Beechgrove Dr., Scarborough M1E 4A2 (282-6044)

Nancy Fredenburg, 807 - 360 Ridelle Ave., Toronto M6B 1K1 (781-8550)

Helen Juhola, 112 - 51 Alexander St., Toronto M4Y 1B3 (924-5806)

Ann Millett, 138 Folkstone Cres., Brampton L6T 3M5 (905-792-0844)

Robin Powell, 703 - 169 St. George St., Toronto M5R 2M4 (928-9493)

FOR READING

The Illustrated Companion to Gleason and Cronquist's Manual - ed. by Noel Holmgren. Bronx, NY: The New York Botanical Garden (1998). 937 pages (acid-free). \$125.00 US. (Order from NYBG: Tel: (718) 817-8721. Fax (718) 817-8842. E-mail: scipubs@nybg.org>)

This is a book with a pedigree. Until recently, the most up-to-date flora for the northeast was the three-volume *New Britton and Brown Illustrated Flora of the Northeastern United States and Adjacent Canada*, published back in 1952. Long out of print, used copies sell for astronomical prices, assuming one is fortunate enough even to locate a set. In the intervening decades, nomenclature and classification changed to such an extent that a complete revision was necessary. This initiative began with the release of the second edition of *The Manual of Vascular Plants of Northeastern United States and Adjacent Canada*, by Gleason and Cronquist, in 1991. This weighty handbook was a total taxonomic overhaul of the *New Britton and Brown*, minus the illustrations. The problem was, that with all the name changes and shunting of species between genera, the illustrations in the *New Britton and Brown* were either difficult to locate or no longer grouped appropriately.

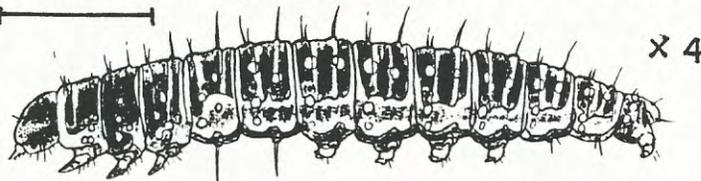
For the past four years, the second part of the master plan has been unfolding. The original illustrations were cut and pasted to correspond with Gleason and Cronquist, illustrations were created for species not treated in the previous work, and additional diagnostic details were added to original illustrations. The result is the *Illustrated Companion*, a seven pound reference work on shiny, oversized (7¼" x 10½"), archival quality paper.

All drawings in the *Illustrated Companion* are done in pen and ink, and include flowers, fruits, leaves, and close-ups of other parts as required. Although several artists were involved, the quality is consistently superb. It is a pleasure to have related species grouped on the same pages, unlike in most field guides where page flipping is in order. On the down side, one must move back and forth between the *Illustrated Companion* (images) and Gleason and Cronquist (text). Whether or not you also acquire Gleason and Cronquist, the *Illustrated Companion* will stand on its own as a most useful resource, providing a level of drawn detail not found in field guides. Over the decades to come, your investment will be handsomely rewarded.

Richard Aaron



JACK PINE BUDWORM may be found on other pines as well. It's similar to the spruce budworm, black and reddish with white dots. The adult moth is reddish with white and black lines, according to Cavell in the Peterson FIELD GUIDE TO EASTERN MOTHS. Drawing by D. Andrew White.



FOR READING (cont'd)

STARLINGS UNDER THE ROOF and OTHER STORIES by Joy Pocklington, published by Boulevard Books Skegness, 54 Castleton Boulevard, Skegness, Lincs. (England) PE25 2TT. 81 pages. £6.00 postage paid.

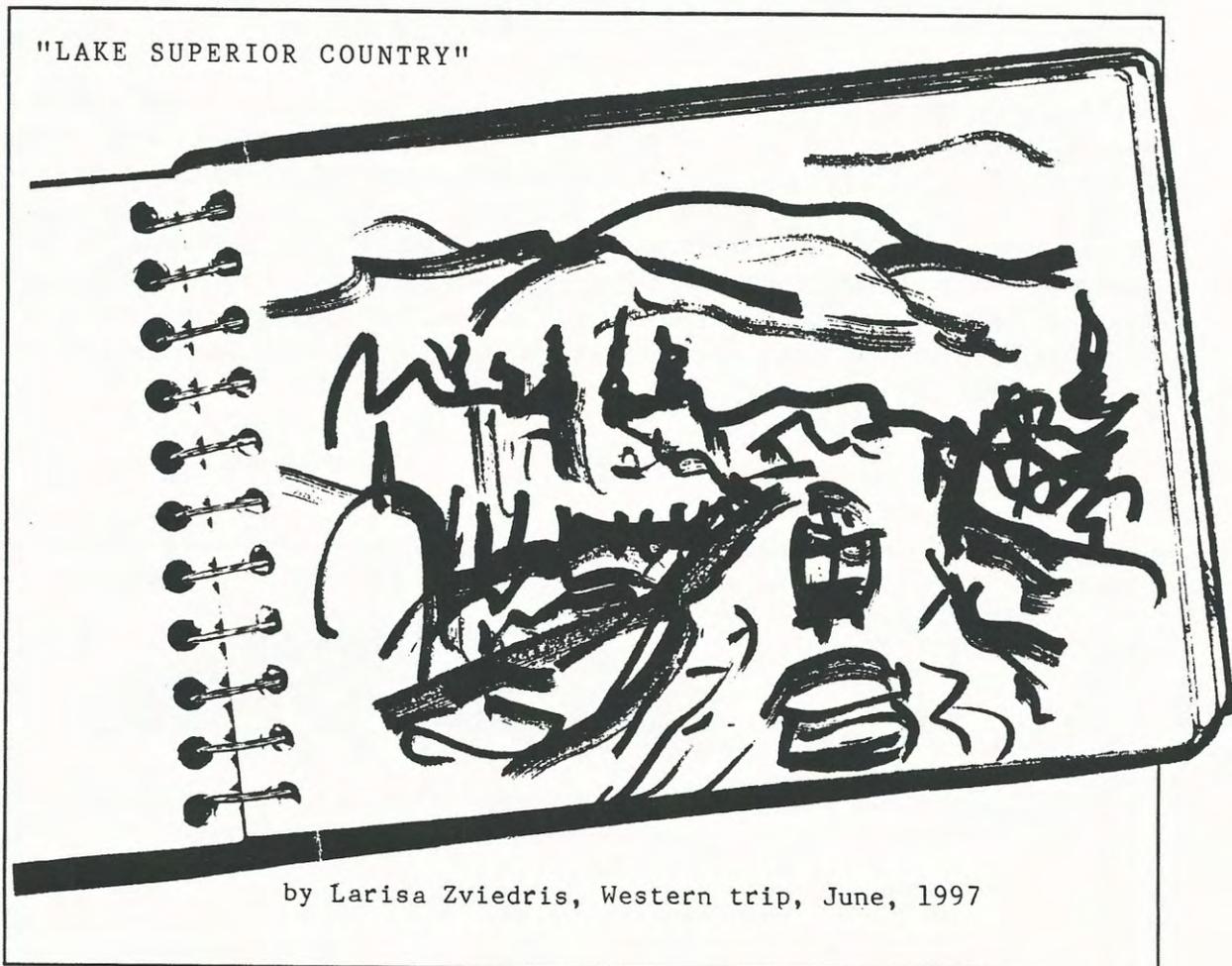
Joy Pocklington was a TFN member who moved to South Africa and is now living in England, and who has always loved starlings. She describes this volume as essentially a children's book. It begins with a starling returning from Spain, and expands to include the starling's mate, children, neighbours and their lives lived. Mice, hedgehogs, sparrows and bantam chickens appear. The style is a bit like neighbourhood gossip but all comment reflects facts of nature or life. This would be a book which parents or teachers could read and discuss with rather young children, and which older children could read for themselves.

Our copy of "Starlings..." will be displayed at our Sept. meeting or it could be seen at the TFN office Friday mornings.

Jean Macdonald

JM

V



FOR READING (cont'd)

WALDEN AND CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE by Henry David Thoreau, published by New American Library, New York and Scarborough, 1960 (originally published about 1892)

The time for self-congratulation has come! After over fifty years I have had the courage to reread WALDEN by Henry David Thoreau. The gradual realization that this book, probably more than any other, has exerted unparalleled influence on me prompted me to undertake the task. Certainly, I am glad that I did it.

Essentially WALDEN is an account of a nonconformist learning to live in harmony with the natural scene. With a borrowed axe and other tools, he decides to build his own dwelling by Walden Pond, some two miles south of the village of Concord, Massachusetts, to live his own life, and thereby to avoid the "life of quiet desperation" that he sees around him in 1845 even in a pastoral America. For more than two years he contrives to accomplish this aim, living as he chooses, and doing the things that please him.

An escape? Far from it. He simply wanted to do what he thought was important. And it is this reality that suffuses the work: his individualism and its virtual glorification. During 1846, shortly after he had begun his sojourn in 1845, he served time in the Concord jail for refusing, on conscience, to pay his poll tax simply because he thought that the money so paid would contribute to maintaining slavery in the United States and would continue the Mexican War then taking place. One result was his oration, "Civil Disobedience". Another was the eventual actions in non-violent protest of Ghandi, Joan Baez, the Reverend Martin Luther King, and others.

But he ends his account with a climax: the celebration of spring and the resurrection of nature in true transcendental form. The conclusion rises in crescendo to envelope the cosmic observation of seasonal rebirth and reassessment. It is this ending that caps the account unforgettably. By all means, read it. You, too, may learn to congratulate yourself!

Basil Stevens

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TORONTO FALL HAWK WATCH

The best weather for hawk migration involves north/north-west winds and an oncoming cold front. The Greater Toronto Raptor Watch meets at Hawk Hill, located just north of the Grenadier Restaurant in High Park daily, from 9 am to 5 pm from the beginning of September to the end of November. Anyone is welcome to join and learn more about the birds flying overhead.

adapted from an article in "High Park: a Park Lover's Quarterly", Fall 1997, Vol. 4, No. 3

Grow Wild!

Native Plant Gardening in Canada and Northern United States, 1998

By Lorraine Johnson

Photographs by Andrew Leyerle

154pp, colour illus., index, \$26.95

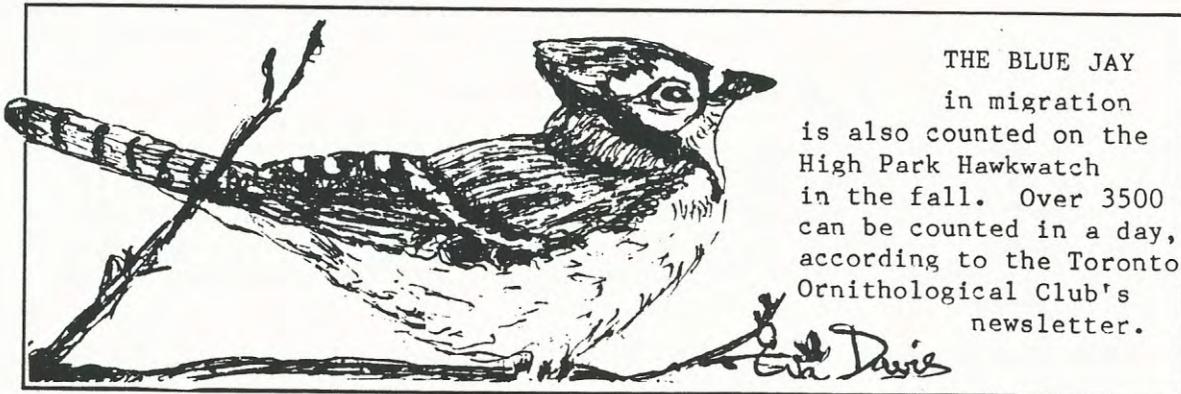
For the many beautiful pictures of native plants alone, this is a wonderful book to possess -- it can stand on your shelf along with your nature guides to the flora of Canada and Northern U.S.. But this book actually shows you how to grow those plants we love to observe in nature, thereby expanding the borders of our parks and wildlands to include our front and back yards. Beautiful photographs illustrate how even a small downtown front yard can become a little patch of native woodland or savannah if given half a chance. The author also talks about how to overcome the objections of more traditionally-minded neighbours whose idea of beauty is a manicured patch of golfing green.

The book is divided into regions from west to east with descriptions of gardens suitable for coastal forests, dry grasslands, tall grass prairies, woodlands and eastern meadows. Discussions include how to get started on the route from lawn to wild garden, how to attract birds and butterflies, the ethical considerations of harvesting plants and seeds from the wild, and how to deal with invasive non-native plants or "weeds".

The list of organizations in the back of the book concerned with wildflower gardening is not too useful for Canadian readers as they are almost all American (does Ontario really have *no* wildflower gardening clubs?). Similarly, even though this is being promoted by Random House in its promotion literature as "...the only Canadian book that covers native plant gardening across the country", many of the examples and pictures seem to be of American gardens. This limitation aside, *Grow Wild!* is a worthwhile book for the wildflower gardener.

Elaine Farragher

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FOR READING (cont'd)

ASHBRIDGE'S BAY, edited by George Fairfield, 134 pages including bibliography and contents, published by Toronto Ornithological Club, 1998. \$20, tax included, plus \$3*

"An anthology of writings by those who knew and loved Ashbridge's Bay" is the subtitle of this book, really a poignant history of the heart of Toronto-York-Toronto from the time of our first field naturalist, Elizabeth Simcoe, to the present day. It deals with the bay, the marsh, the peninsula, islands, highlands and headlands, as they evolved through nature and human influence. It's exciting, amusing, startling, nostalgic and moving by turns, but never quite "sad" because of the "vigilance" aspect in the message presented.

Among the inaccuracies which escaped the notice of proofreaders, most were obvious "typos" but some could have been a case of an author's concept of the derivation of a word. One which intrigued me was that of the quaint cattle "byres" which became "byers" on page 17 and "buyers" on Seton's map on page 42. (This is only one of seventeen maps and plans in the book. Keep a magnifying glass handy.)

The diversity of styles of the twenty-four authors is complemented by those of the thirty photos from a variety of sources and the eleven illustrators whose drawings appeared in the book. Barry Kent MacKay's treatment of black terns on the marsh on page 78 has been repeated effectively, in wrap-around fashion, on the cover...as a negative image ...ghosts of the past they seem.

George Fairfield and contributors are to be congratulated. After such a feat, any further demands would seem unreasonable. Yet the book itself cries out to be indexed. In fact, what a good project that would be for some Ashbridge's Bay and/or Leslie Street Spit lover! An alphabetical index would render the work much more open to the study it deserves. We need this book.

Diana Banville

* Send orders with payment to George Fairfield, 332 Sheldrade Blvd., Toronto, Ont. M4P 2B8.

□

The bush, as one tried to penetrate it, grew denser and denser, mostly underbrush with tangled roots and second growth springing up after the fires. It was so dense that for us it was impenetrable, and we ventured our way farther and farther in, carrying hatchets and alert for wildcats, which I am practically certain were not there and for bears, which had left years and years ago...

from "Life on the Old Farm" by Stephen Leacock in FEAST OF STEPHEN by Robertson Davies, McClelland and Stewart Ltd., 1970/74

COMMENT: This description by Stephen Leacock of the bush south of Lake Simcoe could be a description of parts of our own nature reserves, also south of Lake Simcoe.

H.J.

HERE I AM. WHERE ARE YOU?

I had the pleasure of leading a joint walk for the Toronto Historical Board [now Heritage Toronto] and the TFN. It really is a pleasure addressing about 300 people who are there to listen to your message. Thanks, everyone. The walk was down the Rosedale ravine from Yonge St. to Castle Frank. Now...on the pre-walk, I heard the familiar bird call:

"Here I am (with an up accent); Where are you? (with a down accent)"
You may know this as the song of the red-eyed vireo. If you don't, listen for bird songs in any ravine in Toronto and you will probably detect it (although he's close to impossible to see).

"Hmmm...", I thought, "I can build a message around this bird." As I moved on, I looked back. "Be here tomorrow Red, I'll need your help".

Well, of course, the next day, as I tried to cue the vireo...nothing. Only the birder's nightmare -- bird silence. I had other material, yes, but... well, I needed this bird. "Come on, guy...chirp or something!", I pleaded silently. Then it dawned on me, "I can develop an illusion of the bird through suggestion. This bird is probably new to a lot of people, and ... well, that distinctive call...it will be devious...but it just may work". So, in front of 300 people, I lied. As we were about to leave the first stop, I casually mentioned that someone had reported hearing a strange bird call and that it sounded something like: "Here I am, da da du or where are you". I asked if others had heard it and waited for the negative response. I then went through the call in detail, and promised that I would identify the bird with the interesting call, at the next stop. Off we went.

At the next stop, I talked about the Group of Seven -- the artists -- not the dwarfs. Everyone seemed happy, but...as we were about to leave, someone bit..."The bird!" he shouted...I hastily replied, "Oh, the one that goes 'here I am, where are you', ...Umm, next stop...I'll tell you about this important little bird at the next stop." It was working. People were beginning to talk about the phantom bird with interest as we walked further down the ravine. Although I wished he had shown up, I didn't need the little guy now.

The next stop was fun. As I talked about Elizabeth Simcoe, people were waiting for the bird story. Then, as we were about to leave...everyone leaned forward in anticipation. "Oh, oh right...the bird", I stammered. I began the description with words to the effect..."The bird (that you really haven't heard) with the cheerful -- and normally incessant -- call, is known as the red-eyed vireo". I explained that when I first read about this species, I realized something very important. I then quoted directly from Peterson's Field Guide. "Note the grey cap contrasting with the olive back and the strong black bordered white eyebrow stripe", and so on. When I got to the "Range" information, I slowed down for dramatic effect as I read. "Range: Canada to Gulf States"...Winters... in...Amazon...basin". "The Amazon Basin!"

I'm relating this story so that I can pass the "red-eyed vireo" message on to you. The drab little bird with the stylish eyebrow strip and intense red eyes has an important place in our ecosystem. It's one of the insect eaters that migrates thousands of miles to raise its young,

HERE I AM (cont'd)

in...well, places like the Rosedale ravine. Do you realize then how important places like the Rosedale ravine are to it and so many other migratory species, species which in turn are beneficial to the ravine? I've found that many well-meaning people get caught up in condemning others they see as "senselessly destroying their environmental zone" while they naively (and without malice) ignore the destruction of the Boreal and Carolinian forest. The red-eyed vireo is now a symbol for me...a symbol that the LINKED intercontinental ecosystem of which WE (him, you and me) are a part. We owe the health of the old growth forests of today, to the balanced ecosystems developed naturally over the past thousands of years; developed before we had any effect. We're reaping the benefits of this now, but what will we leave for subsequent generations? To the red-eyed vireo there is no difference between a Brazil nut tree and a poplar...they're both HOME. the red-eyed vireo knows where HE is...do we really know where WE are?

Ken Cook

□

WREATH GOLDENROD

drawn by Mary Cumming
at the edge of the
core woods of Metro Zoo,
a common fall-flowering
native wildflower of
the Rouge Valley and other
Toronto valleys and ravines.

Its long, slender, flexible
growth-habit gives it its
name, though it is also
known as BLUE-STEMMED
GOLDENROD.

For a complete listing
of our Toronto goldenrods,
refer to our TFN checklist,
VASCULAR PLANTS OF
METROPOLITAN TORONTO,
which will give you the
relative status of our
fourteen species.



THE TREES OF MOUNT PLEASANT CEMETERY

Spring in Mount Pleasant Cemetery renews the soul: patches of blue scillas changing the colour of the fresh green grass; the flowering magnolias; the emergence of tiny chipmunks and waddling groundhogs; the raucous spring calls of ring-billed gulls overhead; the wild fluting of the little red house finches.

I recently moved just north of the cemetery and have made it my own personal backyard. It has become a challenge as there are so many trees there I do not know. As I learn about the trees I hope I can share my experiences with you.

If a tree can withstand our Canadian winters, you will probably find it growing in Mount Pleasant. One such example is the gutta-percha tree (*Eucommia ulmoides*) from China. Gutta-percha is a substance resembling rubber but is better in wet conditions. It is used in submarines and for underwater cables. Most of the commercial gutta-percha is extracted from two trees in Malaysia in the family Sapotaceae. As the specific name implies, this tree looks like an elm. To be sure of its identity rip a leaf apart and you will see strands of latex between the two halves. The botanist at the cemetery calls this tree "the hardy rubber tree". I like the name gutta-percha as a factory in Parkdale producing rubber products used this name and it is what my field guide calls it. It's an easy name to remember because it sounds like someone cleaning a fish. This tree is found in section 52.

Another tree I discovered is the Rocky Mountain bristlecone pine (*Pinus aristata*). It grows in the Colorado Rockies and at one time was considered to be the oldest living tree on earth. Since then this has been disputed. A similar tree, the fox tail pine (*Pinus balfouriana*) which grows in California was found to be almost 5000 years old. The two trees are similar but have distinct odours. *Aristatas* leaves smell like turpentine while *balfouriana*'s have a sweet resinous scent. The needles of the bristlecone are in fives. On the new growth the leaves are all stuck together and appear as only one needle so it is best to check the old growth for identification. In section U of the cemetery you will find a stone staircase with *Erica* growing on the ground. This is where I first discovered this tree. Lately more have been planted in the evergreen garden in section 24. It is fascinating to think these trees may be around in the year 7000.

Roger Powley

□

*Blue Jay, go away
from the Maple Leaf Gardens.
Your home is The Dome!*

haiku by Helen Juhola

*(inspired by a blue jay calling
outside her apartment just north
of "The Gardens" - October 2, 1990).*

AN ORDINARY MARVEL: THE LIVING MACHINE

Behind a very ordinary looking small industrial plant just west of Don Mills Road in Toronto is an extraordinary project.

Behind The Body Shop on Kern Road is a greenhouse where all the washroom, kitchen and laundry waste water is cleansed and returned for use: a wetland where runoff from the parking lot and neighbouring lots is collected and transformed; a physic garden where herbs grow in profusion right next to the day care playground and picnic tables.

A tour guide proudly explains how water passes through an anaerobic tank to grind and settle solids. In two aerobic tanks organic waste is broken down and converted. The water then cascades through a series of planters to oxygenate and further convert waste. In four ponds, plants and snails feed on bacteria and chemicals. A clarifier allows remaining particles to settle. Moving below the pebbles in a marsh, ammonia, nitrates, phosphorus and fecal coliform in the water are treated; a UV sterilizer removes remaining bacteria and the water then returns to a holding tank to be used once again throughout the building or in aquariums where fish and plants thrive.

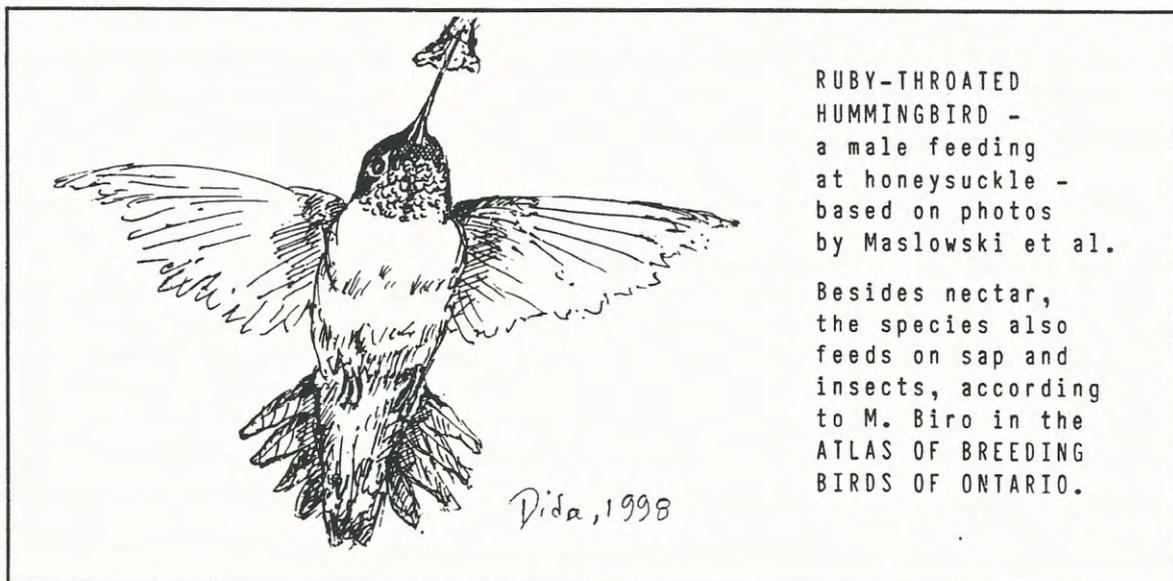
The treated water is tested monthly and compares favourably with the city supply. It is not used for drinking.

The greenhouse is filled with hardworking plants which are typical of the species used in Body Shop products, and which not only cleanse the waste water but also trap sun, insulate the south wall of the building. Reflectors direct light into the working area.

The Body Shop has many such projects at its plants throughout the world. It is working on developing a method of rehabilitating other waste fluids from its production and is delighted to show off its facilities to the public.

Mary Anne Miller

□



RUBY-THROATED
HUMMINGBIRD -
a male feeding
at honeysuckle -
based on photos
by Maslowski et al.

Besides nectar,
the species also
feeds on sap and
insects, according
to M. Biro in the
ATLAS OF BREEDING
BIRDS OF ONTARIO.

IN THE NEWS

WARMER SIBERIAN HOME

The ongoing global warming has produced a startling effect for residents of Russia's remote Siberian region. Siskins arrived en masse this past spring in parts of western Siberia. Their traditional habitat is normally European Russia, but the changing climate and its effects on the ecological system appear to have lured the birds farther to the northwest.

extracted from "Earthweek: Diary of the Planet" in the LONDON FREE PRESS, May 9, 1998

POWER FIRM GOES NEW-AGE TO AID LARGE, NESTING BIRDS

The Churchill Falls (Labrador) Corp. Ltd., CF(L)Co. engineers have changed the face of southern Labrador. They re-fashioned a massive complex of lakes and rivers to create one of the largest reservoirs in the world; they dried up a waterfall that was higher than Niagara; and they burrowed deep into the earth to create the largest underground powerhouse in the world. But what do you do about birds so contemptuous of your engineering genius that they build their higgledy-piggledy nests of sticks on hydro-transmission lines? In other times, you could solve the problem without a second thought. Bang -- they're gone. These days, there is a higher awareness. So as a sensitive, new-age kind of company, CF(L)Co. has adopted a new policy of relocation. In the hundreds of kilometres of hydro lines across southern Labrador, there are more than 100 massive nests. Most are osprey nests. If maintenance work must be done to a pole with a nest on it, the nest will be moved. If the staff are doing low-level maintenance work anywhere near where ospreys are nesting, there must be precautions. You can cut brush for an hour or two, but then you must go away and come back another day. To move a nest, you have to get a 15- or 20-metre wooden pole, erect it nearby the nest, fix a palette to it, and then shift the nest. The pole alone costs \$500. Then, depending on how far it is from Churchill Falls, it will take a day or two to shift the nest, and maybe it will take a large helicopter that will cost \$2,000 an hour. One way or another the whole operation will cost somewhere between \$3,000 and \$6,000.

extracted from an article by John Gray in the GLOBE AND MAIL, March 28, 1998

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The best times for seeing large flights of Monarchs are during the afternoon when the winds are light (but not calm) from the southwest, and when warm, sunny skies prevail. When conditions are just right, thousands of Monarchs can be seen streaming past. In late afternoon, the butterflies pick out a nice, quiet grove of cottonwoods to spend the night. Such favourite roosting trees often contain hundreds of flitting butterflies. It is truly a breathtaking wildlife spectacle.

from "Monarch Butterfly migration gears up in August each year" in PORT ROWAN GOOD NEWS, Aug. 1997

THE WEATHER (THIS TIME LAST YEAR)

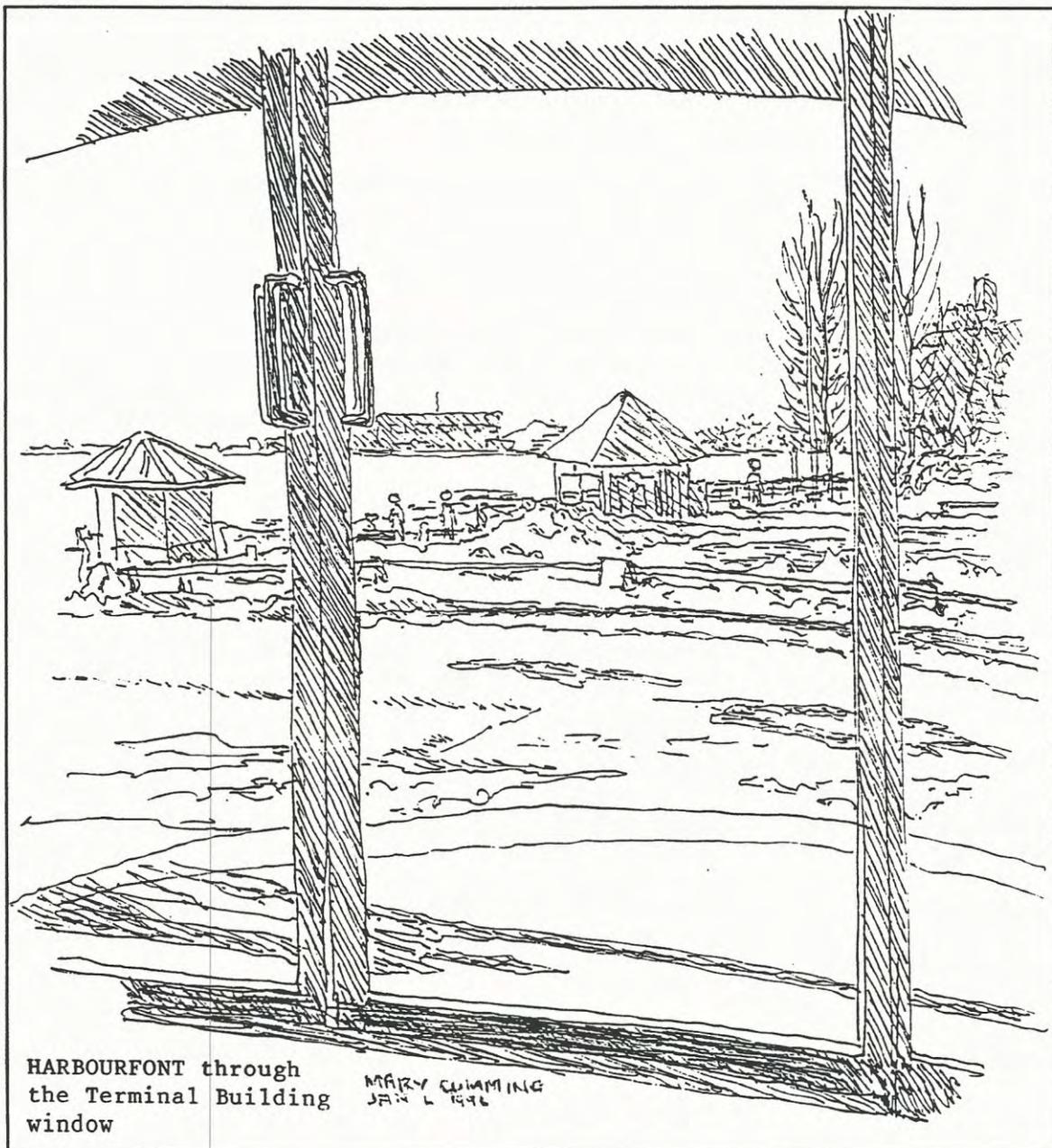
September 1997, Toronto

The month averaged very close to normal in temperature with a continuing dryish trend that resumed from earlier in the summer. Rainfall was about two thirds of normal, near 50 mm, evenly distributed through the month.

There was a trend for sunny warm weather mid-month offset by cooler autumn conditions during the final ten days. It rose to around 27°C on Sept. 6th and 15th. The overall impression was one of a very pleasant, relatively quiet month, and a fine ending to a summer that was somewhat dry but with no real heat waves or other untoward weather.

Gavin Miller

□



COMING EVENTS

Toronto Ornithological Club - Jim Baillie Memorial Bird walks - aimed at the intermediate birder, but beginners are welcome. Free.

- Early Migration - High Park - Sat. Sept. 5 from 8 am to 12 noon with Hugh Currie. Meet in the parking lot inside the Bloor St. entrance at High Park Ave.
- Fall Warblers - Lambton Woods - Sat. Sept. 12 from 8 am to 12 noon with Don Burton. Meet in the parking lot at James Gardens (access from Edenbridge Dr.).
- Shorebirds and Other Migrants - Leslie St. Spit - Sat. Sept. 19 from 8 am (all day) (leader to be announced). Meet at the foot of Leslie St. Bring a lunch.

Wonders of the Earth - presented by the Gem and Mineral Club of Scarborough - Sept. 19 from 10 am to 6 pm and Sept. 20 from 11 am to 5 pm at the Mid-Scarborough Community Centre, 2467 Eglinton Ave. East [just outside the Kennedy subway station]. For more details, call 282-5319 or 282-0444.

After the Sprawl: suburban pasts and futures in the Greater Toronto Area - an exhibit of the City of Toronto Archives at 255 Spadina Rd. Free. Visit Mon. to Fri. from 10 am to 6 pm or Sun. from 12 noon to 6 pm. Call 397-5000 for more information. For tour, see Sept. 20 outing on page 4.

Consumers Gas: partners in the community for 150 years at the Market Gallery of the City of Toronto Archives, 95 Front St. East at Jarvis St., 2nd floor. Free. Visit Wed. to Fri. from 10 am to 4 pm or Sat. from 9 am to 4 pm or Sun. from noon to 4 pm. For details, call 392-7604.

High Park - Sunday afternoon tours beginning at 1:15 pm outside the south entrance of the Grenadier restaurant. \$2 donation expected.

- Sept. 6 - Explore High Park - the French connection
- Sept. 13 - On Grenadier Pond
- Sept. 20 - Fall flowers
- Sept. 27 - Grasses

For more information about these and "Park Watch", "Volunteer Stewardship Program", and High Park "Citizens' Advisory Committee", call 392-1748.

PROJECT

Riverdale Farm Fall Festival - Sat. Sept. 12 from 10 am to 4 pm and Sun. Sept. 13 from 11 am to 4 pm. For more information call 392-0046. Volunteers required to staff TFN display. Call 663-7738 if you can help us.

Ian Wheal Heritage Walk - sail & steam - (Queen's Quay to Liberty St.) - Sept. 27 at 2 pm. Meet at the southwest corner of Bathurst St. and Lake Shore Blvd. West.

River of Light Celebration by the Festive Earth Society - Sept. 19 at Riverdale Farm and Park. Call 469-2977 for more information.

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COMING EVENTS (cont'd)

Mycological Society of Toronto - Cain Foray to Hart Lodge in Minden - Sept. 18-20, followed by a Fungi Fair at the Civic Garden Centre on Sept. 21 at the Civic Garden Centre. Call HI-FUNGI or Pat Burchell at 444-90-53 for more information.

The Black Creek Project -

- Sept. 9 at 6:30 pm at York Civic Centre - a meeting
- Sept. 12 at 10 am at Trethewey Park - an in-stream clean-up and wetland maintenance

Call Amy Maurer at 661-6600 for more details at extension 364.

Community History Project walking tours including a hike along the Davenport Trail. Call Jane Beecroft at 515-7546 for more information.

Heritage Toronto walking tours - call 392-6827 for details.

Todmorden Mills

- Harvest Festival - Sun. Sept. 27
 - Fall lecture series - Tuesday Sept. 15, 22, 29
- Call 396-2819 for details.

Toronto Bay Initiative - Sept. 15 from 6 pm to 8 pm at the Harbourfront Community Centre, 627 Queens Quay - Growing Greener and Cleaner - a round table discussion. Call 314-9498 for more information.

Bring Back the Don - outings and plantings

Call 392-0401 for more information about these activities.

The Urban Naturalist - fall botany workshops throughout Toronto - \$10 each

- Fields of Glory - autumn wildflowers and fruits
- Autumn Blazes - mature trees of Ontario

To register, call Morris Sorensen at 755-6030.

Casa Loma Gardens - open to the public and free - Tuesday evenings from 4 pm to 8:30 pm and every second Monday of the month from 9:30 am to 4 pm.

Royal Ontario Museum I.D. Clinic - 1 pm to 3 pm (free) - Sept. 30 in the Eaton's Court (entry by Druxy's Restaurant on main floor). Experts from the ROM's Earth Sciences, palaeobiology, and anthropology departments will identify your rocks, minerals, gems and fossils.

Natural History Travel - local and long-distance trips

For more information, call George Bryant at 223-6922.

Kortright Centre for Conservation

- Sept. 12 & 13 - Glen Loates is artist in residence; Sunday brunch between 11:30 am and 2:30 pm; cost \$9.25, adults
 - birdwatching workshops for fall raptors and migrants - Sept. 17 & 19
- Call 905-832-2289 for more information. □

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TORONTO FIELD NATURALIST

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