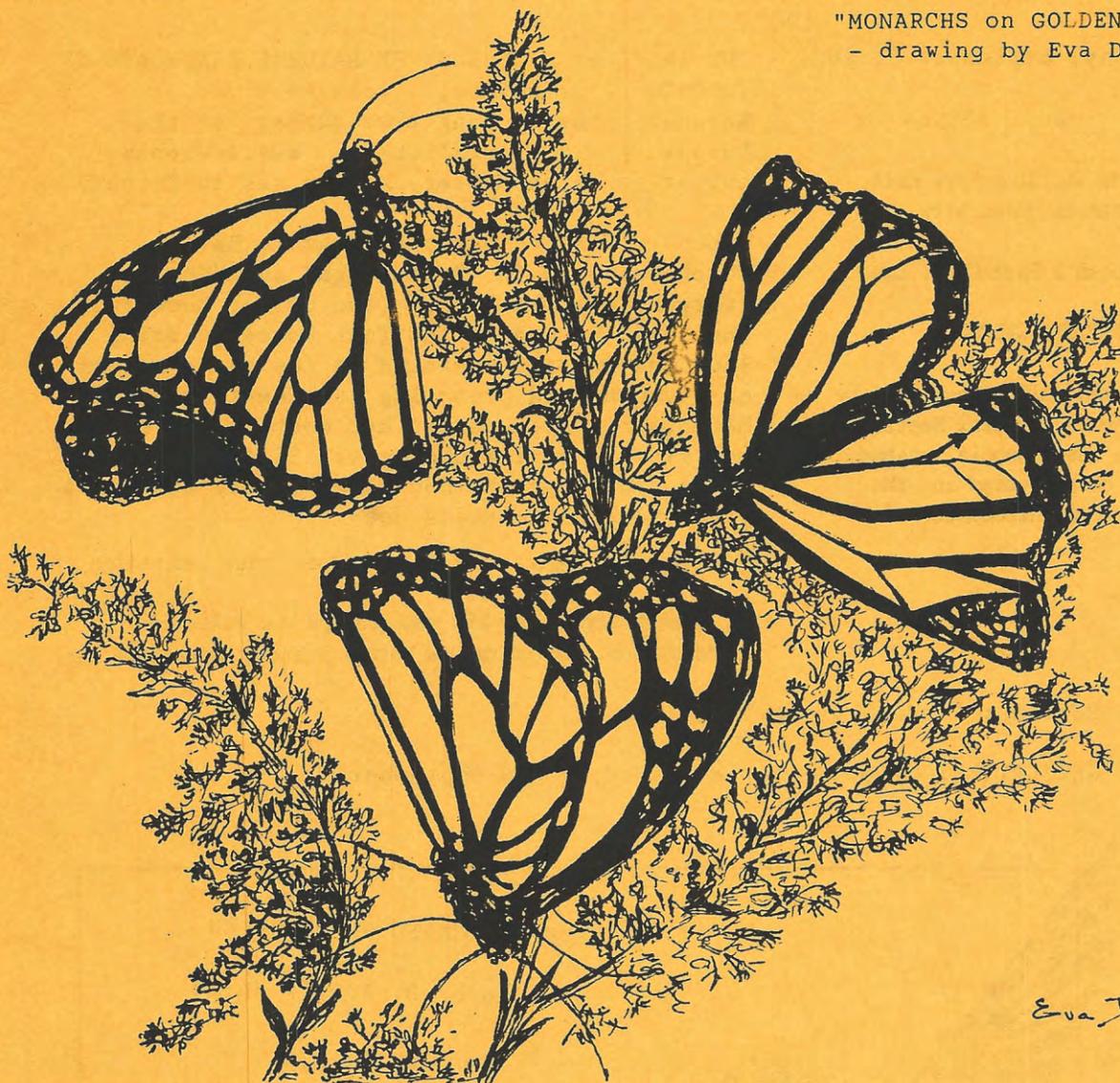


TORONTO FIELD NATURALIST

Number 501

September 2001

"MONARCHS on GOLDENROD"
- drawing by Eva Davis



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TFN MEETINGS

Sunday, September 9, 2001 - THE INNER WILD: USING THE NATURAL LANDSCAPE OF TORONTO IN MY NOVELS, a talk by Rosemary Aubert, long-time member of the Toronto Field Naturalists, an award-winning author of three mystery novels set in Toronto.

at 2:30 pm

in the Northrop Frye Hall
Victoria University

73 Queen's Park Cres. East

VISITORS WELCOME!

The talk will be preceded by the TFN Annual General Meeting at which the financial statements will be presented and the directors introduced.

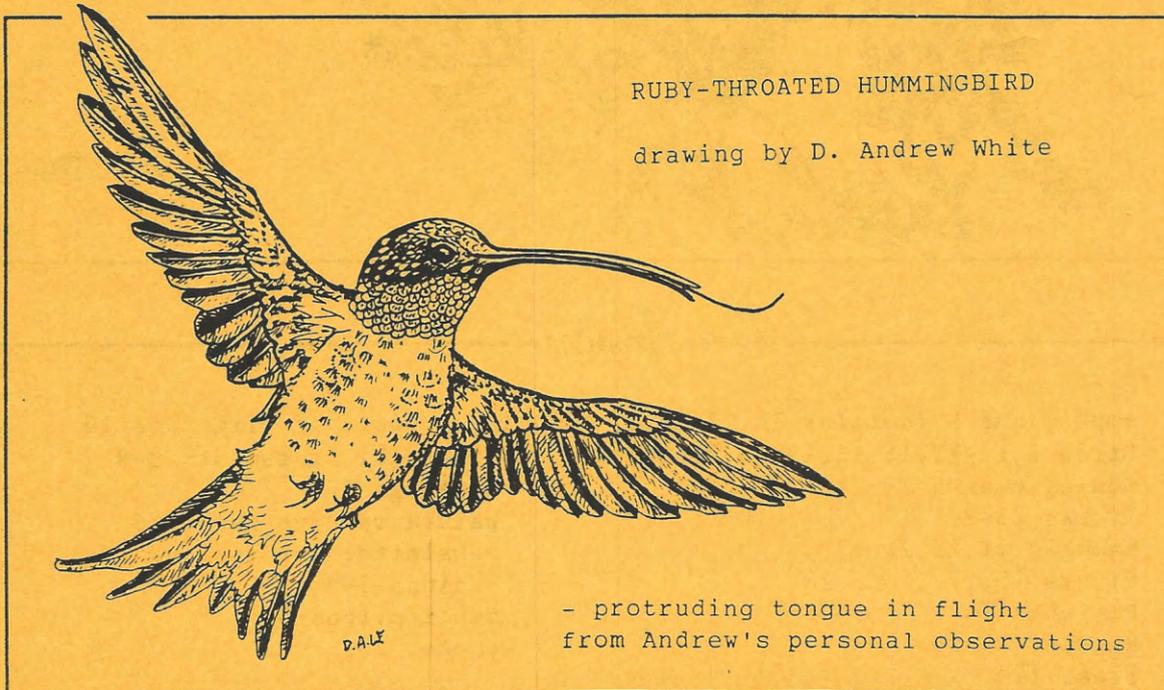
Rosemary has led walks in Wigmore Ravine, which features in "Free Reign" and "The Ferryman will be There" (two of her books). She also served on the Task Force to Bring Back the Don and assisted in the early stages of planning and promoting the Chester Springs Marsh, which features in her most recent book. Her mystery series character, Ellis Portal, is an expert on the Don River valley and loves it as much as Rosemary does.

+ social hour begins at 2 pm with free juice and coffee

+ an opportunity to buy TFN memberships and selected publications, including new Nature Reserve Guide (see page 15).

NEXT MEETING: Sunday, October 7, 2001

NEXT NEWSLETTER: OCTOBER (to be mailed in mid-September)



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 416-393-4636.
 Check the weather by calling 416-661-0123 so you will know what to wear on outings
 which go rain or shine.

- Saturday
 Sept. 1
 10:30 am MONTGOMERY INN - nature arts
 Leader: Andrew White
 Meet at the northeast corner of Bloor St. West and Islington Ave. Bring what you need for photography, sketching or painting and anything you wish to show the group when we compare our morning's work after lunch. Bring lunch. This will be a leisurely walk to a historic site along Mimico Creek.
- Monday
 Sept. 3
 12 noon HIGHLAND CREEK - nature walk
 Leader: Heather Jamieson
 Meet at the eastern terminus of the Scarborough LRT (McCowan Rd.). Bring a snack.
 This is a joint outing with the Friends of Highland Creek to examine the work they have been doing -- planting trees and shrubs etc. trying to restore some natural features to this area.
- Wednesday
 Sept. 5
 10 am HIGH PARK - birds
 Leader: Barbara Kalthoff
 Meet at the park entrance on the south side of Bloor St. West opposite High Park Ave. Bring lunch.
 Be prepared to stop, look and listen as we explore the park, looking for birds moving south for the winter.
- Saturday
 Sept. 8
 10:00 am WEST DEANE PARK - nature walk
 Leader: Diana Karrandjas
 Meet at the southwest corner of Martin Grove Rd. & Eglinton Ave. West. Bring lunch.
 We will be walking south through the shallow valley of Mimico Creek, looking for migrating birds and flowering plants.
- Sunday
 Sept. 9
 2:30 pm TFN ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING + speaker (See page 2 for details.)
- Tuesday
 Sept. 11
 10 am GERMAN MILLS SETTLERS' PARK - nature walk
 Leader: Theresa Moore
 Meet at the northeast corner of Steeles Ave. East and Leslie St. Walk will end by 1 pm so you may want to bring a lunch.
 This walk will be in the valley of the East Don north of Toronto. Asters and goldenrods should be at their peak.

SEPTEMBER MEETINGS (cont'd)

- Sunday
Sept. 16
2 pm
BURKE BROOK - urban ecology
Leaders: Helen Mills & others
Meet at the northwest corner of Avenue Rd. & Woburn Ave.
Proposed developments mean more storm sewers entering Burke Brook. This will affect the creek and the Don River. How can we accommodate our increasing population without damaging our watersheds further? This is a joint outing with the North Toronto Green Community.
- Thursday
Sept. 20
10:30 am
TORONTO ISLANDS - nature walk
Leader: Pat Jones
Meet at the ferry docks at the foot of Bay St. Bring lunch.
September at the islands is good for birds and flowers. We recommend one of our own publications. See back page for listing.
- Saturday
Sept. 22
10:30 am
ELLESMERE STREAM - nature walk
Leaders: Carol & Murray Seymour
Meet at the entrance to Morningside Park on the west side of Morningside Ave. north of Lawrence Ave. East. Bring lunch.
We will be hunting for mushrooms as we climb the hills of a tributary of Highland Creek. Bring your favourite mushroom field guide.
- Sunday
Sept. 23
3 pm
to 5 pm
DON VALLEY BRICK WORKS - human & natural heritage
Leaders: Pleasance Crawford, Ed Freeman, Louise Herzberg, Helen Juhola
Meet at the north end of Chorley Park (east end of Summerhill Ave.). Bring a picnic supper or a snack and a drink.
With four leaders you may get many of your questions about this new park answered -- about its human history, the industrial history, the geology and the natural history. This walk may involve lots of climbing -- into and out of the valley as well as to the lookout.
- Wednesday
Sept. 26
10 am
MOUNT PLEASANT CEMETERY - nature walk
Leader: George Bryant
Meet at the Davisville subway station. You may want to bring lunch.
Be prepared to learn about trees, shrubs and birds.
- Saturday
Sept. 29
8 am
HUMBER FLATS - birds
Leader: Alan Power
Meet at the northeast corner of Eglinton West and Jane St.
Bring lunch.
The Humber is a heritage river, containing many habitats for us to explore.
- Sunday
Sept. 30
10 am
MOUNT PLEASANT CEMETERY - nature walk
Leader: Roger Powley
Meet at the Davisville subway station. Bring lunch.
Birds should be migrating and there are many trees and shrubs to identify.

**Alistair
J. 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, 2001 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.

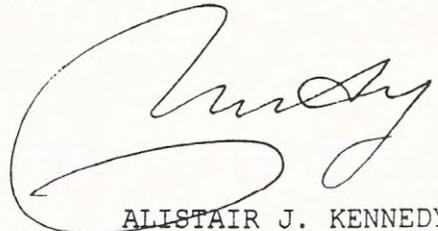
A review does not constitute an audit and consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on these financial statements.

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 16, 2001



ALISTAIR J. KENNEDY
Chartered Accountant

**TORONTO FIELD NATURALISTS
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FINANCIAL POSITION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2001**

	<u>2001</u>	<u>2000</u>
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Net Income for Year	\$ 2,167	\$ 211
Decrease (Increase)	: Inventory 475	570
	: Accounts Payable -	(104)
Increase (Decrease)	: Membership fees	
	received in advance(700)	2,295
	: Rent recovery	
	received in advance <u>2,629</u>	<u>-</u>
Increase (Decrease) in Cash for Year	<u>4,571</u>	<u>2,972</u>
Cash at Beginning of Year	<u>92,567</u>	<u>89,595</u>
Cash at End of Year	\$ <u>97,138</u>	\$ <u>92,567</u>
RESTRICTED FUNDS - Nature Reserves		
Receipts		
Designated Donations	\$ 3,335	\$ 4,500
Interest Earned	<u>7,547</u>	<u>6,828</u>
	<u>10,882</u>	<u>11,328</u>
Expenditures		
Property Taxes, net of rebates and other expenses	<u>1,828</u>	<u>3,512</u>
Increase (Decrease) for Year	9,054	7,816
Restricted Cash at Beginning of Year	<u>191,314</u>	<u>183,498</u>
Restricted Cash at End of Year	\$ <u>200,368</u>	\$ <u>191,314</u>

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

UNAUDITED

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TORONTO FIELD NATURALISTS
 (incorporated without share capital under the laws
 of the Province of Ontario)
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT JUNE 30, 2001

	<u>2001</u>	<u>2000</u>
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash	\$ 97,138	\$ 92,567
Inventory at Cost	<u>3,310</u>	<u>3,785</u>
	<u>100,448</u>	<u>96,352</u>
Other Assets		
Photo Library at Cost	<u>9,650</u>	<u>9,650</u>
	<u>\$110,098</u>	<u>\$106,002</u>
LIABILITIES		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	\$ 642	\$ 642
Membership Fees Received in Advance	11,135	11,835
Rent Recovery Received in Advance (Note 3)	<u>2,629</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>14,406</u>	<u>12,477</u>
OPERATING SURPLUS		
Operating Surplus	<u>95,692</u>	<u>93,525</u>
	<u>\$110,098</u>	<u>\$106,002</u>
Working Capital: Dollars	\$ 86,042	\$ 83,875
: Ratio	7:1	8:1
NATURE RESERVES - RESTRICTED FUNDS		
Current Assets		
Cash (Note 2)	\$200,368	\$191,314
Property and Equipment		
Land	<u>175,278</u>	<u>175,278</u>
	<u>\$375,646</u>	<u>\$366,592</u>
Operating Surplus		
Reserve for Future Expenditures	\$200,368	\$191,314
Property	<u>175,278</u>	<u>175,278</u>
	<u>\$375,646</u>	<u>\$366,592</u>

APPROVED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD

Karin Fawthrop (Director)
 (Director)

Alma Jubb

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, 2001

	<u>2001</u>	<u>2000</u>
REVENUE		
Membership Fees	\$ 21,380	\$ 20,555
Publications	<u>32</u>	<u>571</u>
	<u>21,412</u>	<u>21,126</u>
EXPENSES		
Outings	\$ 1,125	\$ 1,333
Meeting Expenses	2,660	2,589
Newsletter, Printing and Mailing	12,008	12,302
Other Printing Expenses	59	1,172
Other Mailing Expenses	1,346	1,416
Accounting	642	642
Advertising and Publicity	1,088	764
Office Supplies	889	815
Telephone	478	449
Rent	9,047	9,320
G.S.T. Rebate	(<u>1,128</u>)	(<u>1,083</u>)
	<u>28,214</u>	<u>29,719</u>
Operating Income (Loss)	(6,802)	(8,593)
Interest Income	<u>3,246</u>	<u>2,896</u>
Net Income (Loss) before Donations	(3,556)	(5,697)
Donations	<u>5,723</u>	<u>5,908</u>
Net Income (Loss) for Year	\$ <u>2,167</u>	\$ <u>211</u>
Operating Surplus, at Beginning of Year	<u>93,525</u>	<u>93,314</u>
Operating Surplus, at End of Year	\$ <u>95,692</u>	\$ <u>93,525</u>

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

UNAUDITED

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**TORONTO FIELD NATURALISTS
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
AT JUNE 30, 2001**

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 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

In 1999, the Organization was forced out of their offices. \$3,943 was recovered from the former Landlord to cover the increase rent expense for the balance of the lease. \$1,314 was applied to the current year, \$1,314 will be applied to 2002 and \$1,315 to 2003.

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

	<u>Year Ended</u>	<u>Annual Rent</u>
Building	June 30, 2002	10,701
	June 30, 2003	<u>11,206</u>
		<u>\$21,907</u>

UNAUDITED

□

TFN BOARD OF DIRECTORS -- 2001-2002

President: Robin Powell, 504 - 1017 Seneca Ave., Mississauga L5G 3X5
(905-278-4798)

Vice President: Karin Fawthrop, 347 Beechgrove Dr., Scarborough M1E 4A2
(416-282-6044)

Past President: Phoebe Cleverley, 506 - 110 The Esplanade, Toronto M5E 1X9
(416-369-0546)

Secretary-Treasurer: Aarne Juhola, 112 - 51 Alexander St., Toronto M4Y 1B3
(416-924-5806)

Other Directors:

Alexander Cappell, 109 - 35 Cedarcroft Blvd., Willowdale M2R 2Z4
(416-663-7738)

Elaine Farragher, 23 Wright Ave., Toronto M6R 1K9
(416-537-5877)

Nancy Fredenburg, 807 - 360 Ridelle Ave., Toronto M6B 1K1
(416-781-8550)

Helen Juhola, 112 - 51 Alexander St., Toronto M4Y 1B3
(416-924-5806)

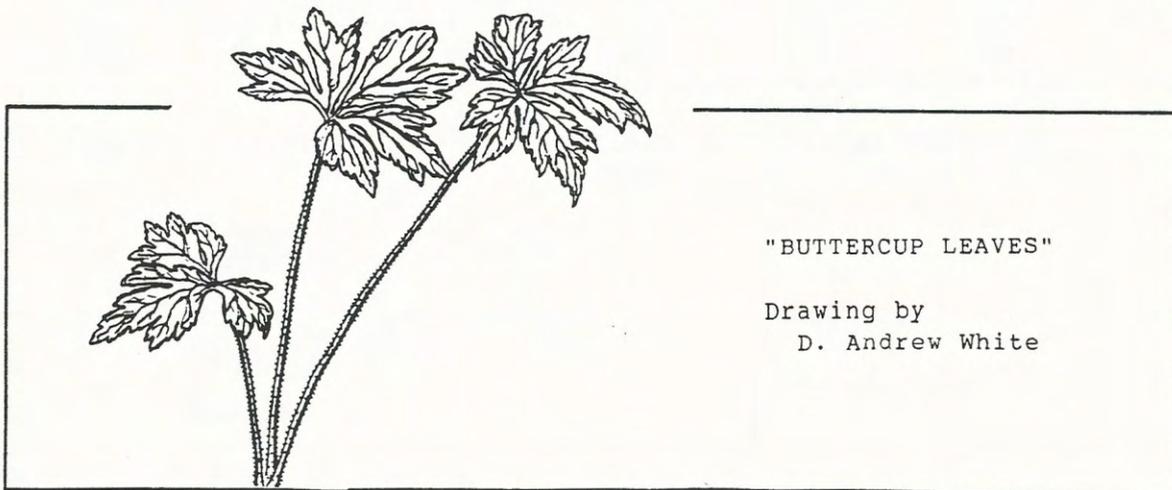
Diana Karrandjas, 15 Allan Park Rd., Toronto M8Z 3S9
(416-233-6856)

Colleen Prentice, 1202 - 135 Rose Ave., Toronto M4X 1P1
(416-925-0347)

Murray Seymour, 7 - 2511 Gerrard St. East., Toronto M1N 1W9
(416-699-1421)

Andre Vietinghoff, 403 - 24 Burnhamthorpe Rd., Etobicoke M9A 1G8
(416-232-9241)

D



"BUTTERCUP LEAVES"

Drawing by
D. Andrew White

KEEPING IN TOUCH

May 25, 2001

The young fox and I passed each other in my backyard. I went my way, he went his. But, as I stood contemplating my rambling flowerbeds, I heard behind me a splash and a mumbling grumble. I turned to see a dripping (and embarrassed?) fox disappearing through the hedge, while in my pond was a distinctly fox-shaped patch of open water in the duckweed.

Diana Karrandjas

July 9, 2001

We enjoy our walks and your magazine very much. Always an interesting story.

Pat & Pauline Lonergan

June 27, 2001

Many thanks for all the good things you do -- for all the great walks -- which I still manage to take in once in a while.

Kathleen Repka

June 21, 2001

Really appreciate the T.F.N. magazine. It's an excellent publication and must take considerable effort on the part of a lot of people.

Marion Martindale

July, 2001

I'm glad I joined the TFN. I will never become an expert, but membership has certainly been an enriching experience.

In June of 2001, Jennifer and I had the privilege of visiting a small working mine in the Weardale district of Northern England. Once one of many 19th century lead mines in the Northern Penines, the mine is now famous for its gemmy fluorite specimens prized by mineral collectors in Europe and North America. The mine consists of several horizontal tunnels located in a nearly vertical outcrop of limestone.

As we entered the mine we noticed a nest of small birds just above the entrance. A family of blue tits we were told. When we returned, much to the consternation of our guide and co-owner of the mine, we found that half of the baby birds had left the nest and huddled on the ground near the mine entrance. I assured our guide that I had it on good authority (TFN newsletter, What to do when you find a baby bird, May 2001) that there was no need to put the birds back into their nest. The birds were ready to fly and that a parent was close by to supervise.

▷

KEEPING IN TOUCH (cont'd)

As if on cue, one of the fledglings took flight and easily flew to the trees below us. One by one the others followed. It was then we noticed the male perched on the bank below keeping a watchful eye on everything.

Blue tits (*Parus caeruleus*) are an abundant species in England, and throughout Europe. Frequent visitors to feeders, they are known for acrobatic behaviour, can become quite tame and inquisitive, characteristics they share with their Canadian cousins, the chickadees.

I looked it up on the internet.

Blair Campbell

Aug. 1, 2001

On August 1st my family and I went on a TFN walk at East Don Parklands. We used to be members, about eight years ago, and now we are members again!

During this walk, we had to leave early and as we were walking back we spotted a great blue heron up real close! He was fishing in the creek. Next we came across a snake coiled in the middle of the path. I couldn't find him in my wildlife book but he was brown with a pretty pattern on his back and about 2 ft. long. And that wasn't all! Earlier in our walk we had seen an amazing red-tailed hawk and we saw him again being chased by some crows. His call is sometimes pretty and sometimes it sounds like a gull.

It was really great to see the field naturalists again!!

Marika Van Velsen

□

"RED FOX" on a plateau
in the ravine at Cudia
bluffs, April 20, 1997.
Drawn from memory, after
the sighting, by
D. Andrew White, who was
intrigued by the unusual
black marking on its side.
The tail had the customary
white tip, though Andrew
has noticed not all foxes
have it, and invites your
comments on fox coloration.



REMEMBERING DIANA PARK

I met Diana Park in 1972 at a Federation of Ontario Naturalists' conference in Sarnia. The next time I spent time with her was on a Canadian Nature Federation trip to Newfoundland preceding their annual conference in Wolfville, Nova Scotia in 1973.

After that we met often on TFN outings and at meetings.

Her interests ranged from hiking with the Toronto Hiking Club to history (she was treasurer of the North Toronto Historical Society), genealogy (she travelled widely delving into her family's history) and sewing (she was an active member of the Toronto Guild of Stitchery, one of the sewers for a wall-hanging in Toronto City Hall).

For the Toronto Field Naturalists her major accomplishment was the tracing of several Don tributaries to their sources. She took photos, made notes and marked routes and taught many of us how to read the landscape by watching for willow trees, dips in the roads and double sewer grates. The last outing she led for TFN was in May 2000 when we followed Castle Frank Creek during a thunderstorm and she was able to show us water flowing from two directions into a storm sewer, proving that we were following a buried creek.

Diana's most lasting memorial, however, will be a book to be published for the Ont. Genealogical Society, Toronto Branch, about Toronto's "park lots". These were 100-acre properties assigned by John Graves Simcoe to his friends with the intention of establishing an aristocracy in Toronto. Her idea was to record what had happened to the lots and the families that received them. She found that many of these "first families" are still around. Descendants were approached and asked to write.

Part of Diana's thoroughness and enthusiasm was in deciding that each lot should be explored. With various friends she walked weekly across the city, lot by lot, taking photographs and making notes. We are all looking forward to reading the book.

Helen Juhola

□

... A skyscraper may not be the same as a tree, but one is no more natural than the other, and both are in the end, habitable growths of some skyward longing. Birds make good use of either. So do we. We are no less natural than the next creature, except that thinking makes it seem so, makes us invent a place called nature from which we can think of ourselves as having been exiled, and into which we can constantly seek readmittance if only through the door of a collapsing cabin, or a film of vanishing nomads, or the airy portal of a noiseless dawn.

from "Wickerby: an urban pastoral" by Charles Siebert, Crown Publ., Inc.
New York, 1998

FOR READING

RECENT PUBLICATIONS:

NATURE HIKES: NEAR-TORONTO TRAILS AND ADVENTURES by Janet Eagleson, Photographs by Rosemary G. Hasner, Boston Mills Press, Erin, Ont. 2000. \$24.95

This book focuses on 33 conservation areas in or near the Greater Toronto Area. It includes sketch maps of each site, brief information on trails, washrooms, parking, opening times and directions by car. Public transit access, unfortunately, is mentioned in only a couple of cases, although at least some of the others can be reached by GO, T.T.C or other local service.

The enjoyable, highly readable anecdotes and beautiful photographs whet the reader's appetite for exploring some of our natural heritage. It is written from the point of view of the novice naturalist, amateur photographer, sometime cyclist and canoeist. For the more advanced naturalist, the book will evoke rich memories and reveal new destinations.

RARE & ENDANGERED SPECIES OF GREY & BRUCE COUNTIES by The Bruce-Grey Plant Committee, Owen Sound Field Naturalists, 2001. \$15.00

This most recent project of The Bruce-Grey Plant Committee is a major departure from their earlier works but retains the high quality we've come to expect. With this huge undertaking they hope to "raise awareness of the unique qualities of this area and the importance of maintaining healthy ecosystems" and thus to encourage "landowners to preserve natural habitat".

The book presents an overview of the area's geological formation, development of its plant and animal populations, human history and habitat types. The main part of the book gives a face to rare and endangered species by profiling 8 fish, 5 reptiles, 14 birds, 1 mammal and 58 plant species. Each is put in perspective with reference to its global, provincial and local status, with particular emphasis on habitat needs and threats.

Rare & Endangered Species of Grey & Bruce Counties should be of interest to area residents, landowners, hikers, vacationers and to anyone concerned about the preservation of this unique part of Ontario. It can be obtained by sending a cheque for \$17.00 (includes \$2.00 postage) payable to The Bruce-Grey Plant Committee, c/o Owen Sound Field Naturalists, Box 401, Owen Sound, Ontario N4K 5P7.

Marilynn Murphy

MAP OF TORONTO'S LOST CREEKS. \$5 each. Call Helen Mills at 416-781-7663 and order your copy.

TORONTO PARKS AND TRAILS. Free. Call Access Toronto at 416-338-0338 to request a copy.



FOR READING (cont'd)

BIRDING GUIDE TO CARDEN ALVAR by Ron Pittaway, available for \$3.95 from Margaret Cunningham, Economic Development Department, City of Kawartha Lakes, P.O. Box 9000, Lindsay, Ont. K9V 5R8.

This useful little guide is derived from an article in the newsletter of the Ontario Field Ornithologists. The booklet, besides giving beginner birders and budding naturalists pointers on what to look for, also tells them how to find the place, thanks to a map of the back roads leading to the spot. This booklet suggests a 35-kilometre driving tour and sets out locations where one can stop, listen and look for certain bird species.

Late May and early June are the best times to go there, and among the species to be seen are two that sit on roadside fence posts, the upland sandpiper and the common snipe. The area is also noteworthy as one of the last nesting sites in Ontario for the endangered loggerhead shrike. About five pairs have been known to nest lately on the Carden Alvar. Naturalists hope that increased interest in this fascinating region, between Sebright and Kirkfield, will help to protect it from the stone and gravel quarry industry. Private landowners have cooperated with efforts to protect the shrikes and, interestingly, cattle grazing seems to help maintain shrike habitat.

from "Fascinating Carden Alvar is on our doorstep" by Barry Ken MacKay in the TORONTO STAR, Mar. 11, 2001

GUIDE TO TORONTO FIELD NATURALISTS NATURE RESERVES published by the Toronto Field Naturalists, 2001, \$4.

This new guide includes information on all three properties of the TFN -- maps, descriptions and purchase information. As well it contains additions to the species lists for the Jim Baillie Nature Reserve and information regarding the purpose and management of the reserves. This booklet will be for sale at the September meeting or may be purchased at the TFN office on Friday mornings from 9 am to 12 noon. For mail orders, add \$2 to cover postage and handling.

□

To a geologist in the field, the top 18" or so is ephemera, yesterday's news; the real "surface material" begins after you dig past the facade of recent history. By any calendar that applies to rocks, the mile-thick sheath of Wisconsin ice left for the north sometime this morning. Its tracks, as fresh as a coyote trail in mud, are everywhere: drumlins pointing the way of the glacier's retreat, streams too small to have cut the valley they inhabit, boulder fields and hillocks above potholes where lumps of ice melted short hours ago.

from "River in a dry land: a prairie passage" by Trevor Herriot, Stoddart, 2000

PROJECTS

FATAL LIGHT AWARENESS PROGRAM (FLAP)

Some Toronto condo developers are starting to realize that their buildings can be lethal -- to birds.

The taller the structure, the more lethal it becomes, especially if it contains highly reflective glass and has a tremendous amount of light escaping during the night.

Last year alone, officials from the Humane Society and FLAP found nearly 2,900 stunned or dead birds at the foot of brightly lit Toronto-area high-rises.

Scientists don't know why migratory birds are attracted to high-rise lights during their hazardous night flights, but the fatal attraction can be greatly reduced by simply turning off the lights.

When birds take off on their migratory path at dusk, they go to a high altitude, but as they tire, they start to lose altitude, usually in the early morning hours. That's when the collisions occur.

FLAP volunteers patrol locations around high-rise buildings in Toronto in the early morning, during migration periods, picking up birds and helping potential survivors. They have collected more than 125 different bird species, including sparrows, thrushes, warblers, and even hummingbirds.

Some high-rise office towers in downtown Toronto have taken big steps to reduce migratory bird fatalities. Four years ago, the Bank of Montreal building had 47 per cent of its lights burning throughout the night. So engineers removed much of the tower's decorative exterior lighting and installed computerized timers on other lights to deactivate them when not needed. Today, fewer than 8 per cent of the building's lights are on at night. Many downtown building owners are taking steps to minimize the number of lights needed for people working late. Previously, if even one person was working late in an office tower, the entire floor's lights would have to be on. Now, engineers have designed systems to allow more control over lighting.

Condominiums that are going up and existing condominiums are using vanity lighting. They're floodlighting their roof tops, and this kind of vanity lighting is proving to be lethal. The people who live in the condos pay for this lighting. If people knew that it's on at 3 or 4 in the mornings, they'd probably have it turned off. Condos can be even more lethal for birds than office towers during the daytime. The reason for that is condos in most cases have beautiful landscaping surrounding them. As a result, that habitat reflects in the windows, and birds perceive that as another world to fly into. Developers have to concentrate on it from the design stage to eliminate bird collisions. That means lighting control at night, and during the day design glass that is bird friendly.

▷ For more information, call FLAP at 416-366-FLAP (3527) or check out the Web site at www.flap.org.

from "Will it be Lights Out for Dangerous Condos?" by Peter McMahan in the TORONTO STAR,
June 9, 2001 ▷

PROJECTS (cont'd)

LOCAL ENHANCEMENT AND APPRECIATION OF FORESTS (LEAF)

This non-profit group invites you to participate in their city-wide project aimed at protecting and enhancing Toronto's urban forest. Native trees and shrubs improve our air quality, reduce our household energy consumption, and create much-needed urban wildlife habitat.

LEAF offers subsidized native tree plantings in the backyards of Toronto homes, and on schools and multi-unit properties. Costs range from \$35-70 and include on-site advice and planting service. Trees are 5 to 6 feet in height when planted. Native shrubs are also available for delivery. LEAF also offers tree related presentations and workshops designed to meet the needs of your group. You assemble the people -- they do the rest!

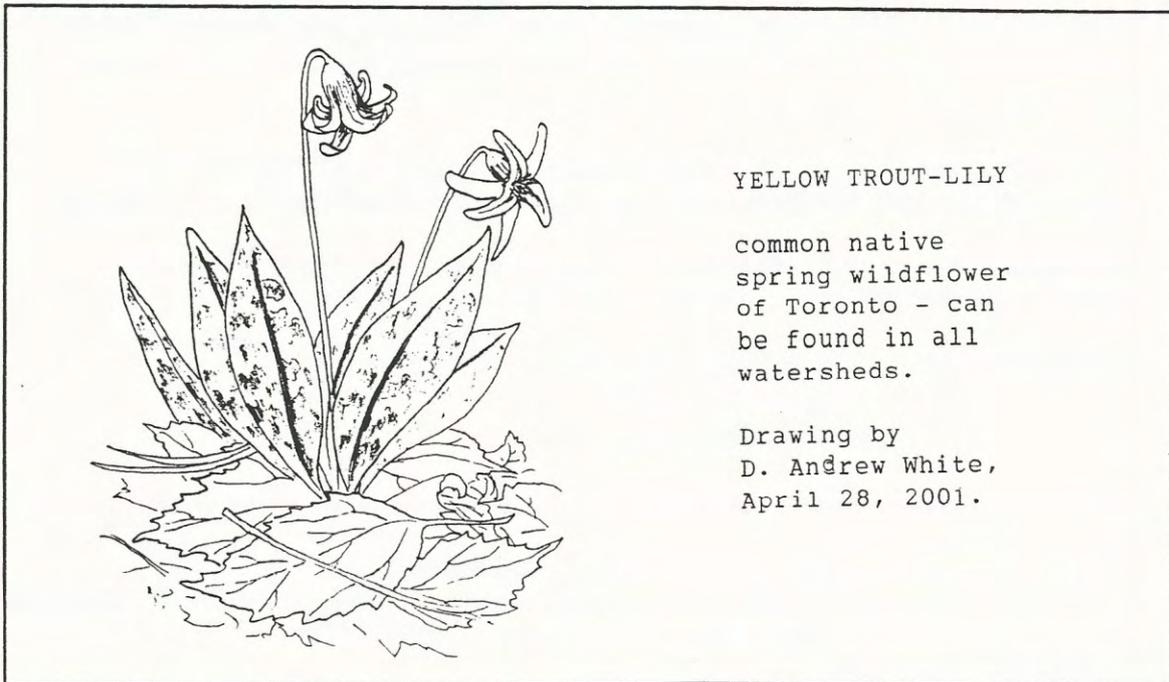
▷ Contact LEAF at 416-413-9244, or visit www.leaf.toronto.org for more information.

from WARD 21 REPORT, Spring/Summer, 2001

LEAF BLOWERS

▷ Did you know that a single leaf blower operating for one hour causes the equivalent smog emissions of a car idling for 35 hours? If you are concerned about the air and noise pollution caused by leaf blowers, please call 416-392-0208 to put you in touch with the Grassroots Hillcrest Neighbourhood Group who is engaged in public advocacy on the matter.

from WARD 21 REPORT, Spring/Summer, 2001



YELLOW TROUT-LILY

common native
spring wildflower
of Toronto - can
be found in all
watersheds.

Drawing by
D. Andrew White,
April 28, 2001.

BIRD BATH BABIES

Watching the activities in my bird bath gives me many hours of pleasure -- cardinals flashing red plumage and blue jays fluffing themselves up to look like blue ruffles; sparrows of course now and then.

Robins seem to enjoy the bath more than other birds.

My favourite robin saga really tells a story.

One evening a robin family -- mother, father and three siblings arrived on my lawn seeking worms for supper, I expect. Then mother and two nestlings flew onto the bird bath. Mother immediately began to splash about showing the young ones how to shower. One bird copied mother splashing from time to time. The second young one refused to shower and kept opening his mouth for food. The mother became impatient (as mothers do) and raised her wing and swatted the disobedient little one. The next scene was a lot of splashing by all three birds and very little water left in the bath.

Doris Tatay

□

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, including locations, dates, and any sources consulted.

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
2 Carlton St., #1519
Toronto, Ont. M5B 1J3

Editor: Helen Juhola

Poetry, Art and Nature Observations: Diana Banville

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Toshi Oikawa, Marilyn Murphy, Robin Powell

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BIRD-WATCHING IN THE YEAR 2000

There used to be a tradition that the May meeting of the TFN would be a "Member's Night"; several short presentations would be made by members, including the junior club, instead of a lecture by a guest speaker. I was invited to participate in the Member's Night on Monday, May 7, 1962; I chose as my subject "Bird Watching in the Year 2000".

I started out by admitting that I should have picked a later date because some of the members of the audience might still be around in 2000 to remind me (if I, too, survived to 2000) of all the silly wild predictions which I made and which did not come true. So far, no one has done so.

Well, the year 2000 has come and gone, and it is time to assess my prognostications. As I left the meeting in 1962, Don Burton told me that someone should have recorded my presentation; as far as I know, no one did. However, I did use a tape recorder at home to rehearse my speech, to see if it was too long (it was). I still have that tape but for many years I have not owned reel-to-reel equipment to play the tape.

Recently I had this tape transcribed onto a cassette so that I could play it again. The quality of the sound is surprisingly good, after 39 years. The shortened version of my speech at the meeting was done with the help of a few notes, and is far from being a word-for-word copy of the rehearsal tape, but the tape plus my memory is enough to reconstruct it reasonably well.

I was right in two areas. I predicted that more people would be looking at fewer birds, and I predicted small light-weight tape recorders. The recorders available in 1962 were too bulky for field use.

I predicted that in parks and conservation areas the trees would have numbers on them, and each branch would also be labelled, so that outing leaders could quickly describe the precise location of a bird. I also predicted "ganged" telescopes in which the leader could aim his scope at a bird, and, by mechanical connections, all other scopes would be aimed at the same bird. The leader's adjustment of focus would also be linked to the other scopes, although initially each viewer would have to make an adjustment to suit his or her individual eyes.

I predicted binoculars in which a small area around the middle of the field of view would have a magnification of 8 or 10 but around it would be concentric circles of diminishing magnification. Thus there would be a very wide viewing angle, much more than in conventional wide-angle binoculars, making it easier to find the bird initially, and allowing one to detect movement over a wide area. Seeing any such motion, the bird watcher of 2000 would move the binoculars to bring the bird into the centre of view to get the full magnification.

I predicted that the distortion caused by these concentric rings would lead to dizziness or nausea for some people but, of course, a suitable fast-acting pill would be available to counteract any such tendency.

▷

BIRD-WATCHING IN THE YEAR 2000 (cont'd)

My most far-out prediction was something which I called the "controlled environment suit". This is something like a space suit, but is made with an incredibly thin, strong, flexible transparent fabric. Underneath this outer garment, the outdoors person wears whatever he or she feels comfortable in, or whatever is currently fashionable. It could be a tuxedo or a bikini!

The controlled environment suit would be bulky enough to trap sufficient air to be a floatation device; one could fall into the lake or the bog without any danger of drowning. It would also have an outside surface so smooth and slippery that mud and dirt would not adhere to it. After falling into the mud, one could shake the mud off with the slightest movement.

The fabric of the controlled environment suit would be such a good insulator that body heat would be sufficient to keep the occupant warm in the coldest weather. The problem would be to keep the interior cool in the warm weather. This would be accomplished by a small fan driven by a tiny electric motor powered by solar cells. Fresh air would be circulated throughout the suit, and refrigerated if necessary by a tiny refrigerator, also powered by solar cells. Thermostats would switch the fan and refrigerator on and off as required to maintain the desired internal temperature.

I predicted that some people might be offended or distracted by the brief costumes worn by some people under their controlled environment suits, but there would be special spectacles available which, when used, would make the fabric of all controlled environment suits appear opaque. I predicted that the demand for these spectacles would be limited mostly to women buying them for their husband's use.

Thus most of my 1962 predictions were way off, but in spite of these failures, I am prepared to make one final prediction: I predict that in the year 2050 I will not be looking at birds anymore.

Jack Gingrich

□

Rock doves on my rock
of brick and building-block,

let me remind you

It's nearly five o'clock,
time to rejoin your flock!

Diana Bånville, Feb. 2000.

ADAPTATIONS, WILD AND DOMESTIC

I am constantly delighted by the way in which other life forms cope with our encroachment, in fact frequently turning our intrusions to advantage.

My Brampton son's back garden is next to a neighbour's, whose swimming pool dominates three-quarters of the garden space. The pool, last May, was not yet in operation but the tarpaulin cover had been rolled back to its perimeters. These neighbours, to give them full marks, were exiting from side and back doors as though walking on eggshells, and the reason was a couple of mallards seated serenely on the tarpaulin and paying not the slightest attention to the home owners, gawking neighbours, neighbourhood children or neighbourhood cats. I was told this pair come every year, resting for a short time en route to wherever, rather as we might visit a favourite resort annually for a few days.

Another example of wildlife "making-do" was along the south end of my street, at the bottom of which lies Highway 407, which, of course, makes my street much travelled. Just before the juncture of the two routes is a large field, future site of more homes, more shops, etc., now merely the recipient of travelling garbage. This field has been mown, with just a small patch of scrub left standing some few yards from the sidewalk where, in May, a Canada goose nested. I didn't see the male, who would doubtless have appeared pronto had I approached closely. But once again, an example of wildlife surviving our stripping of natural habitat with our throughways, traffic, presence.

On to domestic adaptations. Steeles West, between McLaughlin and Highway 10, exemplifies a classic contrast: one side is a continuum of housing estates and highrises, the other as yet "undeveloped" land with the occasional small home still managing to hang on. One of these appears to sport a poultry business and the hens have the run of the front lawn, without fencing of any sort, scratching away up to the very sidewalk, but never beyond it into the road. They appear quite indifferent to the roar of practically non-stop, heavy-duty, long-distance vehicles, along with private cars. Equally nonchalant is a pair of rabbits which, the first time I walked past, were locked in immobility, so that I thought I was viewing a decorative coupling of "cutesy" plastic bunnies, one black, one white, until, on return, I saw them leaping over the grass, but again, never past the limit of that sidewalk.

All this is both heartening and instructive. (Perhaps we have got it wrong about which is the primary species with the brains?)

Eva Davis

□

The dainty speedwell
assaulted by lawnmowers
in vain hides in grass.

Haiku by Therese Paradis
November, 1999

SNAPPERS

When walking through the ravines, or in any wild spaces, Carol and I have become used to being surrounded by mysteries. In fact, that's a great part of the reason we keep walking. Many of those mysteries can be solved by careful observation and consultation with a guide book. Many have been solved with the help of a knowledgeable member of TFN. Some are of broader significance than just the name of a bird or bug. Such is the mystery of the dead snappers.

While doing a pre-walk in the Rouge marsh, we found five large and therefore old, snapping turtles floating dead in the water. Just the shell of one measured 40 cm. They were big animals. I contacted Bob Johnson at the Toronto Zoo. TFN members who have been involved for a few years will remember his work with the club and his book Familiar Amphibians & Reptiles of Ontario. We went together to take a look. Since there were no human witnesses to the multiple deaths, Bob made a guess based on many years' experience. He felt the deaths could well have been the result of the weather during this past winter. His reasoning went like this. When ice freezes, some light still gets through and water plants continue making oxygen, though at lower levels than in summer, of course. This year heavy snow covered the ice, cutting off all sunlight. The aerobic plants stopped growing and producing oxygen. Anaerobic plants that don't need sunlight kept growing however, producing methane. This combined with any oxygen that still happened to be in the environment, completely removing it. When the turtles woke up from hibernating in the mud, there was no oxygen to breathe and nowhere to go with the ice on top. At the end of the canal where we found the bodies is a fence, possibly constructed to keep carp from entering and spawning, possibly also strong enough to prevent turtles headed for better water from getting through.

OK. Sounds good. His question though: "Where are all the dead young snappers, frogs and fish that would also have been killed off by the same conditions?"

We carried two of the heavy bodies back to his car. Bob will be sending tissue samples to a researcher in Hamilton who is doing a study on causes of turtle deaths. A toxicology report may shed more light on the mystery. Bob promised to let me know the results.

Even in this, the most alive time of the year, there is always a balance. Some must go so that others can fill their places. The how's and why's are a mystery.

Murray Seymour

□

With the wind and rain
to listen to, radio
is now redundant!

haiku by Diana Banville
May 21, 1998

IN THE NEWS

NEW DEVELOPMENT RULES EXPECTED TO CONTROL SPRAWL

The province announced a plan that could speed housing development on former industrial lands in Toronto. A panel of 14 environmentalists, industry representatives and city officials has been asked to develop a consensus that will become the basis for a provincial policy to protect the environment of the Oak Ridges Moraine. The new strategy would require local councils to set conditions for where they want development to be encouraged and what natural features they want to see protected. Developers who follow the guidelines could get approval in one step.

In Toronto, the focus will be on former industrial land, including large areas along the city's eastern harbour and the western bank of the Don River. Separate provincial legislation is being prepared to provide guarantees on financing for environmental cleanups. A goal of the plan will be to avoid having development disputes appealed to the Ontario Municipal Board, which has the authority to overrule municipal decisions. A series of consultations will be scheduled across the province between July and October to review the province's land use policies. While the province wants to steer growth away from farmlands and green spaces, it wants communities to be able to make their own decisions.

from an article by Wallace Immen in the GLOBE & MAIL, June 29, 2001

MPP ASKS ONTARIO TO PROTECT RAVINES

The Ontario government is under pressure to block development on a ravine in central Toronto and to ensure other ravines are protected. Michael Bryant, the Liberal MPP for the downtown riding of St. Paul's, said ravines are a major feature of Toronto and should receive the same protection as that given to the Oak Ridges Moraine this spring. In particular, he asked the government to freeze development on the western part of the Cedarvale Ravine, which has been left open to construction as a result of a quirk in the amalgamation of six municipalities into the City of Toronto.

Most of the 29 ravines in the former City of Toronto are protected. But the western part of the Cedarvale Ravine was in the former City of York. The ravine runs east to west slightly north of St. Clair Avenue and is cut in half by Bathurst Street. The ravine is protected east of Bathurst Street, but not west of it, where development of a swimming pool and a retaining wall has begun.

The Toronto and Region Conservation Authority -- which would be expected to have the authority to control construction -- lacks the authority. It would take a change in provincial regulations to remedy this. Before amalgamation, the old City of Toronto protected its ravines. The City of York was poised to implement similar protection, but did not act before amalgamation took effect 3½ years ago. In the ravines that are protected, city bylaws prohibit the cutting down of healthy trees, changing the natural elevation, disposing of swimming-pool water, the construction of new structures or retaining walls, and the dumping of debris, including garden waste and leaves.

from an article by Richard Mackie in the GLOBE & MAIL, June 16, 2001



A GREEN REVOLUTION IN DOWNSVIEW WILL TRANSFORM OLD MILITARY BASE INTO 'TREE CITY'

This is the vision for Downsview National Park. Its 400-plus hectares will cover an area larger than the downtown core from King St. to Bloor St., University Ave. to the Don Valley Parkway. Downsview Park will be larger than Central Park, New York.

This is not a neighbourhood park; the park lies between Keele St. and Allen Rd., Wilson Ave. and Sheppard Ave. The park sits on a major Toronto watershed that's shaped like a turtle's back. The centre of the land is the highest elevated area in Toronto, offering a long view of the city that stretches south to the downtown core. Nearly half the CN Tower is cut off from view because it's below the elevation of the park.

The land slopes toward two major water systems, the Humber River to the west and the Don River branches to the east. When development begins in August, 2002, natural marshes, ponds and streams that were part of the habitat before the land's transformation into an airport, then a military base, will again become part of the eco-structure.

The park's concept came from the winning design in an international competition held in 1999.

from an article by San Grewal in the TORONTO STAR, June 30, 2001



"STEM AND
LEAVES
OF
SOLOMON'S-
SEAL"

(Drawing by
D. Andrew White)



IN THE NEWS (cont'd)

THE WAR AGAINST GARLIC MUSTARD

First there was purple loosestrife. Now people in Ontario are battling garlic mustard, a 30- to 60-centimetre-tall plant with small white flowers. Not a newcomer -- it arrived in the region more than 100 years ago from Europe -- it's now threatening to crowd out many of southern Ontario's native plants and rare wildflowers. The major reason is that we're fragmenting a lot of our woodlots. Garlic mustard loves an environment on the edge of the forest, and that's what subdivision creates.

Ironically, nature lovers may be partly to blame for garlic mustard's success. Intensifying urban development has brought more people (and their dogs) to hike the woods and trails near cities. They go home with stealth troops -- garlic mustard seeds -- stuck to clothing or fur. The best long-term control so far is to cut off the flower heads in May before they seed -- not to pull the plant, as that encourages more seeds to germinate in the disturbed soil. Garlic mustard can be identified by its definite garlic odour and by heart-shaped leaves with serrated or wavy edges at the base of the plant.

extracted from an article in the UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO MAGAZINE, Spring 2000

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT DECLARES ROAD SALT A TOXIC SUBSTANCE

Environment Canada has added road salts (calcium chloride, magnesium chloride, sodium chloride and potassium chloride) to the Priority Substances List under the Canadian Environmental Protection Act. The federal government now has two years to develop control guidelines for road salt, and a further 18 months to implement them.

Toronto has taken some measures to control its use of road salt. These include installing electronic controls on salt spreading equipment to control the rate of application; pre-wetting road salt with calcium chloride (itself a toxic substance) to stop granules from "bounding" off the road; and the use of weather sensors embedded in roads to indicate optimal times for application. Unfortunately there is still little being done to control or monitor salt runoff from the various snow dumps across the City. The Don River alone is estimated to suffer a winter season chloride rating of almost 1,000 mg/L. Drinking water limits are 250 mg/L.

from BAYWATCHING, Spring 2001

In the relatively short span of time since the end of the eighteenth century, humans have become the dominant geological agents over most of Southern Ontario. Perhaps the greatest change to the region's landscape was the removal of most of the forests. Commercial logging came first; clearing of trees for farm settlement followed. By the 1870s, very little old growth survived...

from ELORA GORGE: A VISITOR'S GUIDE by Kenneth Hewitt, A Boston Mills Press Book, 1995

IN THE NEWS (cont'd)

SWAN ATTACK

A swan named Oscar bit an elderly Norwegian woman on her backside and dragged her into a lake, where it twice held her underwater before letting her go. The victim was taken to a hospital where she spent the night. She was walking through a nature reserve with family members, including three young grandchildren, when the ill-tempered Oscar attacked. The swan only let her go when her daughter started to throw rocks. Medics and police arrived at the scene and Oscar was quickly destroyed.

from an article by Steve Newman in the TORONTO STAR, May 12, 2001

VANISHING TOADS: ONE PUZZLE SOLVED

Warmer weather over the South Pacific during the past three decades has caused an environmental chain reaction that is killing most of the eggs of a type of toad in Oregon, according to a study. It is believed to be the first study to directly link global climate change with declining amphibian populations. Other recent studies have linked large-scale climate changes to population fluctuations in American songbirds and European butterflies. The warmer weather is causing less rain and snow in Oregon's Cascade Range, where western toads are found, resulting in shallower lakes and ponds.

Western toads, like all amphibians, lay their eggs in water. In shallow water, the eggs are exposed to more ultraviolet light, which makes them susceptible to a water mould that kills the embryos by the hundreds of thousands. Amphibian populations have been declining worldwide since the 1980s, alarming scientists. Amphibians are considered a barometer of the Earth's health because they are so sensitive to environmental changes. In the past decade, 20 amphibian species have become extinct, and many more are in severe decline. Scientists point to a variety of factors, including habitat destruction, use of fertilizers and pesticides and increased ultraviolet light from an ozone layer thinned by pollutants.

from an article by John Biemer in the TORONTO STAR, April 14, 2001

ONTARIO TO EXPAND 11 CONSERVATION AREAS

Ontario has added 242.5 hectares to its park system in the southern part of the province. The purchases, which included areas of endangered wetland, will expand 11 existing wildlife conservation areas and protect endangered species of animals,

from an article in THE GLOBE & MAIL, April 21, 2001



September revives
the rose and summer-weary.
Small scholar trudges.

haiku by Arthur Wade

IN THE NEWS (cont'd)

HAIRY-CHESTED VOTE CASTERS

About one-fifth of Americans, more than 50 million people, has taken up bird watching and feeding. This is more than U.S. hunters and anglers combined. The American Bird Conservancy aims "to translate the immense popularity of birding into a political force to be reckoned with". This clout will be used to protect the myriad nongame birds in the country. The nonprofit group has a Website (www.abcbirds.org) that offers membership, publications and downloads such as "What you do about your neighbour's cat in your yard?"

from "Social Studies" by Michael Kesterton in THE GLOBE & MAIL, Feb. 9, 2001

TORONTO HAS A POSSE OF FROST-BITTEN 'POSSUMS

Opossums are, like humans and raccoons, omnivorous, meaning they'll eat a wide variety of food. They are unlikely to attack anything larger than a mouse, baby bird, frog, large insect or maybe a snake. They will scavenge carrion. Fruits, nuts, seeds and any kind of processed food are also welcome. Dog or cat food? You bet. Before the turn of the last century, opossums were unknown in Ontario. Until 1970 there were only a couple of records from the province, in the eastern townships. After 1970 they entered Ontario from the southwest and have now been located, sparingly, as far north as Lake Superior, where they were presumably accidentally transported after climbing aboard a truck or rail car. In the Toronto area most sightings seem to be in the west end.

This is, then, a southern species not well suited to Canadian winters. Many opossums have frostbitten ears or tails. Dogs, cars and starvation take a large toll. The average lifespan is about two years. Opossums are usually nocturnal and will den up in woodpiles, woodchuck holes, culverts or other cavities. The term "playing 'possum" derives from this species' habit of sometimes lying on its back, inert, mouth open, as if dead. It's an instinctive reaction to predatory attack. It is doubtful that many predators are fooled.

from an article by Barry Kent MacKay in the TORONTO STAR, Mar. 18, 2001

BAD AIR DAY? NO PESTICIDES

On a bad day for breathing, Waterloo residents could be barred from spraying lawns with pesticides. That is one of several measures contained in a proposed bylaw that would regulate the use of pesticides, herbicides and insecticides on residential and city property.

from an article in the TORONTO STAR, Oct. 12, 2000

The young opossum
ventures across busy road.
Now, not playing dead.

Haiku by Therese Paradis
November, 1999

THE WEATHER (THIS TIME LAST YEAR)

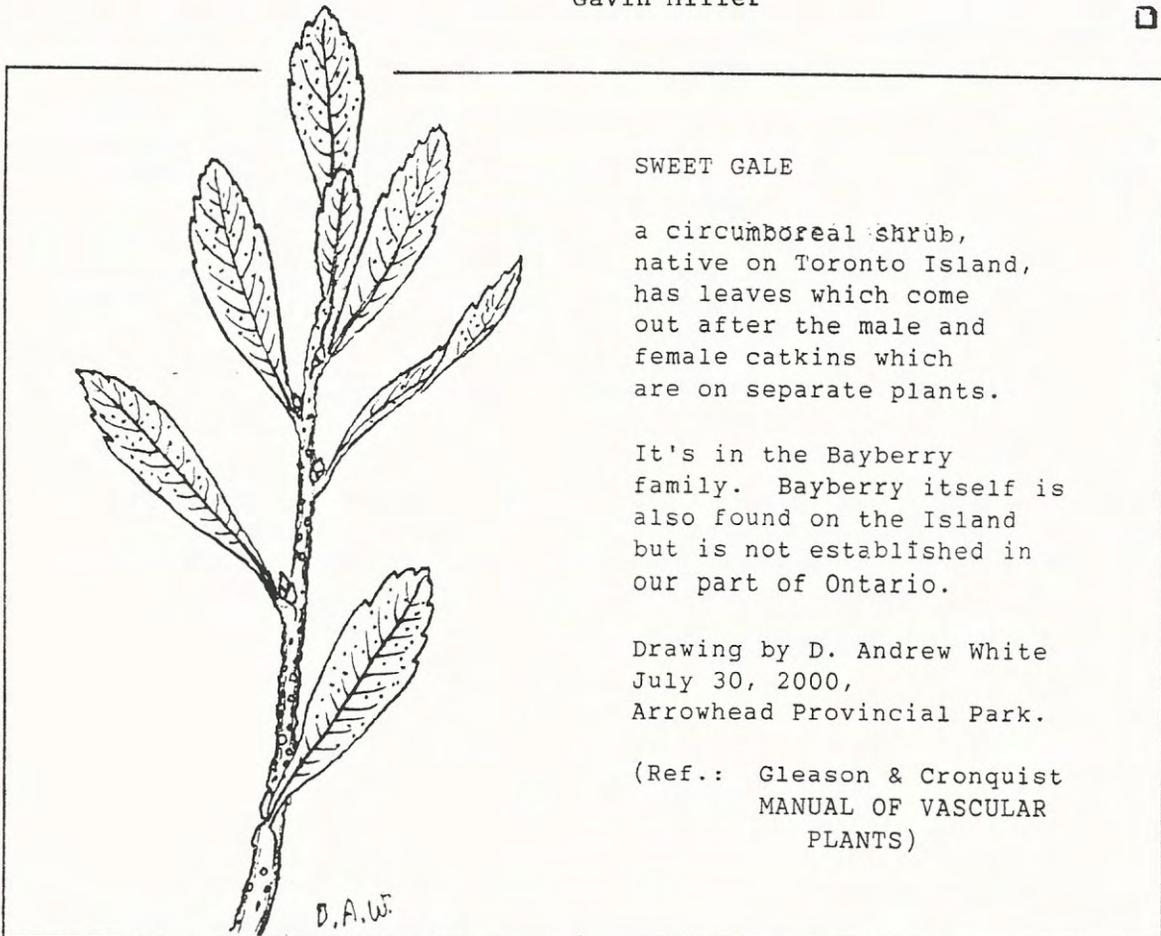
September 2000, Toronto

September featured near-normal temperatures and rainfall, but this masked a trend that began with mostly warm and humid conditions for the first twenty days, followed by dramatic cooling as a series of systems brought more intense cold fronts. (Rainfall was fairly evenly distributed through the month.) The daily maximum on September 1st was over 30°C; but on September 28th (the day that Pierre Trudeau died), it was below 10°C! There was also widespread rural frost. The 9.5°C maximum downtown was a record low for the date and the coldest for any September day since September 29th, 1945. Record-low territory is very unusual in recent years.

Sunshine, however, was well above-normal at 226.1 hours -- the fourth year in a row that we have had more than 200 hours in September. The sun shone during both the warm and the chilly spells. Winds were above average with 14.8 km/h at Toronto Island (compared to 13.9 km/h for the normal) and 14.7 km/h at Pearson (as opposed to 12.2 km/h), making it the windiest September there in more than thirty years.

Gavin Miller

D



SWEET GALE

a circumboreal shrub,
native on Toronto Island,
has leaves which come
out after the male and
female catkins which
are on separate plants.

It's in the Bayberry
family. Bayberry itself is
also found on the Island
but is not established in
our part of Ontario.

Drawing by D. Andrew White
July 30, 2000,
Arrowhead Provincial Park.

(Ref.: Gleason & Cronquist
MANUAL OF VASCULAR
PLANTS)

COMING EVENTS

Toronto Ornithological Club - Jim Baillie Memorial Bird Walks - aimed at the intermediate birds, but beginners are welcome -- free.

- Fall warblers in Lambton Woods - Sat. Sept. 8 from 8 am to 12 noon with Don Burton. Meet in the parking lot at James Gardens (access from Edenbridge Dr.).
- Fall migration in High Park - Sat. Sept. 22 from 8 am to 12 noon with Herb Elliott. Meet in the parking lot inside the Bloor St. entrance at High Park Ave.
- Shorebirds and other migrants at the Leslie Street spit - Sat. Sept. 29 from 8 am (all day) with Ron Scovell. Meet at the foot of Leslie St. Bring a lunch.

Toronto Entomologists' Association meeting - Sat Sept. 22 at 1 pm. Members bring slides, prints or specimens to share. Meeting location to be confirmed. Call Carolyn King at 416-261-6272.

The Gem and Mineral Club of Scarborough - Wonders of the Earth celebration - Sat Sept. 15 from 10 am to 6 pm and Sun. Sept. 16 from 11 am to 5 pm at the Mid Scarborough Community Centre, 2467 Eglinton Ave. East. Call 416-282-5319 or 416-438-8908. Free.

Bird Studies Canada - Annual Members Meeting - Sept. 30 at the Royal Botanical Gardens, Burlington, Ont. Call 519-586-3531 for details.

Mycological Society of Toronto - Call 416-HI-FUNGI for information about forays and meetings.

City of Toronto Archives - new exhibit - Your Home, Our City (explores the changing nature of Toronto's housing over the past century), 255 Spadina Rd. Call 416-397-5000 for more information.

Greater Toronto Raptor Watch - Open House - Sat. Sept. 15 from 9 am at Hawk Hill in High Park, at the north end of the Grenadier Restaurant parking lot. Experience the start of the annual southerly migration of almost 20 species of hawks, eagles and vultures as they pass overhead. Skilled observers will be present with identification displays, raptor specimens and other reference material.

"Images of the Humber" - art show at Black Creek Pioneer Village. Call 416-736-1733 for details.

Ian Wheal heritage walks

- Sun. Sept. 2 at 1:30 pm - Dovercourt Wetland. Meet at the northeast corner of Lakeview Ave. and Dundas St. West.
- Sat. Sept. 8 at 1:30 pm - Unsung Women Workers of the Mercer Prison. Meet at the corner of King St. West and Dufferin St.
- Sat. Sept. 29 at 1:30 pm - Schooners and their Masters. Meet at the southwest corner of Queen St. West and Bathurst St.
- Sun. Sept. 30 at 1:30 pm - Railroad Kings of Rosedale. Meet at the southeast corner of Avenue Rd. and Macpherson Ave.

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NO G.S.T.

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*Please note: It has always been the policy of the Toronto Field Naturalists
not to give out its membership list.*

MEMBERSHIP FEES (No G.S.T.)

\$30 FAMILY (2 adults - same address, children included)

\$25 SINGLE, SENIOR FAMILY

\$20 STUDENT, SENIOR SINGLE

Tax receipts issued for donations