

TORONTO FIELD NATURALIST

Number 420

May 1991



Come to the cabin. See page 23.

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TFN MEETINGS

Monday, May 6, 1991, at 155 College St.*, 6th floor auditorium

7 pm - TFN SOCIAL HOUR - TFN publications,** art, hasti-notes, pins,
etc. for sale

- display of Diana Banville's art

8 pm - HOW SCIENTISTS IN CANADA USE FOSSILS TO RECONSTRUCT LIFE
110 MILLION YEARS AGO IN BRAZIL

an illustrated lecture by Dr. James D. Eckert, Curator of
the Axelrod fossil collection at University of Guelph

- We will be given an overview of the wonderfully well
preserved fossil fish, insects, plants, and tetrapods of
one of the world's most important fossil sites and will be told how
scientists reconstruct the environment in which they lived.

Next meeting: Tuesday, Sept. 3, 1991

As well as being the TFN's Annual General Meeting, we will have an
illustrated talk about Metro Toronto's shoreline. All the slides
will be from our own photo collection and include shots of the
shoreline from the air, from the water, and "on the beach".

* Easy TTC access (building is one block west of Queen's Park subway station).
also
Free parking in the Board of Education garage on the west side of McCaul Street
just south of College Street.

** We have arrived at an impossible situation. The printing costs for
our publications are now greater than the prices we charge for them.
As a result, the selling prices of our publications will be increased
July 1, 1991. Come to the May general meeting and stock up.

NEXT NEWSLETTER: If you renew your membership by July 1, 1991, you should
receive the SEPTEMBER newsletter in mid-August.

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Needed: 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
20 College St., Unit 4
Toronto, Ont. M5G 1K2

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Throughout Metropolitan Toronto there has been public input into recommending the non-use of herbicides and pesticides. The City of Toronto Board of Health and the Parks Department (TFN 417:22:FEB), the Metro Toronto Zoo (TFN 413:17:SEP), Ontario Hydro (TFN 401:11:FEB) and the North York School Board (TFN 419:15:APR) have agreed that these are, indeed, dangerous chemicals and will not be used in some specific areas. The Environment Committee of North York continues to hold public meetings on this issue. Members of the TFN have been actively involved by attending meetings and writing letters, expressing their views against the use of herbicides and pesticides. Thanks go to the politicians and others who arranged public meetings, heard what was said, and took appropriate action.

Looking forward to seeing you

- at the Nature Centre in Sunnybrook Park
- on our many forthcoming outings
- at the Annual General Meeting on Sept. 3, 1991.

Have a happy and safe summer -- and please -- no herbicides or pesticides on your lawns.

Eileen Mayo

THE BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER on maple is drawn from a Maslowski photo. You can tell by the absence of black on the cheek and throat that it is a female. Tyler, in Bent's LIFE HISTORIES OF NORTH AMERICAN WOOD WARBLERS, speaks of nests being found in Toronto early in the century, in broken-off stumps in low woods. Parker in the TORONTO REGION BIRD CHART lists it as occasionally nesting here. For Metro, the range map in the ATLAS OF BREEDING BIRDS OF ONTARIO, Cadman et al., indicates no evidence in recent years. If you have any, please report.

DB



REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee, chaired by Robin Powell, recommends the following slate of nominees to the Board for the 1991-92 year:

President:	Eileen Mayo
Vice President:	Joan Patterson
Immediate Past President:	Robin Powell
Directors due to retire in 1992:	Dennis Clarke Aarne Juhola Nancy Fredenburg
Directors due to retire in 1993:	Allan Greenbaum Karin Fawthrop Ken Cook
Directors due to retire in 1994:	Eva Davis Helen Juhola Joan O'Donnell

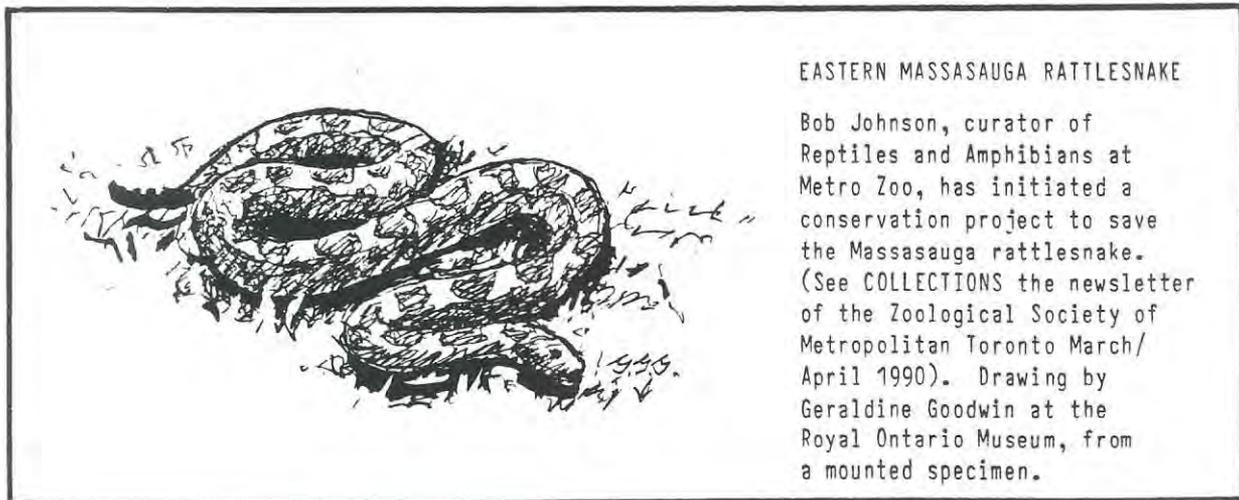
TFN by-law No. 1, Section 5(g) provides that "any three members may submit, in writing, to the Secretary-Treasurer by July 15th the name of a candidate accompanied by the written consent of the nominee. Such nominations shall be published in the September issue of the newsletter and the names of such nominees shall be added to the list of candidates submitted by the Nominating Committee". The Secretary-Treasurer is Aarne Juhola, 112 - 51 Alexander St., Toronto, Ont. M4Y 1B3.

According to TFN by-law No. 1, Section 5(b), "If an election is required, it shall be by ballot mailed to all members. Ballots may be mailed to the auditor or deposited at the Annual General Meeting prior to the commencement of the meeting. The ballots will be tabulated by the auditor who shall announce the results".

Introduction: Joan O'Donnell is a retired teacher. She has represented the TFN on the Humber Heritage Committee during the past year and has led a number of TFN outings. She also served on the TFN board in the 1970s.

Robin Powell, Chairman
Nominating Committee

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EASTERN MASSASAUGA RATTLESNAKE

Bob Johnson, curator of Reptiles and Amphibians at Metro Zoo, has initiated a conservation project to save the Massasauga rattlesnake. (See COLLECTIONS the newsletter of the Zoological Society of Metropolitan Toronto March/April 1990). Drawing by Geraldine Goodwin at the Royal Ontario Museum, from a mounted specimen.

KEEPING IN TOUCH

Feb. 15, 1991

Please excuse this belated reponse to your letters [of Nov. 14, 1989 and Aug. 26, 1990] regarding the Toronto Field Naturalists' concerns of developments along the Metropolitan Toronto's major valley crests.

With respect to the TFN's concerns, let me preface my remarks by emphasizing that the Metropolitan valley land policies are designed to oppose undesirable developments and encroachments on the natural and sensitive side slopes and floor of the major river valleys. It appears that the TFN is unsatisfied with these valley land policies and the procedures for determining the crest of the valley and recommend instead that the edges of the valleys should be clearly development-free zones with no visual intrusions into the natural landscape.

While we are sympathetic to these concerns, the existing policies in the Plan give consideration to environmental and engineering factors when reviewing development proposals, but do not specifically prohibit development provided the criteria for assessment can be met. However, through the Metropolitan Review Program and the drafting of the new Official Plan, staff are addressing the question of protecting natural scenic resources not only from an environmental point of view but also from a quality of life and heritage perspective. The TFN's comments on the draft policies will be most welcomed.

As to the development examples cited in your letter, our file research indicates that the appropriate authorities were satisfied that the Valley Land Impact Zone's environmental appraisal criteria were adequately addressed by each proponent. The setbacks determined for each development were based upon geotechnical reports relating to slope stability, drainage, soil conditions, and probable physical effects on the natural environment. These reports were commissioned by the proponents in order to satisfy the Ministry of Natural Resources, the Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, and Metropolitan Toronto. In these cases, the landscapes were already severely altered by past development activity. However, with policies in the new Plan, we expect to more directly address the visual intrusion aspect of these kinds of projects relative to the use of the adjacent valleylands and the adjoining uses.

Thank you for bringing these concerns to our attention.

John Livey, Director
Policy Development Division
Metro Planning Department

Comment: The present Metroplan states: "It is the intent of Council to maintain the major river valleys from crest to crest primarily in a natural state except for compatible recreational uses and essential public works. Therefore Council opposes all other development below the crest of the slope in major river valleys". If you, too, do not think the above letter explains why buildings are now located in Hogg's Hollow at Yonge and York Mills, as well as set into the Humber Valley north and south of Lawrence Avenue West, let your Metro Councillor know you object to the continued loss of valuable valleylands.

H.J.

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TFN 420 - 6

KEEPING IN TOUCH (cont'd)

Feb. 28, 1991

Thank you for the copy of your recent letter in which you expressed concerns about proposed development of a marina facility, park and sportsfield in the East Point vicinity of Scarborough.

The Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (MTRCA) is preparing an environmental assessment which will outline the planning process that has been followed to arrive at the proposed marina facility and park. This will include a full assessment of alternatives to the undertaking and alternative methods of carrying out the undertaking. The "do nothing" alternative will also be documented in the Authority's environmental assessment.

I can advise that the Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto (Metro) is the proponent of the proposed sportsfield at this location. This project is not subject to environmental assessment, given its cost and the nature of agreements entered into by Metro and the MTRCA.

For your information, however, the MTRCA has indicated that at its Authority meeting held on Dec. 7, 1990, a resolution was passed which requires Metro to submit detailed plans of the sportsfield facility, wild flower initiatives and extension of the existing woodlot for staff review and approval. This resolution was passed further to Metro's agreement to work with Authority staff to enhance the site's environmental characteristics by: 1) enhancing the sustainability of the white bottle gentian community consistent with the Metro Parks wild flower initiatives; and 2) preparing plans to utilize appropriate native trees indigenous to the area in landscaping of the sportsfield facility to enhance habitat value.

If you think that the potential environmental impacts of this undertaking warrant its designation under the Environmental Assessment Act, you may request that I seek its designation.

Thank you for your interest in protecting Ontario's environment.

Ruth Grier, Minister
Ont. Ministry of the Environment

Comment: One of the aims of the TFN is to encourage the preservation of our natural heritage. For this reason, we should all let the Minister know our views on the development of the East Point area in Scarborough. See TFN 415:20-22:NOV for details about the proposed development and what it will destroy.

H.J.

March 20, 1991

At its regular meeting on March 19, 1991, the Authority elected to abstain from any active management measures at Cranberry Marsh until a better consensus is reached on methodology. The Authority appreciates the many comments that have been received and will strive to resolve those genuine concerns that have been expressed.

W.M. Campbell
Chief Administrative Officer
Central Lake Ont. Conservation Authority

Comment: Letters do work! Thanks to the many who wrote on the issue of a proposal to drain Cranberry Marsh, it will not happen this spring.

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KEEPING IN TOUCH (cont'd)

March 27, 1991

Further to our phone conversation, the following may be of some interest to readers of the TORONTO FIELD NATURALIST.

In the interesting article on eastern chipmunks as hibernators in the April newsletter, with the perky illustration by Geraldine Goodwin, it is suggested that the chipmunk is a "true hibernator". Perhaps some are but our Cobble Hill chipmunk roused itself frequently during the past winter and was noted at the feeder on the following dates: Nov. 17, 20, and 27; Dec. 19, 30, and 31; Jan. 1, 2, 3, and 4; Feb. 10, 11, 12, 13 and regularly after Feb. 20.

Frank Banfield in his book on the mammals of Canada, published in 1974 by the University of Toronto Press, mentions that "The eastern chipmunks awaken frequently during the late winter, and during mild spells in February or early March". Incidentally I can heartily recommend this book for its sympathetic and fascinating accounts of many of our familiar mammals. I learn something in almost every line and enjoy his first hand accounts which bring his subjects to life.

Best regards...I also learn something in almost every issue of the TORONTO FIELD NATURALIST.

J. Murray Speirs

March, 1991

Over the past few years many members have donated to me, through the Toronto Field Naturalists, materials and equipment which I employ in my outdoor education programs. The magazines, books, microscopes, binoculars, even a parabolic dish and microphone are all put to good use. Many thanks to the members who kindly contributed.

Phil Joiner

Comment: Phil has worked at both Cold Creek and Boyd Conservations Areas teaching outdoor education to school children.

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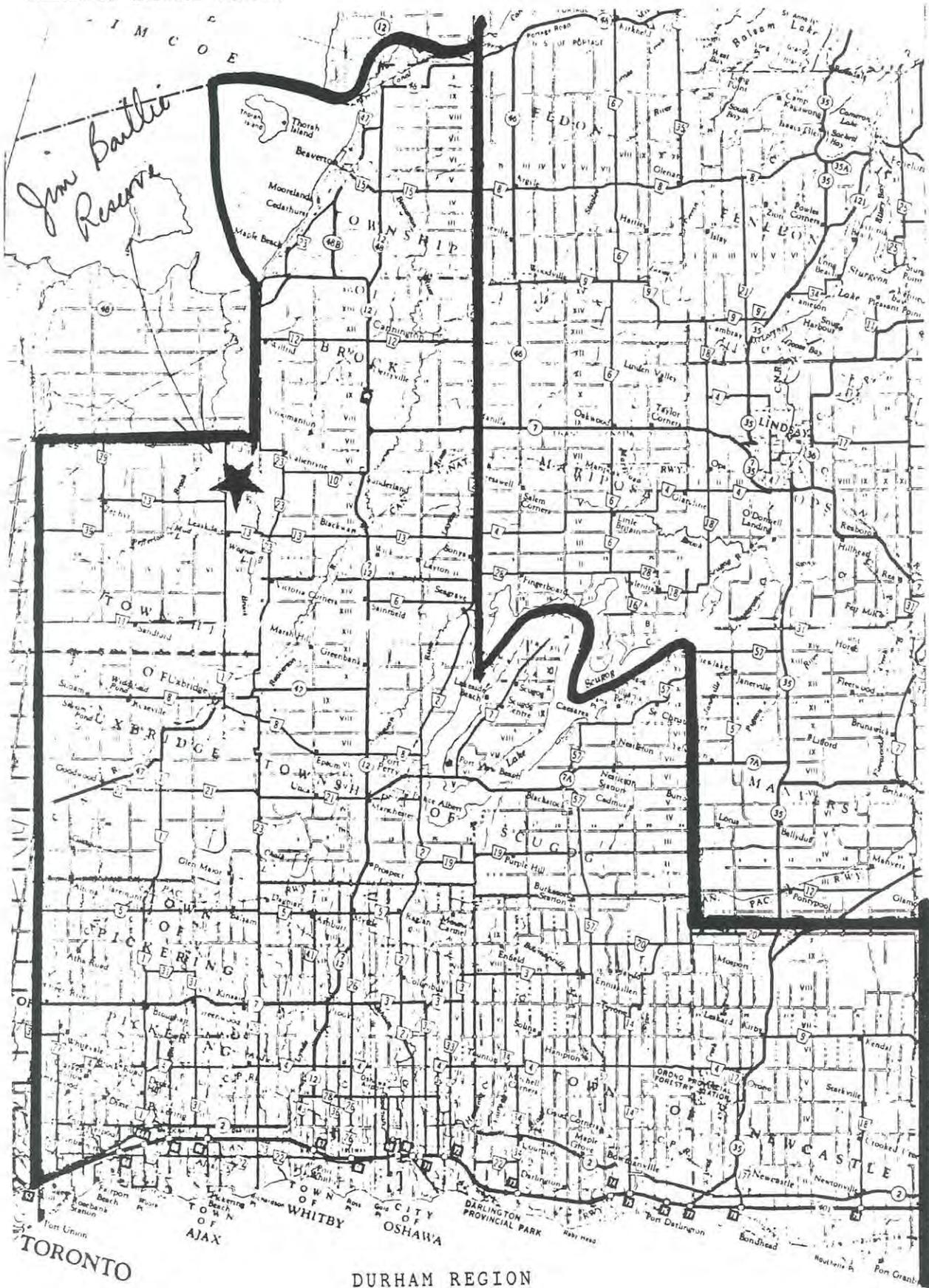
SLOW MOTION SPRING

(written in Edinburgh, Scotland)

*A slow motion Spring here,
no Disney-style sprouting,
bulbs erupt with the slow determination of teeth
and buds cling tightly furred to twigs,
as stubborn as limpets.
No sudden leap of trees
from wrought-iron age
to lithe and limber youth.
Here Spring comes as slowly
as roots crack pavement.*

Louise Herzberg

FLORA OF DURHAM REGION



PROJECTS

THE NEGLECTED FLORA OF DURHAM REGION

Some years ago Steve Varga wrote in THE PLANT PRESS of the need to have regional floristic depositories for information that would help in identifying sensitive areas, and aid in compiling regional floras. In Durham Region, Dale Hoy, on behalf of Pickering Naturalists is making an effort to collect existing information, and add to it.

In 1989 John Riley of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources published "Distribution and Status of the Vascular Plants of Central Region, MNR". The available information for Durham was lumped with Northumberland, Peterborough and Victoria counties. The challenge now is to separate Durham records from the rest. Not only is this information interesting for its own sake, but will be of great help as part of the planning process for development in Durham.

Durham's flora includes elements of the Carolinian Forest along Lake Ontario, boreal forests including four bogs, and the mixed forests of the St. Lawrence lowlands. Significant physical features include the glacial Lake Iroquois plain, rolling south-facing slopes, the Oak Ridges moraine, a portion of the Peterborough drumlin fields and the Lake Simcoe lowlands. This creates great potential for plant diversity. And yet we barely know what is growing here and in what quantity! With rapid development proceeding in Durham we are in grave danger of losing a great deal before we have had a chance to appreciate it!

Collecting will continue in 1991, with an aim to sampling representative plant communities in the Region, with special emphasis on threatened habitats. This will eventually be compiled in a database, and used to write a Flora of Durham. If you have information that you would like to contribute to the flora project, please contact Dale Hoy, 826 Pickering Beach Road., Ajax, Ont. L1S 3K8, (416) 427-1655.

Dale Hoy

See page 11 for more about Durham Region.

HERITAGE INFORMATION CENTRE IN DOWNTOWN TORONTO

If you are in the market for information about local heritage groups, the Cumberland Terrace shopping centre at Bloor and Yonge streets is the place to be. The Community History Project (CHP) Heritage Centre, a resource facility with written materials, special exhibits and informative displays about various history groups is located on the second floor of Cumberland Terrace on Bay Street just north of Bloor Street West. The Centre was founded in 1989 by the CHP, a local history society founded six years earlier to research an area bounded by Yonge and Bloor streets and Ossington and St. Clair avenues. Although the centre is open only three afternoons a week, its central location means it gets twice as many visitors as Toronto's Marine Museum. The Centre is open from noon to 4 pm Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays. Admission is free. Volunteers and/or visitors are always welcome.

adapted from REAL ESTATE NEWS, March 1, 1991 (an article by Laura Morrison)

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FOR READING

RARE VASCULAR PLANTS IN CANADA - OUR NATURAL HERITAGE by George W. Argus and Kathleen M. Pryer, published by Canadian Museum of Nature, 1990. Pages: 191 of text including bibliography plus 85 of distribution maps. Available from publisher, Direct Mail Section, P.O. Box 3443, Station D, Ottawa, Ont. K1P 6P4, at \$12.95 +7% GST and \$6 shipping and handling, (en français: LES PLANTES VASCULAIRES RARE DU CANADA - NOTRE PATRIMONIE NATUREL.)

Ranked globally, nationally, and subnationally (meaning by province, territory or state), over a thousand rare plants are listed in this work - almost a third of the wild plants of Canada (many are those of adjacent United States, marginally represented in Canada). Before using the list, it's necessary to take the time to absorb the code system which is explained in the course of a rather unwieldy introduction. It's all there - though some symbols are "hidden" in the text rather than tabulated, so that a little annotation of one's own copy may be needed. The plants are listed alphabetically by scientific species name (with in some cases a synonym in parentheses - only those mentioned in cited references - and no English names). The family name follows, as well as main reference, applicable ranks, and Canadian priority rating. There is a continental map for each plant listed, showing a dot in each province, territory or state where the plant occurs. Appendices include alphabetical family list; endemics list (though many share this distinction with adjacent province or state - some apparently are uniquely Canadian); provincial lists; and Canadian priority list with ratings from 1 to 5, all alphabetical.

It is hoped that spreading this information about our rare plants will help save their habitats, also shared by the other two thousand Canadian plants with "no priority". They too would benefit.

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HALIBURTON FLORA by Eleanor G. Skelton and Emerson W. Skelton, R.O.M. Life Sciences, 1991, 142 pages including indices, bibliography and maps, \$12.95, available from Royal Ontario Museum.

Fifteen years of work by this husband-and-wife team, in field and herbarium, have produced this valuable annotated checklist of some nine hundred plants of Haliburton County. Topography, drainage, geology, soils, climate and habitats are described, and their effect on plant life. Starting with the fern allies, the ferns, conifers, and flowering plants are clearly listed by family, each species name standing out in bold print - the scientific name in italics with the English name opposite - followed by synonyms, notes on status and habitat, herbarium code, and locations. The families are listed in correct botanical order, but under the family, genus and species are listed alphabetically.

Eleanor Skelton died before publication of this book (see obituary TFN 408:27-29:DEC 1989). Her contribution, along with that of her co-author, will be welcomed by all those who wish to discover this little-known, though essential, aspect of the splendours of Haliburton: its plants.

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FOR READING (cont'd)

RATTRAY MARSH, THEN AND NOW by Ruth Hussey and Judith Goulin, published by the Rattray Marsh Protection Association, 1990, 210 pages, illustrated, available at Fact and Fantasy Bookstore, 1684 Lakeshore Rd. West, Mississauga (telephone 416-855-2051).

Pivotal in this story of Rattray Marsh in Mississauga is the 16 year struggle to save it from development. Rattray Marsh has a "now" thanks to the victory by a band of conservationists led by the dedication of the late Dr. Ruth Hussey. It was Dr. Hussey who initiated this attention-holding book. She was joined by Judith Goulin who carried it through to publication following her colleague's death. Several ardent naturalists write in detail about the flora and fauna and about the marsh's value and possible future. The result: a very readable and useful account of one of the few marshes left intact between Oshawa and Hamilton.

The first settlers by the marsh in 1806 were United Empire Loyalists. Dr. Hussey introduces us to the succession of individuals who owned the land, ending with Major James Rattray. He purchased the property in 1945. Without a family, Major Rattray, had he not taken furious umbrage at the actions of a presumptuous bureaucrat, might have willed his land, including the marsh, to the local authorities.

Within two days of his death in 1959, Dr. Hussey and her husband were asked to support an effort to conserve the property. Unfortunately, despite great effort, no agreement could be reached with the estate's executor. The property was sold to a development company; in came the bulldozers, up went some houses. The plan was to fill in the marsh and build a marina. But the conservationists refused to give up. The struggle ebbed and flowed. Just when everything seemed lost, Dr. Hussey rallied her supporters for one last effort. It succeeded. What was left of the Rattray lands became publicly owned in 1975.

The struggle over, the book moves on to describe the area's 82.5 acres of fields, plants, wildlife, and its precious water. Hikers on the marsh trail will find that the book adds to their understanding and pleasure; arm-chair readers will savour the text and many illustrations. All proceeds from the sale of the book will go to the Rattray Marsh Protection Association.

Harold Taylor

THE DURHAM REGION ANNUAL BIRD REPORT 1990 - species by species accounts of the year's observations, other articles on birds, and notes on botany and herpetology in the region. 120 pages. Available May 1 for \$8 (including G.S.T.) plus \$1.50 postage from Phill Holder, 46 Fearn Cres., Ajax, Ont. L1S 5L5. Tel. 416-427-6097. □

FROM THE NEWSLETTER

20 YEARS AGO -- Members were informed that, in September, the monthly general meetings would move from the Royal Ontario Museum to the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE).

15 YEARS AGO -- Art work and photographs publicizing the club's environmental concerns were displayed in the W.H. Smith bookstore, the Toronto-Dominion Centre, and in the Toronto Camera Centre on Yonge St.

H.T.

LIBRARY REPORT

September 1990 to February 1991

Acquisitions

Ten books for our library have been received in recent months, including TAVERNER'S BIRDS OF EASTERN CANADA by P. A. Taverner - a Coles Publishing 1974 re-issue of a 1922 book. Three books on ornithology include BIRD STUDY by Andrew J. Berger, WATCHING BIRDS, an introduction to ornithology, by R. Pasquier, and ORNITHOLOGY, AN INTRODUCTION, by Austin L. Rand. Volume 1 of the Audubon NATURE ENCYCLOPEDIA was among the books donated and a number of guide books such as FRESH WATER FISH by J. Godfrey, the World of Knowledge BIRDS OF THE WORLD by Lester L. Short, BIRDS by Zim and Gabrielson (a Golden Guide), and a larger book, A Complete Outdoorsman's Guide to the BIRDS OF CANADA AND EASTERN NORTH AMERICA, by John P. S. Mackenzie. As well, ONTARIO BIRDS by L. L. Snyder, published 1951, was much appreciated. Booklets received included BIRDS OF THE THOUSAND ISLANDS and a POCKET ATLAS. Articles donated were on a variety of subjects, such as global warming, birds, autumn leaves, animal intelligence, gems and minerals (with coloured photos). We wish to thank the donors: Mary Cumming, Bob Given and Joyce Given, for these additions to our collection, and Mark Kubisz for copies of his articles in ETOBICOKE LIFE on such subjects as migrating monarchs, turkey vultures, beavers and American robin's local winter status.

We have several unpublished manuscripts which we are keeping on file:
 OUTINGS REPORT - 1989 - selected reports
 OUTINGS REPORT - 1990 - selected reports and commentary
 NATURE ARTS REPORT - January to June, 1990 - commentary
 BUTTERFLIES AND MOTHS - report for the 1970's and 1980's
 "ABLUTIONS BOTSWANA STYLE" by Joy Pocklington - naturalist's adventures
 "ADVENTURE IN THE HEN HOUSE" by Mike Somers - farmer's rescue of great horned owl

▷ Call 690-1963 to arrange to borrow any of the above material. By the way, should you be engaged in research in aspects of Toronto's natural history, you can arrange to examine such material as outings reports in the TFN office by calling 968-6255.

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ORANGE DAY LILY, originally from Eurasia, is well known to gardeners in Toronto. It spreads rapidly, and has become naturalized here. The yellow day lily has also spread from gardens in some Toronto locations. There are at least three other species which may be grown in gardens, as well as many hybrids in a range of colours.

The genus name, *Hemerocallis* means "beauty for a day", as its French name, "Lis d'un jour", suggests. Each flower on the plant expands for a single day before it fades.



Ref. GRAY'S MANUAL OF BOTANY

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR BIRDWATCHERS

Birdwatchers are a powerful force for nature conservation. Our numbers are continually increasing and we must take seriously our responsibility to avoid any harm to birds.

We must also present a responsible image to non-birdwatchers, particularly those whose sympathy and support are vital for the birds' future.

Points to bear in mind are:

1. The welfare of the birds must come first.
Whatever our reasons for watching birds, remember that what is good for the birds must be our number one concern.
2. Habitat must be protected.
Its habitat is vital to a bird. Let's make sure we cause no damage.
3. Keep disturbance to birds and their habitat to a minimum.
Birds' tolerance of disturbance varies with species and seasons. It is safer to keep all disturbance to a minimum. No birds should be disturbed from the nest in case opportunities for predators to take eggs or young are increased. In very cold weather, disturbing birds may cause them to use vital energy in escaping, energy they need to find food.
4. If you happen upon a rare bird breeding, keep the record strictly secret in order to avoid disturbance by other birdwatchers. Never visit known sites of rare breeding birds. Your presence may give away the site to others and cause so many other visitors that the birds may fail to breed successfully.
5. Do not harass rare migrants.
If you see one, think carefully before telling anyone. Will an influx of birdwatchers disturb the bird or others in the area? Will the habitat be damaged? Will problems be caused with the landowner?
6. Respect the rights and wishes of landowners.
Do not enter land without permission. If you are leading a group, give advance notice of the visit, even if a formal permit is not required.
7. Respect the rights of other people in the countryside.
Try not to disrupt the activities of other birdwatchers or scare the birds they are watching. Do not interfere with other people who also use the countryside. If it seems that they are causing unnecessary disturbance to birds, do try to take a balanced view. Flushing gulls when walking a dog on a beach may do little harm, while the same dog might be a serious disturbance at a tern colony. When pointing this out to a non-birdwatcher, be courteous but firm. The non-birdwatchers' good will towards birds must not be destroyed by the attitudes of birdwatchers.
8. Share your bird records.
Thus you can add to the store of knowledge built up by the meticulous record keeping of our predecessors.
9. Behave abroad as you would when birdwatching at home.
Well behaved birdwatchers can be important ambassadors for bird protection.

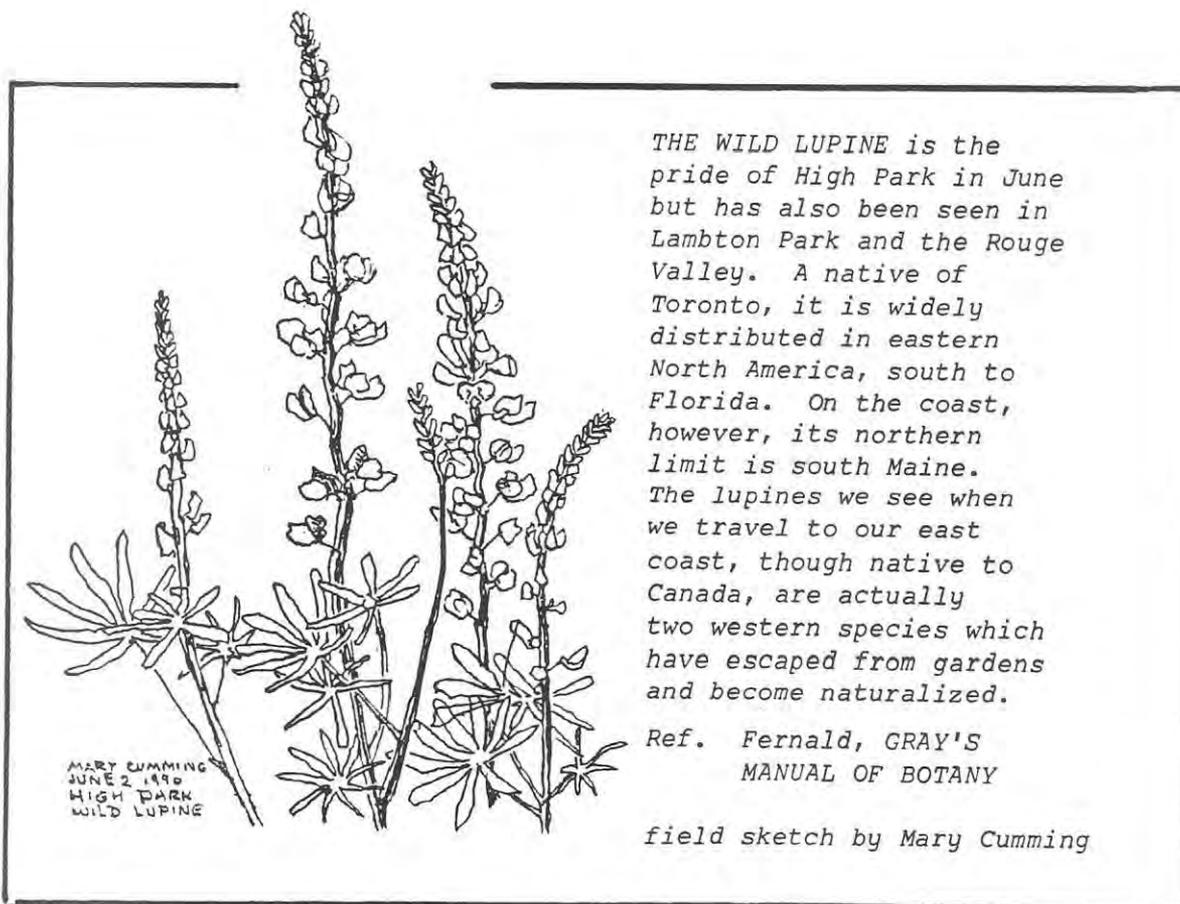
adapted from a pamphlet produced by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds in Britain

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SKY NOTES

Looking at the night sky is like going birding: every year there is less to see. Unlike warblers and vireos, the stars are not actually disappearing; rather we are slowly being blinded. Those points of light are still out there -- we just can't see them...The air we look through is a thin soup of water vapour and aeroplankton, dust and hydrocarbons. But it is not the air pollution that blocks our vision: instead the light coming to us from near and far corners of our galaxy is overwhelmed by the light we generate ourselves. Our own nighttime illumination is blinding us to the light of the cosmos...The worst problem is outdoor lighting: sports stadiums, auto dealerships and lights aimed upward at billboards. At least 30 percent of this light misses its target and is wasted...The solutions are as simple as using fixtures that direct all of their light downward or directly at the target, choosing sodium over mercury lamps, installing timers that shut lights off after midnight when few people will see what is being illuminated. It means saving money, stretching resources, alleviating air pollution. It even means a break for wild creatures disrupted by lights, whether they be moths pollinating night-blooming flowers, birds migrating or sea turtles looking for a beach to lay their eggs. For those who care to relish the cosmos, it means reclaiming the night.

adapted from "Penomena, comment and notes" by John P. Wiley jr. in SMITHSONIAN, Vol. 21, No. 1, April 1990



MARY CUMMING
JUNE 2 1990
HIGH PARK
WILD LUPINE

THE WILD LUPINE is the pride of High Park in June but has also been seen in Lambton Park and the Rouge Valley. A native of Toronto, it is widely distributed in eastern North America, south to Florida. On the coast, however, its northern limit is south Maine. The lupines we see when we travel to our east coast, though native to Canada, are actually two western species which have escaped from gardens and become naturalized.

Ref. Fernald, GRAY'S
MANUAL OF BOTANY

field sketch by Mary Cumming

NATURAL SOLUTIONS

SLUGS AND BEER

I had a big problem with slugs. They were all over the place. I hated to use slug bait in case an animal would eat it by mistake. I had heard that stale beer was an attraction for slugs so I decided it was worth a try. I found an old dusty bottle of beer on a back shelf -- it was certainly very stale.

I put some beer out in a flat dish and it certainly attracted slugs: they were crawling to it from all directions, like it was the only bar in the Sahara Desert.

They were drowning themselves in numbers, a weird death, but a pleasant one I suppose. I returned later to see how events were shaping up and found that all the beer was gone. I refilled the dish and left. Upon returning the beer was gone again. The slugs were a thirsty bunch but this was ridiculous. Twice this happened -- mystifying! This time I lay in wait -- a Chipmunk!

I could not start up an AA for Chipmunks so I'm back to square one in eradicating my slugs.

an article by Rhea Bringeman in THE ORCHID (Peterborough Field Naturalists), Vol. 36, No. 1, Oct. 1990

ANTING WITH RED ANTS

For several years a portion of our front lawn has been infested with numerous red ant colonies. I am very reluctant to use sprays of any type to eliminate them; consequently their numbers increase yearly. They deliver a nasty bite if we accidentally step on them!

This spring, a number of common grackles have nested on the property with a total of nine being in evidence for several weeks in the area of the red ants. I observed the birds for several days and realized they were anting with these ants; a process whereby the bird picks up the ants, one at a time, and tucks them under its feathers, particularly under the wings, breast area, and above the rump. On occasion, the grackle so occupied would give a sudden jump about a foot off the lawn, or give a sudden turn of its body. I presume that this indicated the bird had been bitten by an ant while it searched the flesh of the bird for lice, a ritual it was put there for in the first place, not to bite its host.

After a quantity of ants are placed among the feathers, the grackle lowers its body close to the lawn, spreads its wings and lies there luxuriating in what must feel similar to a person enjoying a masseuse.

Roy Ivor, who first discovered that birds "anted", doesn't indicate in his book "I Live with Birds", whether this anting does or not end the life cycle of the ants. I would be interested in hearing from others if they have further information on this fascinating observation. At the time of writing, the red ants are not visible.

Marg Rusnell

from THE BULLETIN (Richmond Hill), No. 307, September 1989

STRANGE SIGHTINGS

ROOSTING BLACKBIRDS

A lovely thing happened on the way through the forest. Last year, in the Wilberforce area, in mid-summer, I came upon an evening convocation of the rusty blackbird. The burden of the gathering was, where to settle for the night.

They vanished at my appearance, so I sat down on the footpath and gradually, by ones, by threes, in groups, then in dozens upon dozens, they returned, flitting behind, above, in front, swooping on their mysterious trajectories, chattering softly, incessantly. It was like being in the heart of a contradiction -- a gentle maelstrom.

What a limited thing -- human understanding (mine, at least). Was this the avian equivalent of a gossip-fest? An evening stroll? The sifting of neighbourhood affairs? The Saturday Night Dance? Such purposeful busyness and joyous "togetherness". They were like a mosaic not yet fallen into place, every bird seeking its niche in the pattern. What finally decided each small creature to settle beside whom, on which branch, on what tree?

I left, before dusk lulled them to silence. Distressingly, their sacred grove was already destined for destruction and "development", markers spacing the measurements of luxury-home lots.

I wished my beautiful, doomed blackbirds long life in spite of us! They had graciously permitted me to stand on the fringe of The Mysteries.

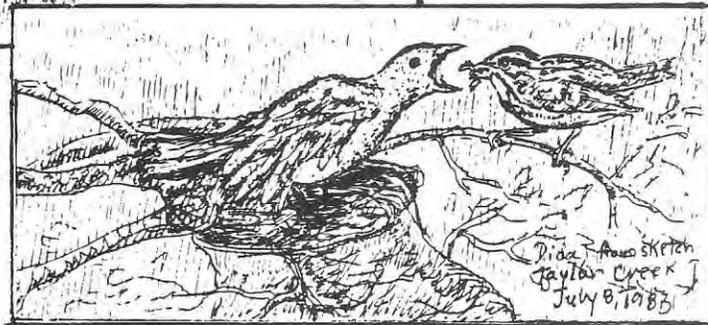
Eva Davis



Chipping sparrow nest with 3 eggs of parent and 1 of brown-headed cowbird

Chipping sparrow nest with 3 eggs of parent and 1 of brown-headed cowbird
Photo by A.S.K. J. 12.98

Song sparrow feeding young cowbird in Taylor Creek Park



Pencil sketch Taylor Creek July 8, 1983

IN THE NEWS

EAGLES COULD BE LAKES' "CANARY IN THE COAL MINE"

A bald eagle might not look much like a canary. Great Lakes researchers, though, hope that bald eagles can become the "canary" in the "coal mine" of Great Lakes toxic pollution. Researchers in Canada and the U.S. are drafting guidelines for using bald eagles and other species at or near the top of the Lakes' food chain as "ecological indicators". The ultimate goal is "to have laws, discharge permits and regulations set on the basis of the indicators: how these animals are doing in the environment". Once common on the shores of the Great Lakes, bald eagles had virtually vanished from the Lakes by the early 1980s. Researchers found that toxic substances, particularly DDT and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), caused wide reproductive failure in the birds. While the numbers of eagles nesting on the shores of the Lakes have climbed up to at least 70 pairs, they are still not reproducing "well, if at all". Up to now, governments' regulation of toxic discharges into the environment have largely been based on concentrations of various substances in an industrial or municipal discharge. Such concentration limits, no matter how carefully crafted, are "inherently arbitrary". Ecological indicators can be seen as a check on the chemical measures, that can tell us whether those measures are appropriate, whether they're working, and the effects of different toxics in combination with each other. The 1987 amendments to the Canada-U.S. Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement called for the development of "ecosystem health indicators and specified that the lake trout should serve as an "indicator species" for Lake Superior. Now, two binational committees are discussing indicator species for the other four Great Lakes. Using indicators to help set discharge limits seems to be where we're heading. It's part of the "ecosystem approach" to regulation.

adapted from an article in THE GREAT LAKES REPORTER, Vol. 8, No. 1, Jan./Feb. 1991

OTTAWA DELAYS PLANS TO POISON GULLS

The Canadian government, facing angry protests from bird lovers, has postponed until next year a plan to poison gulls on remote Sable Island, 270 kilometres off the Nova Scotia coast. The government decided last year to kill the gulls by putting poisonous pellets in their nests because they threatened the endangered roseate tern, a smaller seabird. Gulls feed on the terns' eggs and compete with them for food. Of the estimated 1,000 pairs of terns living on the island, only 10 are of the threatened roseate variety.

adapted from an article in the GLOBE AND MAIL, Feb. 1991

KING EIDERS FLOCK TO LAKE ONTARIO

Unprecedented numbers of king eider ducks flooded into Lake Ontario this winter. More observations have been made this year than in the past 100 years. Close to two dozen were taken by hunters at Presqu'ile Provincial Park. And small flocks have been widely scattered east of Port Hope. All the eiders have been juveniles, the result of high production in the Canadian Arctic in 1990. Virtually all king eiders winter on the Pacific and Atlantic coasts.

adapted from an article by Bob Alison in ONTARIO OUT OF DOORS, March 1991

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IN THE NEWS (cont'd)

REBOUNTING MAPLE TREES PRESERVE OUR EMBLEM DEAR

The health report on Canada's maple trees is showing steady improvement. For the last decade the tree whose leaf is the symbol of Canada has been in serious decline, to the point where some growers in Ontario, Quebec and the Maritimes were forced to close or reduce their sugar bush operations. However, recent studies show the problem has stabilized. In fact, scientists say maple stands throughout eastern North America appear to be on the rebound. But scientists are still cautious when it comes to nailing down what caused the decline and why it now appears to be ending. Throughout the growing range of the maple tree, from Wisconsin to Nova Scotia, the die-back caused general alarm when it first became evident about five or six years ago. The deterioration was most serious in Quebec, where 50 per cent of the maple-growing area was affected by what seemed a sudden and rapid decline. More than likely the die-back had been going on for several years, starting with just a few bare branches. But by the mid-1980s, whole stands were collapsing. One co-ordinator of a joint U.S.-Canada study of maple decline believes climate was the triggering factor. He thinks a thaw and then a sudden and severe cold snap in the early 1980s could have caused the deterioration that is only now beginning to end. But he doesn't understand why it took so long for the trees to recover. He suspects that acid rain may have weakened the sites. Another participant in the study speculated the die-back was caused by a combination of factors. He said trees can withstand any one of a dozen different stresses, but when they coincide it can be too much for the tree to bear. If a tree had a combination of a bad winter and an insect infestation, acid rain could push it to the breaking point.

adapted from an article by Chris Morris in the TORONTO STAR, Mar. 23, 1991

TORONTO OKAYS FELLING OF 18 TREES

Toronto City Council voted 7-6 to permit the destruction of 18 trees on city land in front of cable television tycoon Ted Rogers' mansion. Parks commissioner Herb Pirk appeared shocked after urging council to reject the "wholesale slaughter" of so many trees. City policy allows only damaged or diseased trees to be chopped down -- and then only with council's permission. Only three of the 18 were sick enough to qualify.

from THE TORONTO STAR, March 27, 1991

RARE WHOOPING CRANES MOVING TO CALGARY

The Calgary Zoo will become home to one of the world's rarest and most endangered species in 1992. The zoo has been selected for the first-ever public exhibit of whooping cranes. It will breed and raise 10 pairs of the birds, whose population in the wild is only about 140. The first birds will arrive in 1992 after a \$400,000 facility is built at a conservation and research centre south of the city. It will be three years before the public will see the whooping cranes on display. Only birds too young or too old to breed will be on public display. Whooping cranes almost became extinct in 1941 when their total dropped to 15 because of hunting and habitat loss.

from THE LONDON FREE PRESS, Feb. 4, 1991

IN THE NEWS (cont'd)

TURTLE SPEAKS TO CANADIAN RESEARCHERS

University of Toronto zoologists, in the British Journal NATURE, claim that the turtle is the only living descendant of a group of animals that became extinct 200 million years ago. [They compare the oldest known turtle, a 200-million-year-old creature found in Germany, with a 250-million-year-old lizard-like animal known as a "parareptile".] Their analysis suggests that scientists can learn something of the nature of the extinct parareptiles by studying turtles and that while one group of animals were the ancestors of mammals, another gave rise to birds, snakes, lizards, crocodiles and other reptiles, and this third group led to turtles. In a companion article, scientists from the Virginian Museum of Natural History speculate that the turtles and synapsids -- the ancestors of mammals -- may have had closer linkages than turtles and true reptiles.

adapted from an article by Stephen Strauss in THE GLOBE AND MAIL, Jan. 25, 1991

PROFOUND LINK TO THE EARTH

The following excerpts from Bertrand Russell's "Conquest of Happiness", published in 1930, will I believe be of interest to all who are concerned with environmental issues. He writes: "our life is part of the life of the Earth, and we draw our nourishment from it just as the plants and animals do. I have seen a boy two years old, who had been kept in London, taken for the first time to walk in green country. The season was winter, and everything was wet and muddy. To the adult eye there was nothing to cause delight, but in the boy sprang up a strange ecstasy; he kneeled in the wet ground and put his face in the grass and gave utterance to half-articulate cries of delight. The joy that he was experiencing was simple and massive. The organic need that was being satisfied is so profound that those in whom it is starved are seldom completely sane".

a letter by Kenneth F. Lloyd, Ottawa in the GLOBE AND MAIL, Jan. 1991

1990 BEAMER HAWKWATCH HIGHLIGHTS

In 1990 counting only hawks seen from the parking lot of the Beamer Conservation Area at Grimsby, 19,203 hawks were recorded, 71 short of the all-time high of 19,274 seen in 1985. More hawks were seen in April 1990 than in the whole 1989 season. An all-time high of 7,005 sharp-shinned hawks were seen, more than double most year's totals and exceeding by thousands the previous high of 4,930 in 1982. The largest number ever of Cooper's hawks (311) was tallied. The 1,440 red-shouldered hawks were the most ever recorded. The total of 3,467 red-tailed hawks seen was a little above average after an all-time low total in 1989. The 207 American kestrels seen were the most ever recorded. The total of 9 merlins was the second highest total ever recorded. The count of 6 peregrine falcons was double the previous all-time high.

adapted from THE GRIMSBY HAWKWATCHER in THE WOOD DUCK, Vol. 44, No. 6, Feb. 1991

IN THE NEWS (cont'd)

REPORT ON WATERFRONT DELAYED

The Royal Commission on the Future of the Toronto Waterfront has been given an additional seven months to complete its final report. The commission, headed by David Crombie, empowered by both the provincial and federal governments to look into virtually all issues affecting the waterfront in the greater Toronto area, was to have delivered its final report by June 1. It now has until the end of December. At the request of the province, the commission recently initiated three major studies that in earlier interim reports it had recommended be undertaken. One of the studies is looking for ways of getting rid of the Gardiner Expressway. Another, called the Garrison Common plan, is looking at the area that includes the Canadian National Exhibition grounds, Fort York, Ontario Place and the old Molson's factory. A third looks at the use of lake fill to build up the shoreline.

adapted from an article in the GLOBE AND MAIL, Mar. 20, 1991

CHEMICAL CIRCUS

It's time North York made up its mind about pesticides. On the surface, the city -- or at least its environment committee -- seems to have done just that. After holding a promising public hearing Feb. 24, the committee has recommended making Don Mills parks a pesticide-free zone, and has recommended the establishment of a special committee to come up with alternatives across North York. At the hearing community members and environmentalists presented a good variety of alternatives to spraying weeds -- less reliance on turf for city green space and more naturalization, healthier lawn-care products and alternative landscaping such as rock and vegetable gardens among them. Not all the ideas are practical; but most of them are based on a good deal more sense than is the current practice of turning a blind eye to a potential health hazard in favour of perfect lawns.

adapted from "Chemical Circus" (March 24, 1991) and "Poisoned Parkland" (March 3, 1991), editorials in the MIRROR SUNDAY NEWS

NO OZONE DAMAGE OVER ARCTIC THIS YEAR

Chemical emissions haven't created a hole in the Arctic ozone layer this winter. The Arctic hasn't experienced the deep freeze that lets chlorine from the chlorofluorocarbons, or CFCs, attack the ozone gas shielding the Earth from harmful ultraviolet rays. The ozone layer provides protection from solar rays that cause skin cancer and cataracts in humans, stunt vegetation, and destroy plankton in the oceans. The last two winters have shown signs of ozone depletion in the Arctic, and CFCs caused another huge hole in the Antarctic layer last October. The air over most of southern Canada has lost about three per cent of its ozone since the early 1970s. Average temperatures didn't reach the "magic number" of minus 78 celsius, the temperature at which clouds of nitric acid crystals form about 20 kilometres above the earth. The crystals speed up the reaction in which chlorine from CFCs breaks down the chemical bonds holding ozone molecules together.

from an article in the LONDON FREE PRESS, Feb. 16, 1991

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THE WEATHER (THIS TIME LAST YEAR)

May 1990, Toronto

This month was consistently cool and unsettled. At no time did conditions even approach the heat-wave of late April. It was the coolest and wettest May since 1984. The average temperatures for the City and the Airport respectively were 12.7°C and 11.6°C. At L.B. Pearson Airport, the average wind speed of 15.5 km/h was the highest in at least thirteen years. Sunshine totals were over 34 hours below normal at the City.

The general pattern for May was an intensive frontal zone which was mostly to the south of Southern Ontario. Disturbances passed along this frontal zone every three to eight days or so. High winds accompanied cold fronts on May 10th and May 17th; gusts of 93 km/h on the latter date at both L.B. Pearson and Toronto Island were the highest since 1983 at Pearson and a new record for May at Toronto Island. Traces of snow were recorded on the morning of May 11th at some Toronto area locations. The Victoria Day weekend was largely rained-out; temperatures on the Sunday stayed below 10°C with moderate rain most of the day. However, the final weekend of May was sunny with temperatures in the low to mid twenties.

ROADSIDE THOUGHTS

*High-prized wonders
of the world -
the helleborine and all -
in rainy forests dwell,
a goutweed as well.*

*Strong winds are blowing,
the flower-heads bent,
and the American elms
are still growing!*

Larisa Zviedris

June 1990, Toronto

This year June was a more or less seasonable month. Temperatures were slightly above normal overall because of a hot, humid spell in the middle of the month. Sunshine was slightly below normal, but rainfall was close to normal. Winds at L.B. Pearson Airport averaged well above normal, again being the highest in at least 13 years.

June was divided into three parts. The first third of the month was characterized by windy, cool, unsettled conditions. A powerful cold front (actually two fronts) swept through on June 3rd, and record gusts over 100 km/h occurred both at L.B. Pearson Airport (106 km/h) and Toronto Island (107 km/h). A muggy spell mid-month lasted from June 13th to June 18th. The last twelve days of June were again relatively unsettled with frequent showers.

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TFN 420 - 22

July 1990, Toronto

Conditions in July were near normal. However, the month gave the impression of being cool and unsettled because of weekend rains, unseasonably high winds, and a slight deficit of sunshine. There was also a contrast with the very hot summers of recent years.

For the third month in a row, L.B. Pearson Airport had the highest average wind speed in over 13 years. At Toronto Island the winds averaged the highest since 1983. Sunshine hours were the lowest since 1986.

Very hot weather remained to the south over the United States this month, and Canada was spared the heat and forest fires of previous years. On July 4th, a brief surge of this heat raised temperatures above 35°C in the Toronto area. Thereafter, the heat even in the U.S. eased. We had a couple of muggy spells later in the month. There were only three days with 30°C or over downtown this July, but nine such days at Arlington Avenue, away from the lake effect.

Severe weather was conspicuous by its absence in Canada this July.

*Globes of
goatsbeard
gone to seed,
gossamer and
gold,
toss in the grasses.*

Molly Campbell

August 1990, Toronto

This was another uneventful month in our part of the world. Mean temperatures and sunshine were close to normal, while winds continued somewhat above normal and rainfalls were the highest since 1986 with 101.6 mm of rain downtown and 112.6 mm at Pearson.

An overall pleasant month was punctuated by spells of heavy showers and thunderstorms, especially on Aug. 11th to 13th. There was also a cloudy spell from Aug. 18th to 22nd. No severe heat waves or strong cool out-breaks occurred. However, during a tropical humid period late in the month, there was some severe weather resulting from cooling of cloud tops at night. Heavy thunderstorms occurred late on the evening of Aug. 27th and again on the early evening of Aug. 28th. With the second such disturbance, tornadoes were sighted south of Buffalo, New York, and near London, Ontario. Toronto was spared most of the action, although we got a vivid display of lightning with the first storm.

Gavin Miller

□

*Joe Pye,
you're taller than I!*

Diana Barville

COMING EVENTS

Kortright Nature Day Camp - for children 6 to 13 years of age, a one-week nature day camp at the Kortright Centre. The cost per child is \$125 for the first week and \$110 per additional week. One week camps are offered on July 8, July 15, July 22, Aug. 5 and Aug. 12. To reserve a space, call 416-661-6600, ext. 256, during regular business hours.

Grade 12 Applied Environmental Science Credit available at Lake St. George. The course is scheduled Aug. 9-26, and is sponsored by the Toronto Board of Education and the Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority. Lake St. George is near Oak Ridges, north of Richmond Hill. The fee for the course, which includes accommodation and meals, is \$300. For more information, contact Metro Region Conservation at 416-661-6600, ext. 257.

Beginning with Wildflowers - a non-technical course concentrating on the distinctive features of the wildflower families - June 8 and 15 at 45 LaRose Ave., from 9:30 am to 3 pm. Advanced registration is required and anyone interested should call Clive or Joy Goodwin at 249-9503. (Cost is \$57.00 which includes lunch both days.)

FOR NATURE INFORMATION

VISIT THE LOG CABIN IN
SUNNYBROOK PARK.

free park maps, displays
pamphlets

Sunday afternoons

May 5 to Oct. 13, 1991

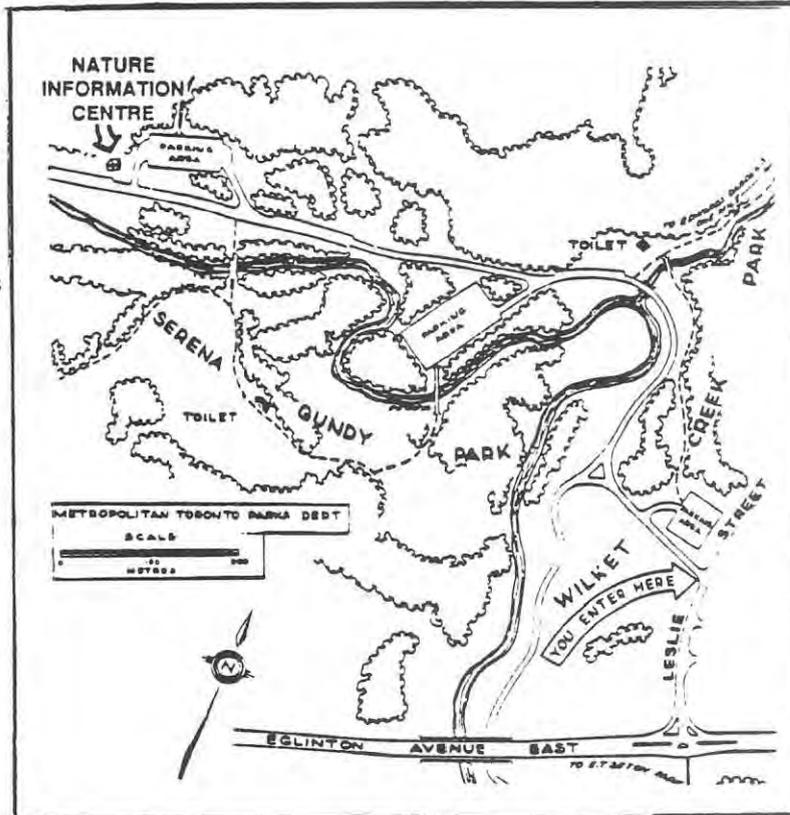
12 noon to 4 pm

Call Eileen (445-4621)

or

Helen (924-5806)

if you want to help or
need to change your
booking.



Royal Botanical Gardens - accessible by public transit from Toronto - take local Hamilton bus and get off at Gardens.

COMING EVENTS (cont'd)

Tree-planting in the Markham/Unionville area with the Save the Rouge Valley System on May 5 at 10 am. For details about when to drop in and where call 497-6337.

Nature walk in the Rouge River Valley - 4th Sunday of every month. Call 287-1776 to find out where and when.

Walk in High Park with the Toronto Historic Board. Meet Jerry Belan at the north entrance to the park on the south side of Bloor Street West on June 9. Call staff at Colborne Lodge at (392-6916) for details; also, on July 21, another outing to High Park. Call as above for details.

The Gardens of Hogg's Hollow, a tour of private Toronto gardens on June 22 and June 23, noon to 4 pm. Admission \$14. Call 445-1552 (the Civic Garden Centre) to purchase tickets in advance.

Jim Baillie Memorial Bird Walk - "The first wave" - at Lambton Woods on Saturday, May 4 from 7:30 am to 12 noon with Luc Fazio leading. Meet in the parking lot at James Gardens (access from Edenbridge Drive).

Warblers in High Park - Saturday, May 11 from 7:30 am to 12 noon with Bob Yukich leading. Meet in the parking lot inside the Bloor St. entrance at High Park Ave.

"Peak Migration" at Toronto Islands on Saturday, May 18 from 7:45 am (all day) with Don Burton leading. Meet at the Toronto Islands ferry dock at the foot of Bay Street to catch the 8 am ferry to Hanlan's Point. Bring a lunch.

Whimbrel and other late migrants - West Toronto Lakeshore on Saturday, May 25 from 7 am to 12 noon with Glenn Coady leading. Meet at the entrance to the Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital on Lakeshore Blvd. West at Kipling Ave.

Breeding birds of Halton Regional Forest - on Saturday, June 8 at 6:30 am (all day) with Hugh Currie leading. Meet at the Kiss'n'Ride at Wilson subway station on the Spadina subway line to form a car pool. Bring a lunch. NEXT JIM BAILLIE MEMORIAL BIRD WALK WILL BE IN SEPTEMBER.

Urban geology lecture - Sunday, May 26 at 3 pm in the Earth Sciences Centre, Bancroft at Huron Street (Room 1050 - the auditorium). For more details call the Royal Canadian Institute at 928-2096. (Groundwater in human societies)

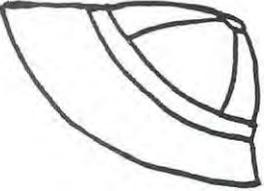
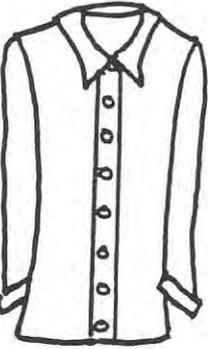
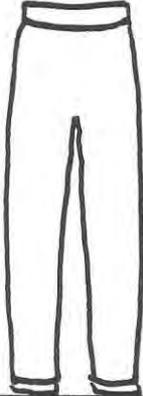
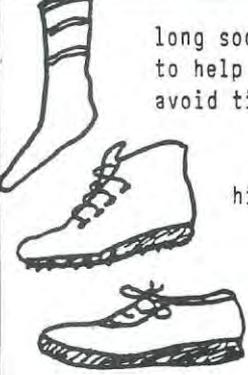
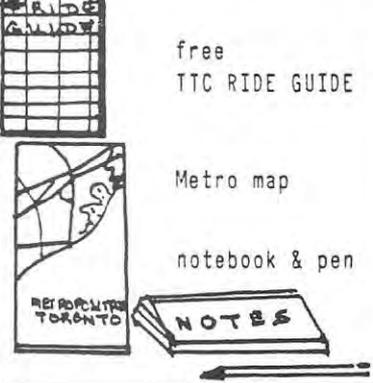
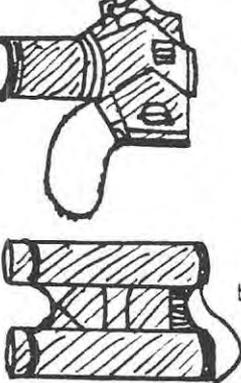
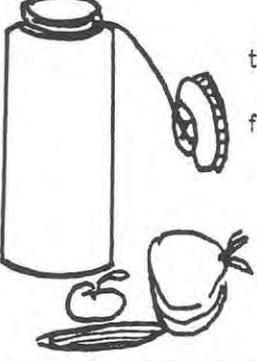
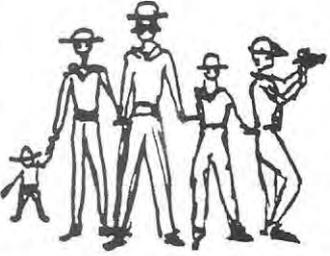
Black Creek Project - tree and shrub planting - Sat. May 11 at 10 am on the west side of Jane St., 100 metres north of Steeles (in the Consumer's Gas right-of-way.

also - Sat. June 8 at 10 am at the Edgely Woodlot on the northeast corner of Jane St. and #7 Hwy. Bring work boots, work gloves and shovel and wheelbarrow if possible.

also - weekday plantings with teenagers. Volunteers welcome. Call Rob Tonis or Laurie Fritz at 969-9637 for details.

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FOR ENJOYMENT OF OUTINGS

<p>wide brim on hat for protection from sun</p> 	<p>long sleeves to protect you from: mosquitoes poison ivy thistles</p> 	<p>slacks to protect you from: mosquitoes poison ivy thistles ticks</p> 
<p>long socks to help you avoid ticks</p> <p>hiking boots or running shoes</p> 	<p>rainwear</p> 	<p>sun glasses</p> <p>sun screen</p> <p>insect repellant</p> 
<p>free TTC RIDE GUIDE</p> <p>Metro map</p> <p>notebook & pen</p> 	<p>camera</p> <p>binoculars</p> 	<p>thermos or flask</p> <p>snack</p> 
<p>Bring your family and/or friends</p> 	<p>NO pets</p> 	<p>keys</p> <p>money</p> <p>TTC fare</p> 

TFN OUTINGS*

May

- Wednesday
 May 1
 10:30 am
 BURBANK PARK - nature walk
 Leader: Joan Patterson
 East Don tributary, North York
 Meet on the east side of Bayview Avenue at Burbank Dr. south of Finch Ave. (opposite Holmes Avenue). Bring lunch. We will be exploring the Newtonbrook Creek ravine to where the creek enters the East Don and looking for early spring flowers and migrating birds.
- Thursday
 May 2
 6:45 pm
 HIGH PARK - wild plant lore
 Leader: Richard Aaron
 Toronto
 Meet at the park entrance on the south side of Bloor Street West opposite High Park Ave. A good outing for beginners. Bring your field guide (if you have one) and we will learn interesting facts about the plants we see.
- Saturday
 May 4
 10 am
 SCARBOROUGH WILDFLOWER GARDEN - nature arts
 Leader: Paul McGaw
 Scarborough
 Meet at the Warden subway station (on Warden Ave. just south of St. Clair Ave. East). Bring lunch. Those with cars may meet at Paul's house (45 Anaconda Ave.) This is an opportunity to sketch wildflowers in an urban garden.
- Sunday
 May 5
 2 pm
 LAKE IROQUOIS SHORELINE - reading the landscape
 Leader: Ken Cook
 Etobicoke
 Meet on the west side of Scarlett Road where it crosses the Humber River (just south of Eglinton Ave. West). Once again we will be following remnants of this ancient shoreline across Metro Toronto. Walk will end at a different public transit stop.
- Tuesday
 May 7
 6:45 pm
 HIGH PARK - birds
 Leader: Verna Higgins
 Toronto
 Meet at the park entrance on the south side of Bloor St. West opposite High Park Ave. A good chance to observe migrating birds and learn about the nesting birds in High Park.
- Wednesday
 May 8
 10 am
 MIMICO CREEK - nature walk
 Leader: Vera Cooke
 Mimico Creek, Etobicoke
 Meet on Royal York Road at Coney Road (south of Bloor St. West). Lunch optional. This section of Mimico Creek Valley is a great place to find early spring flowers and birds, also lots of fossils along the river bank and even Carolinian trees (sassafras and tulip trees).
- Thursday
 May 9
 6:45 pm
 TODMORDEN MILLS - flowers, wild and tame
 Leader: Morris Sorensen
 Don, East York
 Meet at the southwest corner of Broadview and Pottery Road. Drivers may meet at the park entrance on Pottery Rd. at foot of hill. Even after 200 years of continuous use as mill site, brewery, museum etc. this area has a wonderful collection of native wildflowers as well as some unusual non-native species.

* Unless indicated otherwise, walks are usually at a leisurely pace and begin and end at the same place.



MAY OUTINGS (cont'd)

Saturday PRESQU'ILE PROVINCIAL PARK - birds & flowers east of Metro
 May 11 Leader: Phil Joiner
 8 am to Call Kay Lane (221-6343) if you want to attend. Confirm by
 6 pm sending a cheque for \$22.00 (NOT post-dated) made payable
 PMCL Bus to TFN OUTING to Kay Lane at 564 - 65 Ellerslie Ave.,
 Willowdale M2N 1Y1. Bus leaves southeast corner of Yonge St.
 and Old York Mills Rd. (south exit of York Mills subway stn.)
 Bring lunch and extra water. Washroom on bus.
 This 2,000 acre park contains equal portions of marsh, woodland, meadows and
 fields. It is a well-known observation point during bird migration. Long,
 sandy beaches and nature trails through woods give more choices.

OUT OF
TOWN

\$ bus
fare

+

Saturday DERRYDOWN PARK - birds & flowers Black Creek, North York
 May 11 Leader: Allan Greenbaum
 10:30 am Meet on the south side of Finch Avenue West where it crosses
 Black Creek (half-way between Keele and Jane) Bring lunch.
 This park which boasts a bike trail and a washroom, also contains some very
 unspoiled natural slopes with magnificent trees, shrubs and wildflowers.
 With luck we will see migrating birds as well.

Sunday CENTENNIAL PARK - spring wildflowers Etobicoke Creek, Etobicoke
 May 12 Leader: Richard Aaron
 10:30 am Meet at the west end of Rathburn Road. Bring lunch.
 This western border of Metro Toronto contains some of the best stands of
 spring wildflowers in all of Metro. Fossils, snakes, migrating birds,
 early butterflies can also be seen. Bring your favourite guide and we
 will try to learn a little plant lore.

Tuesday OLD MILL - birds Humber, Etobicoke, York, Toronto
 May 14 Leader: Helen Smith
 6:45 pm Meet at the Old Mill subway station.
 A chance to see migrating birds and some resident birds. Also, a good
 opportunity to learn bird songs and calls!

Wednesday HUMBER VALLEY - nature walk Humber, York
 May 15 Leader: Marj Mossman
 10:30 am Meet on the north side of Eglinton Ave. West at Emmett Ave.
 Bring lunch. Walk will end at a different public transit stop.
 Marj knows the history of this area well. Despite a long history of
 development and redevelopment, this areas contains much of interest to
 naturalists: huge bur oaks, spring wildflowers, giant snapping turtles,
 migrating and resident birds.

Thursday LAMBTON WOODS - wildflowers Humber, Etobicoke
 May 16 Leader: Isabel Smith
 6:45 pm Meet at the entrance to James Gardens on Edenbridge Dr., east
 of Royal York Road.
 This east-facing park with its spring-filled slopes is very wet. Waterproof
 footwear is needed when looking for wetland spring flowers.

▷

MAY OUTINGS (cont'd)

Saturday
May 18
9:30 am

GUILDWOOD PARK - birds
Leader: Walter Frey
lakeshore, Scarborough

Meet at the park entrance on the south side of Guildwood Pkwy. opposite Galloway Rd. Lunch optional.
The combination of a mature mixed forest and lake-side setting as well as the time of year (optimum weekend for migration of birds) should make this outing worthwhile. The spring flowers and views of the lake and bluffs are extra bonuses.

Sunday
May 19
2 pm

LOWER DON - nature walk
Leader: Mark Wilson
Don, Toronto

Meet on the southeast corner of King St. East and Sumach St. Walk will end at a different public transit stop.
The plan is to walk along the Don River from its mouth (the Keating Channel) to Todmorden Mills in East York. This is to be the first in a series of walks along the Don and its major branches. Despite 200 years of human impacts, there are many features of this first walk to interest and impress naturalists: birds, spawning carp, native and exotic plants, human history.

Monday
May 20
9 am

TORONTO ISLANDS - birds
Leader: Helen Smith
lakeshore, Toronto

Meet at the ferry docks at the foot of Bay Street in time to catch the 9 am ferry. Bring lunch and something to drink.
A favourite TFN outing at this time of year. Scores of species of birds to be identified.

\$ ferry tickets

Tuesday
May 21
10:30 am

BLACK CREEK PIONEER VILLAGE - nature arts
Leader: Margaret Emminghaus
Black Creek, North York

Meet at the entrance to the village on Murray Ross Parkway, just south of Steeles Ave. West and east of Jane St.
Bring camera, sketching materials and stool, or just come and enjoy.
Lunch optional. A good chance to enjoy the village's historic charm and lovely natural setting.

\$ entrance fee

+

Tuesday
May 21
6:45 pm

CEDARVALE RAVINE - birds
Leader: Herb Elliott
Don tributary, Toronto

Meet at the Heath St. exit of the St. Clair West subway stn. Despite a subway running under this ravine, it is still a good place to observe birds because naturalists and others insisted it be restored to as natural a state as possible. Worth a visit.

Wednesday
May 22
10 am

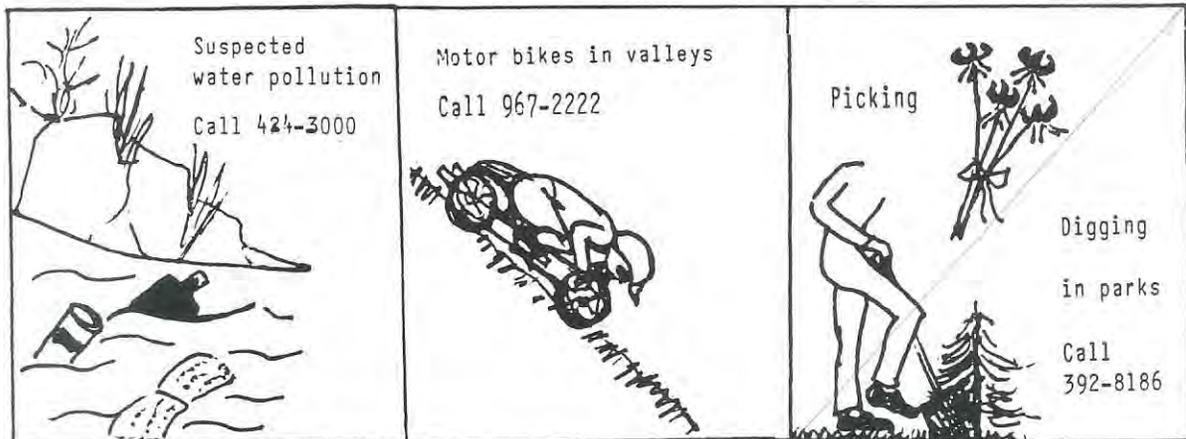
TORONTO HUNT CLUB - nature walk
Leader: Laura Greer
lakeshore, Scarborough

Meet on the south side of Kingston Road opposite Woodland Park Road. Morning only.
Usually golf courses are out-of-bounds for naturalists during the golf season, but we have permission to visit the Fallingbrook Ravine on the golfcourse property. This deep ravine contains many large oaks, spring wildflowers, butterflies and birds. Come prepared to climb or explore the edges of the ravine (depending on weather and mood).

▷

MAY OUTINGS (cont'd)

- Thursday
May 23
6:45 pm
- WIGMORE PARK - spring wildflowers
Leader: Eva Davis
Meet on the west side of Sloane Ave. at the school north of Eglinton Ave. East.
Farmland until the 1950s, this section of the East Don Valley has become part of the Charles Sauriol Nature Reserve. Bring along your copy of the TFN's ravine study of the area and meet some of the spring flowers listed.
- East Don, North York
- Saturday
May 25
10 am
- TAYLOR CREEK - early mushrooms
Leader: John Morgan-Jones
Meet just outside the Victoria Park subway station. Bring lunch. Walk will end at a different public transit stop. Many mushrooms such as bracket fungi are with us all year, but others just pop up, the season and weather permitting. A good chance to begin this fascinating study.
- Taylor Creek, Scarborough
- Sunday
May 26
10:30 am
- MOUNT PLEASANT CEMETERY - shrubs
Leaders: Emily Hamilton & Helen Juhola
Meet at the cemetery entrance on the east side of Mt. Pleasant Road between Davisville Ave. and St. Clair Ave. East. Morning only. Toronto Trust Cemeteries, managers of many Toronto cemeteries, have planted and labelled many native and exotic species of trees and shrubs over the years. Bring your notebooks and favourite tree or shrub book. Don't expect to learn them all at once, but this is a great chance to get started.
- Toronto
- Tuesday
May 28
6:45 pm
- WARDEN WOODS - evening ramble
Leader: Eva Davis
Meet at the Warden subway station on Warden Ave. just south of St. Clair Ave. East. Walk will end at a different public transit stop.
An evening ramble to see what birds and flowers we can find.
- Taylor Creek, Scarborough
- Wednesday
May 29
10 am
- DOWNSVIEW DELLS PARK - nature walk
Leader: Elly Elder
Meet on the south side of Sheppard Ave. West where it crosses Black Creek (west of Keele St.) Bring lunch.
A lovely wild section of Black Creek Valley. Paved roadway and washrooms as well as many secluded natural areas.
- Black Creek, North York



OUTINGS (cont'd)

June

Saturday CASSELL'S GARDEN - nature arts North York
 June 1 Leader: Betty Paul
 10 am Meet at the exit turnstiles of the North York Centre subway station. Lunch optional.
 Bring cameras, sketching materials and stool, or just come and enjoy this lovely garden in the York Cemetery grounds. If the fine collection of ornamental shrubs and flowers is not enough for you, the trees in the surrounding grounds should be.

Sunday DON RIVER - nature walk Don, East York
 June 2 Leader: Morris Sorensen
 2 pm Meet at the corner of Broadview Avenue and Pottery Road.
 Walk will end at a different public transit stop.
 This is the second walk in a series to explore the Don watershed. We will be following the river from Todmorden Mills to the Forks and looking at the plants, animals and landforms as well as talking about the human history of this area. This is a joint outing of Todmorden Mills and the TFN.

Monday WYCHWOOD PARK - nature walk Toronto
 June 3 Leader: Dr. Nick Badenhuizen
 6:45 pm Meet at the northwest corner of Bathurst St. and Dupont St. Walk will end at a different public transit stop.
 A chance to explore the little known source of Taddle Creek (one of Toronto's buried watercourses) and learn about some of the interesting plants that grow along our streets.

Wednesday EARL BALES PARK - nature walk West Don, North York
 June 5 Leader: Joan Patterson
 10 am Meet at the first entrance on the east side of Bathurst Street south of Sheppard Ave. West. Walk will end at a different public transit stop. Bring lunch.
 As well as exploring part of this large park we will walk north through the valley and follow a ravine to the adjacent tableland where bobolinks nest in the undeveloped section of the York Cemetery. This is a good chance to hear them as well as see these colourful birds of fields, a rare habitat in Metro Toronto.

Saturday JIM BAILLIE NATURE RESERVE - a day in the country northeast of Metro
 June 8 Leaders: club directors
 8 am Call Eileen Mayo (445-4621) if you want to attend. Confirm
 to 6 pm by sending a cheque for \$12.00 (NOT post-dated), made payable to TFN BUS TRIP to Eileen at 405 - 44 Stubbs Dr., Willowdale M2L 2R3. Bus leaves southeast corner of Yonge St. and Old York Mills Rd. (south exit of York Mills subway station).
 Bring lunch and extra water. No washroom on bus, but there are 3 outhouses at the reserve. Lunch from 12 noon to 1 pm at shelter.
 The TFN owns almost 160 acres of cedar swamp and fields north of Uxbridge. Trails through the wetlands get you into the kind of terrain one rarely gets to explore because it is usually too wet. Many grouse, winter wrens, deer and even orchids will delight you. Also, Uxbridge Creek with its "maidens hair", spawning suckers and giant clams and spectacular views of the mixed farmland and woods of the creek's valley. Booklet about reserve available -- includes lists and directions
 to reserve. ▷

OUT OF TOWN

PMCL SCHOOL BUS

bus fare

JUNE OUTINGS (cont'd)

- Sunday
June 9
2 pm
TAYLOR CREEK PARK - human & natural history Taylor Creek, East York
Leaders: Bill Frankling & Helen Juhola
Meet on the south side of Overlea Blvd. at the east end of Thorncliffe Pk. Blvd. (the Esso station NOT the PetroCan stn.)
Walk will end at a different public transit stop.
This is a joint walk with the TFN and the East York Historical Society.
- Tuesday
June 11
6:45 pm
HOGG'S HOLLOW - evening ramble West Don, North York
Leader: Betty Paul
Meet at the south exit of the York Mills subway station.
A chance to explore this historic section of the Don watershed.
- Wednesday
June 12
10:30 am
ROWNTREE MILLS PARK - nature walk Humber, North York/Etobicoke
Leader: Billie Bridgman
Meet at the northwest corner of Finch Ave. West and Islington Ave. Bring lunch.
The valley should be full of summer flowers by this visit; also nesting birds and a flowering tulip tree.
- Saturday
June 15
1:30 pm
DON VALLEY BRICK WORKS - geology Don, East York
Leader: Ed Freeman
Meet at Chorley Park (at the east end of Summerhill Ave.)
We will be climbing down to the valley and visiting the site of Metro's newest park. Spectacular views of the city, fossils, and glacial history interpreted.[Drivers may meet at the entrance on Bayview Ave. in the valley.]
- Sunday
June 16
2 pm
WEST DON VALLEY - nature walk West Don, East York
Leader: Gavin Miller
Meet on the south side of Overlea Blvd. at the east end of Thorncliffe Pk. Blvd. (the Esso stn. NOT the PetroCan stn.)
Walk will end at a different public transit stop.
Another in our series of walks to explore the Don watershed.
- Tuesday
June 18
10:15 am
\$ ferry tickets
TORONTO ISLANDS - nature arts Lakeshore, Toronto
Leader: Ann Millett
Meet at the ferry docks at the foot of Bay Street. Bring camera, sketching materials and stool, and lunch, and a drink.
Anyone is welcome on these outings, even if you just want to come and enjoy.
- Wednesday
June 19
10:30 am
MOCASSIN TRAIL PARK - nature walk East Don, North York
Leader: Graham Neville
Meet on the corner of the Donway East and Don Mills Rd. (south of Lawrence Ave. East). Bring lunch. Walk will end at a different public transit stop.
This is one of the undeveloped sections of the Don.
- Thursday
June 20
6:45 pm
DISUSED LANDS - evening ramble Toronto
Leader: Robin Powell
Meet at the Dufferin Gates of the CNE grounds (foot of Dufferin Street). Walk may end at different public transit stop.
We will be exploring some of the former railway shunting yards and discovering the plants and animals that invade such areas when we lose our interest in them.

JUNE OUTINGS (cont'd)

- Saturday
June 22
10 am
- GLENDON COLLEGE GROUNDS - ferns West Don, North York
Leader: Molly Campbell
Meet at the entrance to the grounds on the east side of Bayview Ave. at Lawrence Ave. East. Bring lunch. Walk may end elsewhere. This section of the valley south of the college grounds contains most of the fern species it is possible to see in Toronto.
- Sunday
June 23
11 am
- EAST POINT PARK - nature walk lakeshore, Scarborough
Leader: Ken Cook
Meet on the east side of Morningside Ave. just south of the railway tracks (north of the Guildwood Parkway). Bring lunch. A good place to see lots of wildflowers, birds, insects and spectacular views of Lake Ontario from the bluffs; also, a wonderful beach where many plants peculiar to the Great Lakes grow.
- Wednesday
June 26
10:30 am
- PETTICOAT CREEK CONSERVATION AREA - nature walk lakeshore east of Metro
Leader: Ruth Munson
Meet at Lawrence Ave. East and East Ave. Bring lunch. We will be walking past the mouth of the Rouge River and out to the next watershed. A lovely wooded valley, beaches, and views of Lake Ontario from low bluffs.
- Friday
June 28
6:45 pm
- DOWNTOWN - urban geology Toronto
Leader: Ed & Priscilla Freeman
Meet at the corner of Bay St. and Front St. West (Union Station). Walk will end at a different public transit stop. Find out what Toronto is made of and where the building materials are from in this evening ramble through the heart of Toronto's downtown.
- Saturday
June 29
10:30 am
- ROUGE VALLEY - nature walk Rouge, Scarborough
Leader: Robin Powell
Meet outside the Metro Zoo (we will not be going inside). Bring lunch and extra water. This will be a long walk in the Rouge Valley with lots of steep hills to climb, and lots of wild plants and animals to see.
- Sunday
June 30
2 pm
- EAST DON VALLEY - nature walk East Don, East York
Leader: Muriel Miville
Meet on the south side of Overlea Blvd. at the east end of Thorncliffe Park Blvd. (the Esso stn. NOT the PetroCan stn.) Walk will end at a different public transit stop. Another walk in the Don Valley. This section is part of the Charles Sauriol Conservation Reserve and contains no developed pathways.

Swatting a mosquito is allowable, considering that mosquitoes are so well able to flood the earth with their kind. But swat it respectfully; the mosquito is a product of millions of years of evolution, and a marvelous creature it is, equipped with its own hypodermic and as ready to sample the blood of a pauper as of a millionaire.

from THE PLEASURES OF ENTOMOLOGY by Howard Ensign Evans, Smithsonian Institution Press, Washinton, D.C., 1985

July

- Tuesday
July 2
6:45 pm
ROSEDALE STATION - evening ramble
Leader: Dr. Nick Badenhuizen
Meet at the Rosedale subway station. Walk will end at a different public transit stop.
We will be following what is left of the valley of Castlefrank Creek through a series of urban parks and streets. Toronto
- Wednesday
July 3
10:30 am
EGLINTON FLATS - nature walk
Leader: Nancy Fredenburg
Meet at the northwest corner of Eglinton Ave. West and Jane St. Bring lunch.
Formerly Chinese market gardens in the floodplain of the Humber, this large area now contains a golf course, a fishing pond, playing fields and a surprising amount of wildlife. Humber, York
- Saturday
July 6
10:30 am
RIVERDALE FARM - nature arts
Leader: Mary Cumming
Meet at the southeast corner of Sumach St. and Winchester St. Bring camera, sketching material and stool, or just come and enjoy. Lunch optional. Plenty of animals to draw at the farm, and trees in the Necropolis Cemetery adjacent to the park. Don, Toronto
- Sunday
July 7
1:30 pm
HIGH PARK - nature walk
Leader: Jerry Belan
Meet at the entrance to the park on the south side of Bloor St. West opposite High Park Ave.
This is Metro Fishing Day sponsored by the Ministry of Natural Resources. A chance to learn about High Park and see some of the fish in Grenadier Pond. Toronto
- Wednesday
July 10
11 am
ETOBICOKE CREEK - nature walk
Leader: Isabel Smith
Meet at the northwest corner of Brown's Line and Horner Ave. Walk will end at a different public transit stop. Bring lunch.
This western boundary of Metro Toronto contains examples of Carolinian plants and both barn and cliff swallows nest on bridges. Etobicoke Creek, Etobicoke
- Thursday
July 11
6:45 pm
UNIVERSITY GROUNDS - trees, shrubs
Leaders: Helen Juhola & Sheila Van Landeghem
Meet outside the St. George St. subway station. Walk will end at a different public transit stop.
We will be showing you the various university quadrangles and the great variety of trees, shrubs and habitats. Nighthawks, chimney swifts and a starling roost may also be seen. Toronto
- Sunday
July 14
2 pm
WEST DON - nature walk
Leader: Sandy Cappell
Meet on the south side of Eglinton Ave. East at Leslie St. Walk will end at a different public transit stop.
If you haven't been to the Nature Information Centre run by TFN, this is a good opportunity to visit it. The walk will be through Serena Gundy Park, past Wilket Creek, through Sunnybrook Park, and will end at Glendon College. West Don, North York

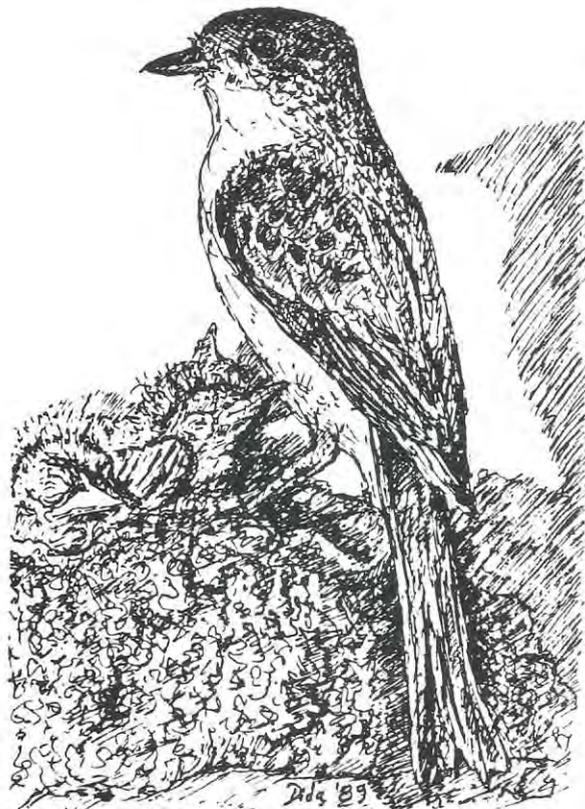
JULY OUTINGS (cont'd)

- Sunday EAST DON - nature walk East Don, North York
 July 28 Leader: Allan Greenbaum
 2 pm Meet on the south side of Eglinton Ave. East at Credit Union Dr. (east of the Don Valley Parkway). Walk will end at a different public transit stop.
 This is the second section of the valley which is part of the Charles Sauriol Conservation Reserve. Once again there are no developed pathways. Lots of hills to climb. A lovely wild part of the Don.
- Tuesday GARRISON CREEK - evening ramble Toronto
 July 30 Leader: Sandy Cappell
 6:45 pm Meet at the northwest corner of Lansdowne Ave. and College St. Walk will end at a different public transit stop.
 This is the third walk to look for remnants of one of Toronto's lost creeks. This evening we will be exploring one of the former tributaries of this once important watershed.
- Wednesday EAST DON - nature walk East Don, North York
 July 31 Leader: Paula Davies
 10:30 am Meet at the school on the west side of Leslie Street just south of Steeles Ave. East. Bring lunch. Walk may end at a different public transit stop. Parking in schoolyard.
 Paula teaches in the school and will show us the neighbouring valley and some of the lovely wild places as well as some of the damage that has been done because development has been allowed to encroach on this shallow valley.

MALE EASTERN PHOEBE at nest with young, from a photo by Alfred Francesconi.

This species frequently nests in Toronto Region but is not often reported within Metro in July and August to suggest it is breeding here. If you have records of any nests in Metro, please report.

96% of nests in Ontario are on man-made structures according to Peck & James, BREEDING BIRDS OF ONTARIO.



August

- Saturday HIGH PARK - nature arts Toronto
 August 3 Leader: Diana Banville
 10:30 am Meet at the park entrance on the south side of Bloor St. West
 opposite High Park Ave. Bring lunch.
 Bring camera, sketching material and stool, or just come and enjoy.
 Lovely prairie wildflowers and picturesque oaks to draw.
- Sunday PRIVATE GARDEN - trees North York
 August 4 Leader: Tom Atkinson
 10:30 am Meet at the southeast corner of Leslie Ave. and Lawrence Ave.
 East. Morning only.
 Tom will show us his garden and the trees he has grown from seed.
- Monday CASTLE FRANK - nature walk Don, Toronto/East York
 Aug. 5 Leaders: Aarne & Helen Juhola
 11 am Meet at the Castle Frank subway station. Walk will end at a
 different public transit stop. Lunch optional.
 To celebrate Simcoe Day we will meet at "the Simcoe's summer cottage" and walk
 across the Don Valley as they did 200 years ago for a visit with the
 Skimmers at Todmorden Mills. There may be a charge for the festivities at
 the village, but with any luck you will meet the Simcoes!!! See page 38.
- entrance
 fee
- Wednesday JOHN GARLAND PARK - nature walk West Humber, Etobicoke
 Aug. 7 Leader: Isabel Smith
 11 am Meet on the west side of Kipling Ave. at John Garland Blvd.
 Bring lunch. Walk may end at a different public transit stop.
 Fossils, wildflowers, birds and butterflies may be seen in this shallow
 section of the West Humber Valley.
- Saturday LESLIE STREET SPIT - birds Lakeshore, Toronto
 Aug. 10 Leader: Don Burton
 9 am Meet at the foot of Leslie Street. Bring lunch.
 Shorebirds are on the move again. Breeding is over and the adults are on
 their way south with stops at the spit for feeding and resting up for the
 long trip ahead.
- Sunday WEST DON - nature walk West Don, North York
 Aug. 11 Leader: Ken Cook
 2 pm Meet at the gates to Glendon College on the east side of
 Bayview Ave. at Lawrence Ave. East. Walk will end at a
 different public transit stop.
 Part of this section of valley is occupied by the Rosedale Golf and Country
 Club and part by a community. Despite this we will find pockets of wild
 valley with lots of climbing up and down.
- Tuesday TAYLOR CREEK - evening ramble Taylor Creek, East York
 Aug. 13 Leader: Melanie Milanich
 6:45 pm Meet outside the Victoria Park subway station. Walk may end
 at a different public transit stop.
 This part of the valley was once the Massey Estate and a railway ran through
 the valley. Now bike trails and picnic areas have been made for people and
 small areas left wild for the plants and animals.

AUGUST OUTINGS (cont'd)

- Wednesday CUDIA PARK - nature walk Lakeshore, Scarborough
 Aug. 14 Leader: Graham Neville
 10:30 am Meet on the south side of Kingston Road at Pine Ridge Drive
 (between McCowan Rd. and Bellamy Rd. S.) Bring lunch.
 This park contains a wooded slope (remnant shore of Lake Iroquois), an
 open field, and views of the lake from the bluffs.
- Saturday ROUGE MARSHES - wildflowers Rouge, Scarborough
 Aug. 17 Leader: Steve Varga
 10 am Meet at the east end of Island Road (east from East Avenue,
 south of Hwy 401). Bring lunch.
 Steve will lead us into the marshes and show us some of the wild and rare
 plants of this amazing wetland.
- Sunday TAYLOR CREEK - sedges Taylor Creek, Scarborough
 Aug. 18 Leader: Alfred Adamo
 1:30 pm Meet on the west side of Dawes Road at Park Vista. Bring
 waterproof footwear.
 We'll be visiting some wet areas and looking at the plants that grow there.
 A hand lens would also be helpful.
- Tuesday WILKET CREEK - nature arts Wilket Creek, North York
 Aug. 20 Leader: Betty Greenacre
 10:30 am Meet at the park entrance on the west side of Leslie Street
 just north of Eglinton Ave. East (opposite the Inn on the Park).
 Bring camera, sketching materials and stool, or just come and enjoy. Lunch
 optional. Betty is an expert photographer of wildflowers, so it's your chance
 to learn some more about both photography and wildflowers.
- Wednesday ECHO VALLEY - nature walk Mimico Creek, Etobicoke
 Aug. 21 Leader: Cathy Heynes
 10:30 am Meet at the park entrance on the west side of Kipling Ave.
 north of Burnhamthorpe Rd. Lunch optional.
 This site contains many nut trees and shrubs left over from the Corson Farm.
- Thursday BELTLINE - evening ramble Toronto
 Aug. 22 Leader: Nancy Fredenburg
 6:45 pm Meet at the Eglinton West subway station. Walk will end at
 a different public transit stop.
 This is the final evening ramble for our summer season. We will be following
 the route of an abandoned railway line diagonally across the city. The
 backyards of adjacent houses provide rich habitat for a variety of wildlife.
- Sunday LESLIE STREET SPIT - insects lakeshore, Toronto
 Aug. 25 Leader: Bill Edmonds
 11 am Meet at the foot of Leslie Street. Bring lunch.
 By this time of the summer lots of insects will be about -- butterflies,
 including the migrating monarch; crickets and grasshoppers will be singing.
- +
 Sunday EAST DON - nature walk East Don, North York
 Aug. 25 Leader: Eileen Mayo
 2 pm Meet on the north side of Lawrence Ave. East at Woodcliff Place
 (west of the Don Valley Parkway).
 This part of the Don Valley is also occupied by a golf course, but there
 are still some wild places accessible to the general public.

TFN 420 - 38
AUGUST OUTINGS (cont'd)

Wednesday EAST POINT PARK - nature walk lakeshore, Scarborough
Aug. 28 Leader: Karin Fawthrop
10:30 am Meet at the corner of Beechgrove Dr. and Coronation Dr.
(south of Lawrence Ave. East, east of Morningside Ave.)
Bring lunch.
A wonderful place to explore, watch birds, butterflies and discover rare
wildflowers; beach combing and cliff gazing also excellent.

Saturday TORONTO ISLANDS - wildflowers lakeshore, Toronto
Aug. 31 Leader: Dr. Nick Badenhuizen
11 am Meet at the ferry docks at the foot of Bay Street in time
to catch the 11 am ferry. Bring lunch.
Bring your copy of the TFN booklet on the rare wildflowers of the Islands.
This is the best time of year to find the most flowers blooming along the
wilder sections of Lake Ontario shoreline.

\$ ferry
tickets

GLENNA SIMS
as
ELIZABETH
POSTHUMA
SIMCOE,
Toronto's
first
naturalist.

(sketched
by Diana
Banville, at
Todmorden
Mills, on
Simcoe Day,
August 6,
1990)



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OTHER PUBLICATIONS (No G.S.T.)

TORONTO FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB: ITS HISTORY AND CONSTITUTION, 1965	\$ 2.00	ANNUAL TFN INDEX	1.00ea.
CHECKLIST OF PLANTS IN FOUR TORONTO PARKS: WILKET CREEK, HIGH PARK, HUMBER VALLEY, LAMBTON WOODS, 1972	2.00	TORONTO REGION BIRD CHART, 1983	4.00
TORONTO THE GREEN, 1976 Metropolitan Toronto's important natural areas are described and recommendations given for their conservation and management: includes maps, bibliography and index	5.00	A GRAPHIC GUIDE TO ONTARIO MOSES, 1985	4.00
FIELD CHECKLIST OF PLANTS OF SOUTHERN ONTARIO, 1977	3 / \$1.00 or50 ea.	TORONTO REGION VERTEBRATE LIST (fishes, amphibians, reptiles, mammals), 1985	3/1.00 or50 ea.
TORONTO FIELD NATURALISTS' RAVINE SURVEYS	4.00 ea.	TORONTO REGION BIRD LIST 1985	3/1.00 or50 ea.
Survey #1 - Chatsworth Ravine, 1973		GUIDE TO THE TORONTO NATURA- LISTS' NATURE RESERVE, LEASKDALE, ONT., 1986	4.00
Survey #2 - Brookbanks Ravine, 1974		TORONTO ISLANDS: PLANT COMMUNI- TIES AND NOTEWORTHY SPECIES, 1987	4.00
Survey #3 - Chapman Valley Ravine, 1975		TODMORDEN MILLS, 1987	4.00
Survey #4 - Wigmore Ravine, 1975		VASCULAR PLANTS OF METROPOLITAN TORONTO, 1990 ..	8.00
Survey #5 - Park Drive Ravine, 1976			
Survey #6 - Burke Ravine, 1976			
Survey #7 - Taylor Creek - Woodbine Bridge Ravines, 1977			
Survey #8 - West Don Valley, 1978			
INDEX OF TFN NEWSLETTERS (1938-1978)	10.00		

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