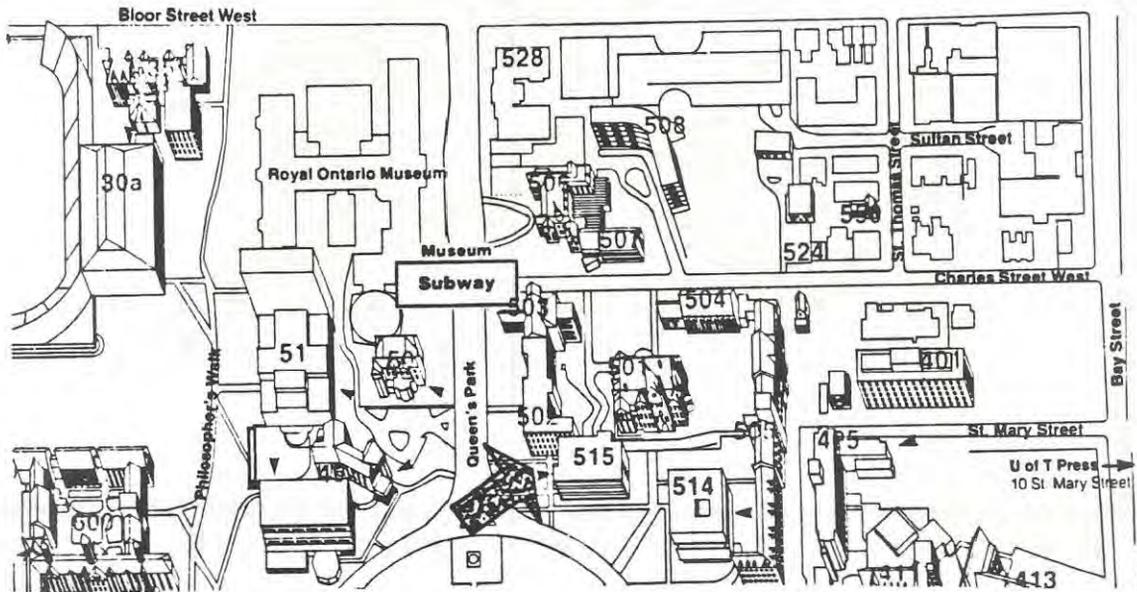




# TFN MEETINGS

Sunday, November 1, 1992 -  
at 2:30 pm  
in the Northrop Frye Hall  
Victoria University  
73 Queen's Park Cres. East  
[515 on map below]

- The speaker plans to tell us how buffer zones should be designated for nature reserves and parks, and shelter belts and windbreaks established for agricultural land. Using wisdom and creativity we can resolve our conflicts with nature by creating interconnecting webs of native vegetation to accommodate wildlife.
- + a display of the art of Geraldine Goodwin
- + TFN memberships and publications will be for sale both before and after the meeting
- + an opportunity to socialize (with coffee), both before and after the meeting, just outside the lecture hall



NEXT MEETING: Sunday, December 6, 1992

...Through science and the technology that goes with it, we gain dominion over things -- but only at the cost of becoming ourselves, subject to being manipulated and used by the same technologies we use on all the other lumps...

from "Getting at the Heart of Wild Things" by Matt Cartmill in NATURAL HISTORY, Feb. 1991

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Our first general meeting of the season at our new location was held at the Northrop Frye Hall on Sunday afternoon at 2:30 pm on Sept. 13. The weather was excellent. Our speaker, Luciano Martin, enhanced his talk with computer-directed information on the screen. One hundred and five persons were in the audience.

At our September board meeting we heard and approved of two submissions by Allan Greenbaum on behalf of the Toronto Field Naturalists: one was a submission to the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources on revisions to the tree act; the other was to the Metro Toronto and Region Conservation Authority on their new stream management and use of conservation lands' policies.

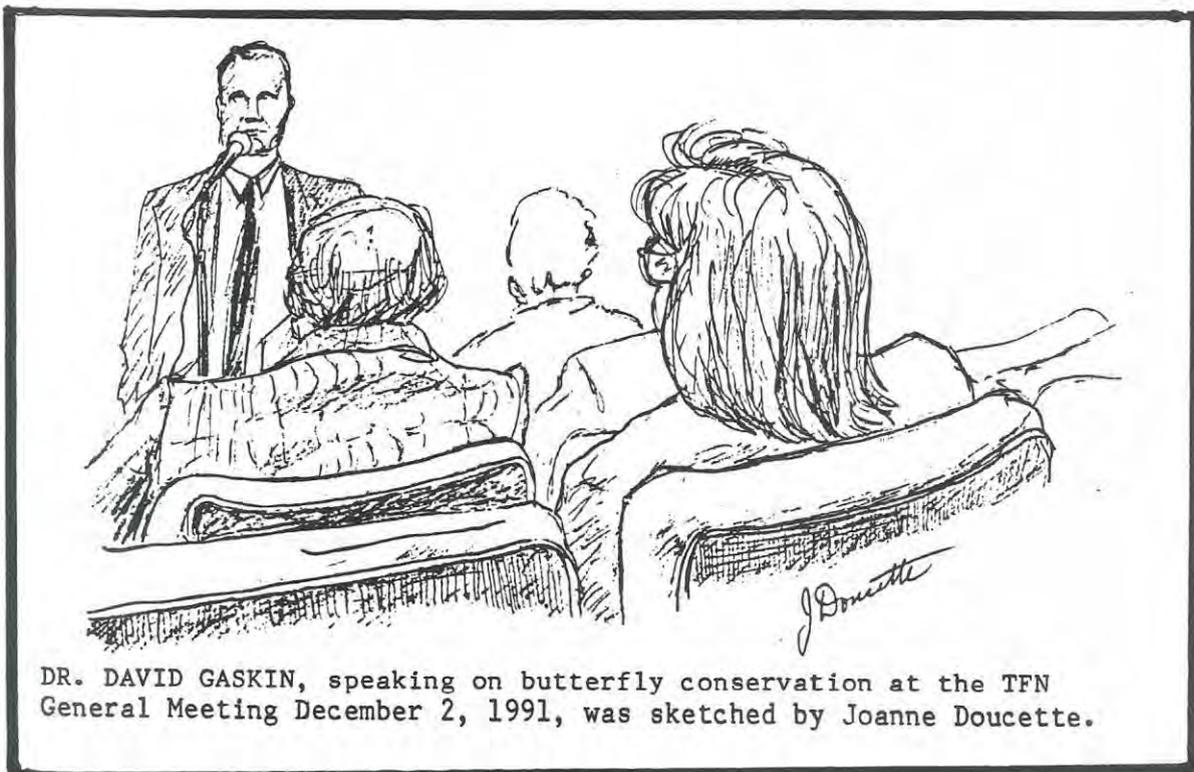
Letters have been sent on behalf of the club protesting the proposed Leslie Street extension and Bayview Avenue widening and expressing our appreciation to the Mayor of Toronto for the purchase of the land surrounding the maple tree which inspired the song "The Maple Leaf Forever". [For Leslie St., see pages 4,5,6,11,22; for maple tree, see page 26.]

Two meetings of the Metro Toronto Region Conservation Authority were attended by a number of members & executives of TFN. Eileen Mayo and I both spoke against Metro Toronto's proposed redevelopment of the former Domtar site in the Lower Don Valley as a police canine unit headquarters. The plan includes space for a Metro Parks works yard (truck parking lot) -- hardly a better use of valleylands than the industry which was bought so the lands could become "parkland".

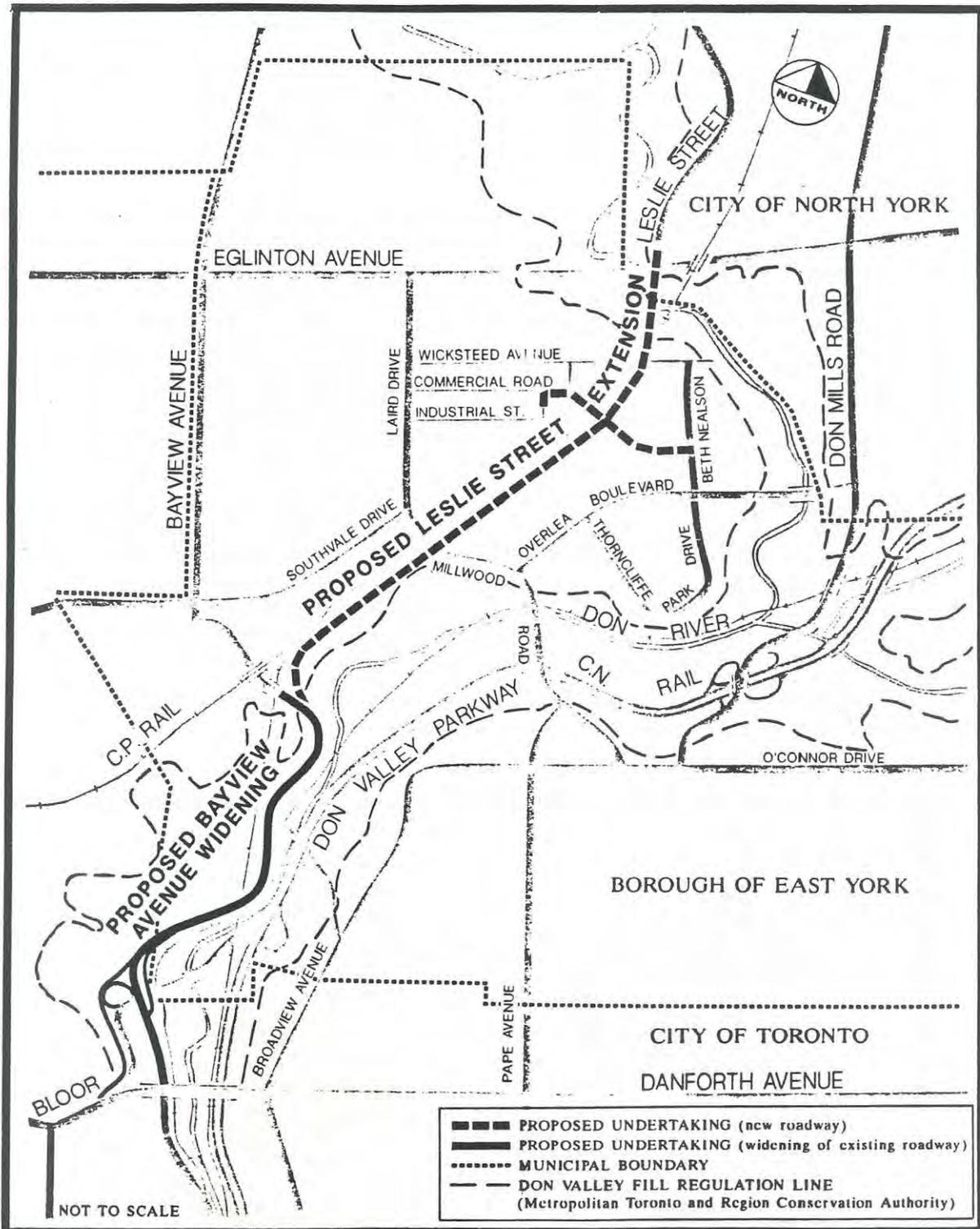
Our thanks to those TFN members who joined us at these meetings and to those who wrote letters on these issues.

Joan Patterson

□



DR. DAVID GASKIN, speaking on butterfly conservation at the TFN General Meeting December 2, 1991, was sketched by Joanne Doucette.



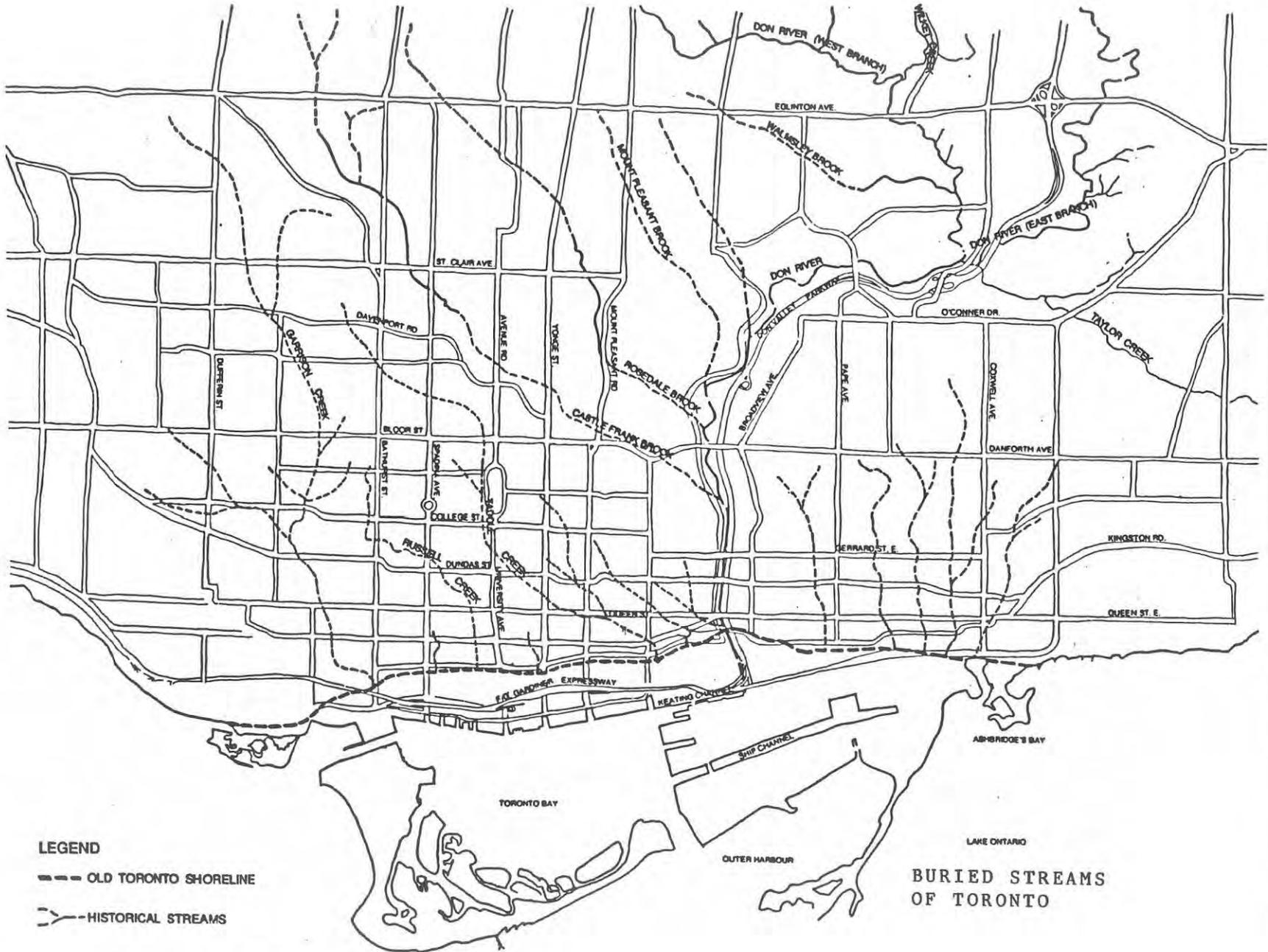
provided by the Office of Consolidated Hearings

This proposal would involve the filling in of Walmsley Brook ravine (not indicated on this map -- see page 6 ), the removal of the west slope of the Don Valley south of Millwood Rd., and additional traffic in the Lower Don Valley where large amounts of money are currently being spent to "restore" the valley.

# TFN OUTINGS

## November

- Sunday  
Nov. 1  
10:30 am
- DOWNTOWN STREETS - urban trees  
Toronto  
Leaders: Jerry Belan & Sandy Cappell  
Meet at the northwest corner of Dundas Street West and University Ave. Morning only. Walk will end elsewhere.  
We will be looking at some of the reasons street trees and other vegetation have trouble surviving in the urban area.
- +  
Sunday  
Nov. 1  
2:30 pm
- TFN MEETING  
at the Northrop Frye Building  
73 Queen's Park Crescent East
- Tuesday  
Nov. 3  
10:30 am
- TORONTO ISLANDS - nature walk  
Lakeshore, Toronto  
Leader: Ann Millett  
Meet at the ferry docks at the foot of Bay Street in time to catch the 10:30 am ferry. Bring lunch.  
This could be a cold walk so wear layers of clothes. A great time to see wintering ducks from the ferry.
- \$  
ferry  
tickets
- Saturday  
Nov. 7  
11 am
- GALLERY HOPPING - nature arts  
Toronto  
Leader: Mary Cumming  
Meet at the Cumberland Street exit of the Bay subway station.  
Lunch optional.  
We will be visiting various art galleries in the area. Members may bring examples of their own art to be looked at during the lunch break.
- Sunday  
Nov. 8  
10:30 am
- LESLIE STREET EXTENSION - nature walk  
Don Valley, East York  
Leader: Paula Davies  
Meet at the eastern intersection of Overlea Blvd. and Thorncliffe Park Drive. (Beth Nealsen Drive) Walk will end at a different public transit stop. Lunch optional.  
Many plans still exist which threaten the integrity of the Don Valley -- road proposals, redevelopment of parklands, etc. Enjoy a late fall walk in this section of the Don Valley where red-tailed hawks and mallards spend the winter. (See maps on page 4 and page 6 ; also letter on page 11; news, 22.)
- Thursday  
Nov. 12  
1:30 pm
- EAST DON VALLEY - nature walk  
East Don, North York  
Leaders: Margaret Canning & Jean Orpwood  
Meet at the park entrance on the north side of Sheppard Ave. East just west of Leslie Street. A parking lot and washroom are located at the entrance.  
We will be following the park path north, looking for birds and late flowers.
- Saturday  
Nov. 14  
9:30 am
- EARL BALES PARK - trees  
West Don, North York  
Leader: Bill Morsink  
Meet at the community centre at the north end of the park which is located on the east side of Bathurst Street just south of Sheppard Ave. West. Morning only.  
Learn to identify the trees of our region and learn what other trees are often planted and why.



from a report of the Task Force to Bring Back the Don

## NOVEMBER OUTINGS (cont'd)

- Sunday  
Nov. 15  
11 am  
HUMBER BAY PARK - birds  
Leader: Helen Smith  
Lakeshore, Etobicoke  
Meet at the park entrance on the south side of Lake Shore Blvd.  
West opposite Park Lawn Rd.  
We will be looking for winter birds including waterfowl which gather in the bays of this lakefill park. It can be very cold at this park so wear layers of warm clothes and bring a hot drink and a snack.
- Thursday  
Nov. 19  
10 am  
ROYAL WINTER FAIR - nature arts  
Leader: Diana Banville  
Lakeshore, Toronto  
Meet inside the main entrance to the coliseum (near Bathurst streetcar terminal in the CNE grounds, east entrance).  
\$ admission  
Bring camera or sketching materials and stool. Lunch optional. Whatever the weather members can enjoy sketching plants and animals being shown or take photos or just enjoy the show.
- Saturday  
Nov. 21  
1:30 pm  
URBAN STREETS - human & natural heritage  
Leader: Ken Cook  
Toronto  
Meet at the southeast corner of Broadview and Danforth. Walk will end at a different public transit stop.  
We will be looking at old houses, previous quarry sites and the tree that inspired the song "The Maple Leaf Forever". (See page 26.)
- Thursday  
Nov. 26  
10:30 am  
CHAPMAN CREEK - nature walk  
Leader: Elly Elder  
Humber, Etobicoke  
Meet on the west side of Scarlett Rd. at Chapman Rd. which is several blocks north of Eglinton Ave. West. Bring lunch.  
We will be following the creek west looking at the picturesque shale beds and fossils as well as for birds, etc. (Lunch will be indoors.)
- Saturday  
Nov. 28  
11 am  
U of T GREENHOUSES - exotic plants  
Leader: Dr. Nick Badenhuizen  
Toronto  
Meet at the greenhouse entrance on the north side of College Street, west of University Ave. Entrance is on the west side of the greenhouses. Morning only.  
These greenhouses have been part of the University of Toronto Botany Dept. for many years and have a very fine collection of interesting plants. □

## THE NORWAY MAPLE

*Don't miss the sunshine tree!  
As I stepped out the door this morning  
the Norway maple looked like a  
yellow ball of sunshine.  
It waits until these early November days  
when all the other colour is gone  
and trees around it are bare  
to release  
the sunshine it has absorbed.*

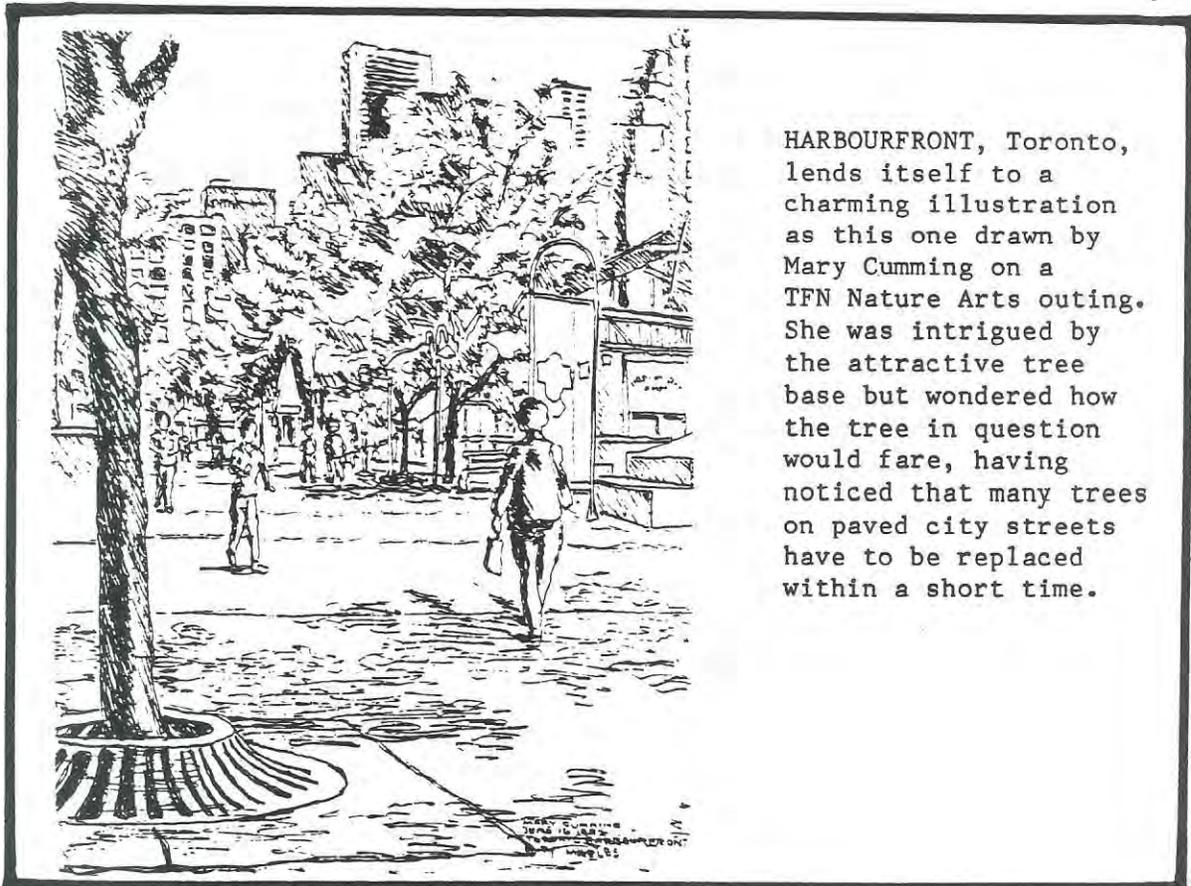
*Sr. Margaret Banville*

## KEEPING IN TOUCH

September 1992

The Canadian Nature Federation's new program BIRDQUEST is off to a flying start. Designed for both children of all ages and adults, this program teaches bird identification and conservation through classroom activities and field trips. Students are rewarded with a badge and a certificate for each of six levels of proficiency. To earn a badge, students must be able to identify a certain number of birds and learn about classification anatomy and other aspects of bird biology. They are also required to participate in conservation activities which include habitat improvement and bird surveys. The BIRDQUEST kit contains everything an instructor will need. It includes resource material, a suggested activities section and a list of references as well as a video for visual aid. Users so far include interpretation centres, primary and secondary school teachers, scout and guide troupes and individuals, including one father who plans to teach it to the neighbourhood children. The entire program is available for \$49.95 (plus taxes and shipping) from the Canadian Nature Federation, 453 Sussex Dr., Ottawa, Ont. K1N 6Z4. If you have any questions, or need further information, please call me at 1-800-267-4088 (toll free) or fax (613) 230-2054.

Cendrine Huemer, Program Assistant  
Canadian Nature Federation



HARBOURFRONT, Toronto, lends itself to a charming illustration as this one drawn by Mary Cumming on a TFN Nature Arts outing. She was intrigued by the attractive tree base but wondered how the tree in question would fare, having noticed that many trees on paved city streets have to be replaced within a short time.

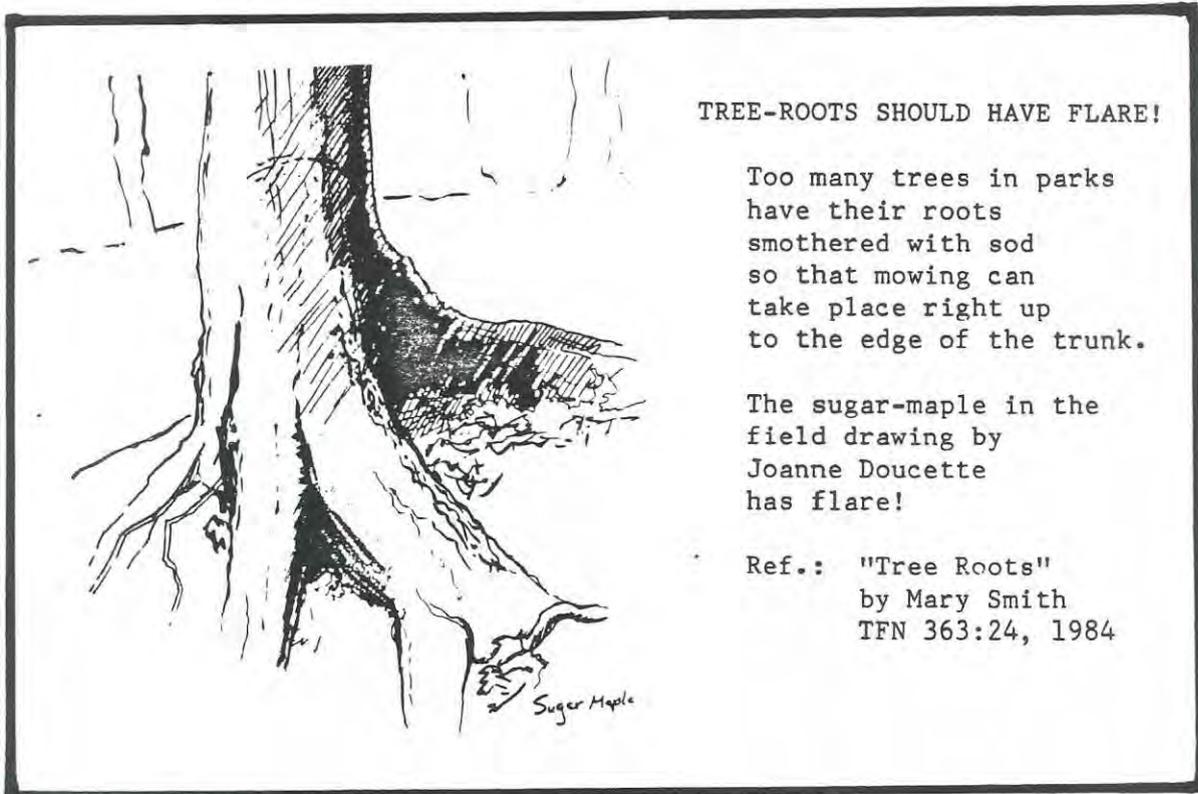
KEEPING IN TOUCH (cont'd)

Sept. 9, 1992

This week I noticed that a large Sugar Maple has been removed and two mature White Elms are dying in one block of Mount Pleasant Road alone! I would urge [each of you] to request street tree plantings for next Spring in front of [your] home and business. This re-planting is vitally important, especially in the City of Toronto, and Toronto Parks and Recreation staff will plant for free on the city boulevard. Thank you for your assistance, which is greatly appreciated.

William B. Granger, Chairman  
Metro Toronto & Region Conservation Authority

Comment: See page 17 for springtime tree planting suggestions recommended by Bill Granger.



TREE-ROOTS SHOULD HAVE FLARE!

Too many trees in parks have their roots smothered with sod so that mowing can take place right up to the edge of the trunk.

The sugar-maple in the field drawing by Joanne Doucette has flare!

Ref.: "Tree Roots"  
by Mary Smith  
TFN 363:24, 1984

Sept. 1992

TORONTO FIELD NATURALIST 427, April 1992 has been in my "miscellaneous" pile for about a month (when I finally got around to reading recent issues) to reply to your "Toronto Region Wildlife Report". My apologies for the delay, but I have been working on terns at Leslie Street Spit seven days a week since late April, and my "spare" time has been largely taken up with a report on our 1992 research in Cuba, proposals for next winter's work in Cuba and a plethora of less time-consuming things... I noticed Black Tern among your missing ten bird species. In 1991, I was also working at the Spit seven days a week, and had two observations there of Black Terns...[three May 24 and one June 14]...I hope this belated report is of some use to you...Keep up the good work!

Martin K. McNicholl

KEEPING IN TOUCH (cont'd)

Sept. 27, 1992

Enclosed is a piece I've written about Altona Forest. based on an Oct. 6, 1991 field trip to the area. I wanted to inform the TFN of recent developments in the Forest. It now appears that only a massive amount of publicity aimed at getting the Province to undertake a full Environmental Assessment of the area can save the Altona Forest.

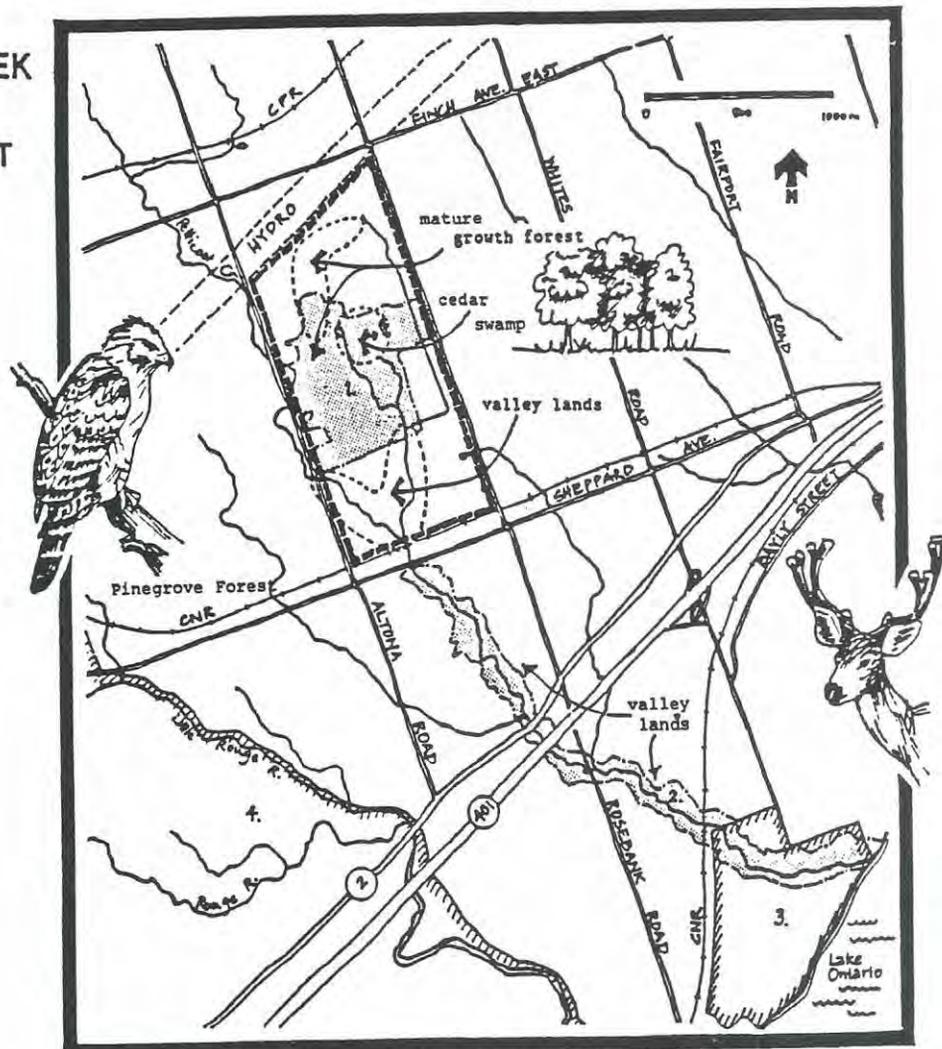
On Sept. 21, 1992 Pickering Council approved an Official Plan amendment [OPA] which gives Bramalea developers the go-ahead to develop all but nineteen hectares of the forest. Both the MTRCA [local conservation authority] and the MNR [Ministry of Natural Resources] have stated that the retention of nineteen hectares will not suffice to maintain the forest's biological or hydrological features. Pickering approved the OPA despite the fact that MOE [Ministry of Environment] is presently trying to decide whether a full EA [Environmental Assessment] should be launched. MOE's decision, should it decide in favour of an EA, would over-ride the town's position.

[See pages 19-20.]

James Garratt

PETTICOAT CREEK  
and  
ALTONA FOREST

→ Rouge-Duffin  
Corridor



-  E.S.A.'s 1. Altona Forest
-  PARES 2. Petticoat Creek
-  3. Petticoat Creek Conservation Area
-  4. Rouge Park (part of proposed Rouge Valley Park)
-  ALTONA FOREST STUDY AREA



## KEEPING IN TOUCH (cont'd)

Sept. 16, 1992

I was pleased to join you at the meeting on September 8 to hear the concerns of individuals and groups opposed to the Leslie Street Extension and Bayview widening.

At the request of the Minister, I would like to advise you that the province will not be providing financial support for the Environmental Hearing.

Your efforts and interest in this project have underlined the potential adverse effects it would have on the environment and the character of the surrounding community. These are valid concerns which have not been fully addressed during the preparation of the Environmental Assessment report. The Minister's office has also heard by phone and letter from numerous individuals and groups concerned that the project will create additional traffic congestion resulting in community and environmental impacts. It is the Minister's considered opinion that the study failed to substantiate the seriousness of the problem and how the recommended roadway extension and widening would resolve it.

Until these issues have been properly addressed, the province will not be supporting the project. Mr. Tonks has been advised that should Metro Council decide to proceed with the Environmental Hearing on September 21, the province will make its views heard.

Thank you for getting involved in this project and I hope you continue your efforts to ensure the project does not proceed unless the social, environmental and community impacts have been properly addressed.

Lito Romano, Special Assistant  
Special Projects and Members' Liaison  
Office of the Minister  
Ministry of Transportation, Ontario

Comment: See outing and maps (pages 3,4,5) and news item (page 22). Members are urged to write Metro's Chairman and Councillors and express your views on Metro's plan to extend Leslie Street. Write to Metro Clerk's Dept., Stn. 1071, 7th floor, Metro Hall, 55 John St., Toronto, Ont. M5V 3C6. □

I am convinced our attack on the ecological crisis of the planet must be focused on where we live -- our blocks, neighbourhood and communities. That is where we can empower ourselves by becoming more self-governing, self-sufficient and responsible for our environment.

from "Responsibility begins at home" by David Suzuki in the LONDON FREE PRESS, Mar. 9, 1991

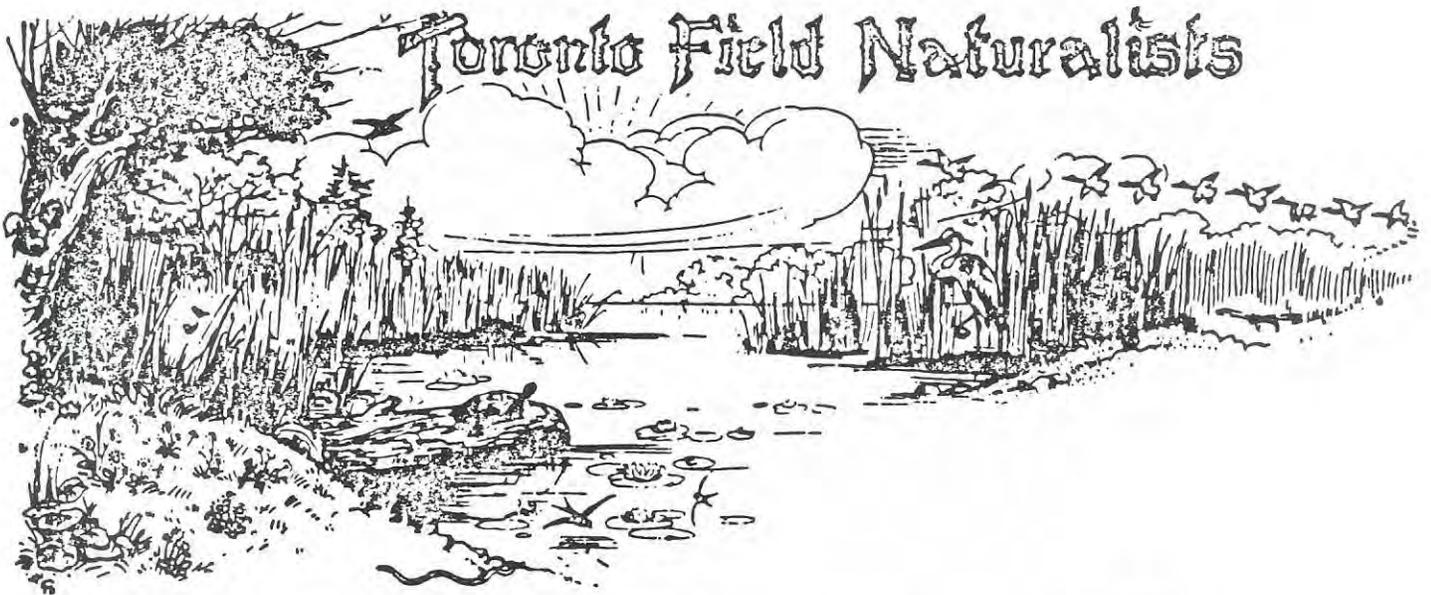
The river goes where  
it wants to. If I were a  
river, so would I.

haiku by Betty Paul & Diana Banville  
Moccasin Trail, April 8, 1992

TIME FOR A CHANGE?

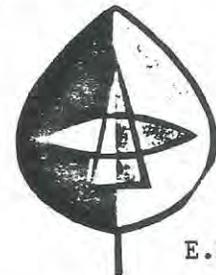
It has been suggested that the Toronto Field Naturalists employ a new logo in keeping with today's environmental climate. Members are cordially invited to submit designs which they feel typify the Toronto Field Naturalists.

The following design by Dr. E.M. Walker appeared on all newsletters of the club from December 1946 to May 1970.



The logo at the right was designed by Eric Nasmith. The floral and faunal interests of TFN are represented by a stylized leaf and bird. It has been used on TFN publications and correspondence since October 1970.

▷ Please send your designs to the TFN at 20 College St., Unit 11, Toronto, Ont. M5G 1K2.



E.D.



Mature trees are very susceptible to changes in the water table. A major cause of death on development sites is the raising of ground levels. Perhaps official protection through tree preservation orders aggravates the problem by offering a false sense of security to all parties. All too rarely do the planners, the politicians or the developers go back to see just how their carefully conserved trees have fared. For real protection right through the development of a site, everyone of us needs to keep an eye on anyone who looks like dumping or digging close to trees, and society needs the guts to insist that trees are too important to be squeezed out, just to make way for a couple of houses too many.

extracted from "House falls on tree" by Chris Baines in BBC WILDLIFE, Vol. 8, No. 9, Sept. 1990

## BIRD REPORT

What does a leader do on a bird outing at the Island, with practically no birds: Read on. And why was there such a paucity of birds on Sept. 6th, right in the good migration period for so many of the shorebirds, hawks, and insect eating songbirds, like flycatchers and warblers? Here are some thoughts on the matter: shorebirds -- there were people on the beach at Hanlan's Point -- obviously disturbing, and yes, the starting time [of the outing] was late for shorebirds, but one had to consider the Sunday TTC schedule, and the distances some participants have to travel; hawks -- well they prefer a northerly or north-west wind for fall migration and what wind we had was from the southeast; songbirds -- nearly all the swallows have already departed, and rain the previous night would have grounded the other small birds, which are night-migrators. But why hadn't any been grounded at Hanlan's Point, the Island School, or the part of the so-called Nature Reserve that we traversed? One red-eyed vireo and a couple of movements in the dense dogwood hedge behind the Island School fence were our only possibilities in that category. And the ear-splitting roars from planes overhead must bother birds as much as it does us. (Yes, the Ex Airshow was on, along the waterfront -- why doesn't one think of that two months earlier when the outing is booked by the committee? Ah well, live and learn -- and hopefully remember.) Other factors -- poor breeding season due to the cold, cold weather earlier in the summer, and also the fact that birds are disappearing, period.

The 18 species tallied were all later migrants, with a couple of year-round residents. Our only hawk, a broad-winged, was first seen perched atop the Airport fence and must have been in trouble, because as he left, we could distinctly hear a bell, or something jangling -- from his leg?

So what does a leader do when birds are scarce? We look at flowers, we look at some trees and shrubs, we look at sand dunes, and everywhere we see migrating butterflies. (One memory picture -- in the Nature Reserve, along a ten-foot section of path, six boneset plants in bloom, with a Monarch sipping nectar from each.) Finally, we enjoyed the walk in the outdoors, each as far as time etc. permits, not to mention the free train ride back to the Hanlan's ferry, and the seat on the ferry heading home!

Helen Smith

from a TFN leader's report submitted for the outing of Sept. 6, 1992

□

### BUTTERFLY

*Zip! Split! Look what I've done -  
cracked my back to a forceful sun.*

*Sizz! Bask! All dry. So bright,  
Spread my wings into wind - oh! Flight.*

Karen Parker

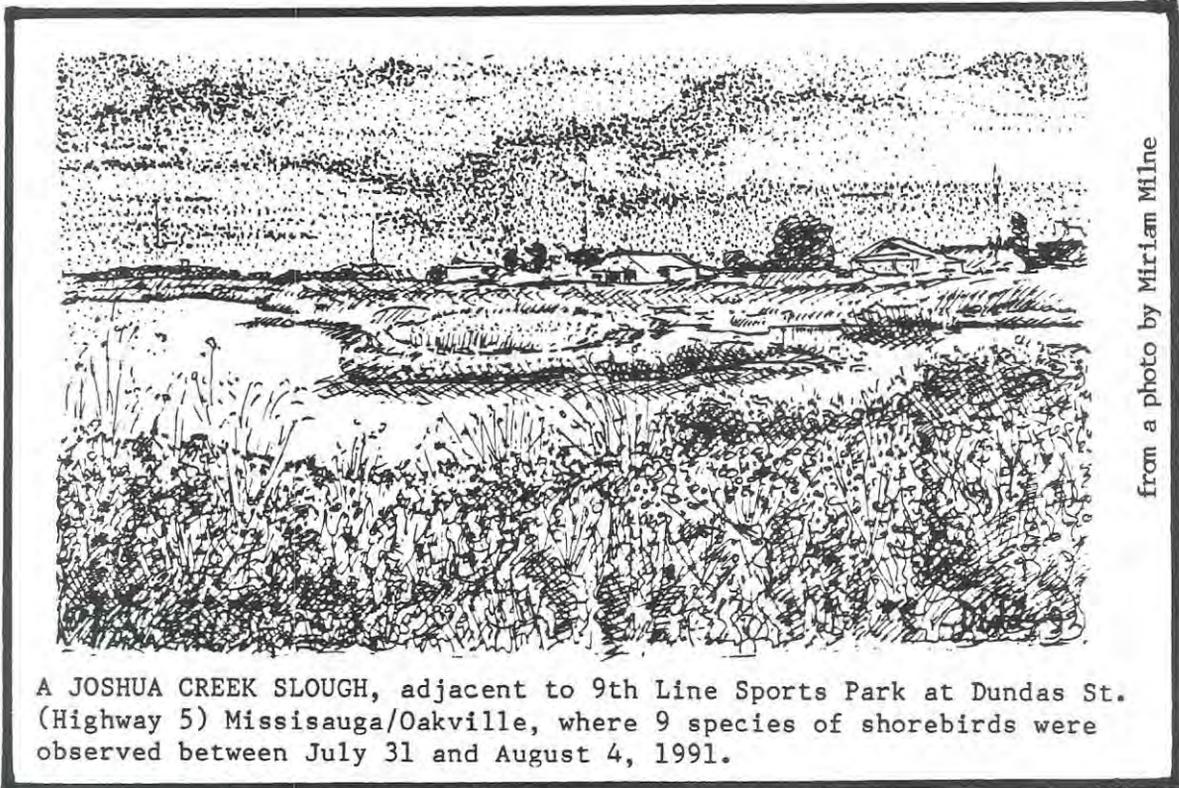
## TERN NESTING RAFTS '92

The Leslie Street spit was once the location of the most significant colony of common terns on Lake Ontario, with about 1500 pairs nesting in 1977. After predators, vegetative growth and erosion reduced nesting to only a few pairs, the Canadian Wildlife Service and the Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority attempted to partially restore this nesting population by providing them with four rafts -- basically artificial nesting islands. These "islands" were accepted by the terns when first placed out in 1990, and the rafts have since been used in 1991 and again in 1992.

To prevent colonization by gulls and geese, the rafts are kept out of the water until the terns begin intensive courtship, a period in which they aggressively defend their chosen nest sites from all other species. In 1992, the first two rafts were installed in embayment D on May 1, and the second two in cell 1 on May 7. The terns started courting and nest-scraping on the rafts shortly after installation, and the first nest was started on May 8. Eventually, 79 to 86 nest-sites were occupied per raft (329 nest-sites in total) and about 500 chicks fledged. In contrast, only two of about 30 mainland nests on the spit and adjacent marina reached the hatching stage, and the chicks from these probably did not survive. These results and other observations indicate that conditions for tern nesting at Tommy Thompson Park are good if suitable nest-sites are provided.

an article by Martin K. McNicholl in the Tommy Thompson Park newsletter, Vol. 7, No. 1, Sept. 1992 (a publication of MIRCA)

□



from a photo by Miriam Milne

A JOSHUA CREEK SLOUGH, adjacent to 9th Line Sports Park at Dundas St. (Highway 5) Mississauga/Oakville, where 9 species of shorebirds were observed between July 31 and August 4, 1991.

## FOR READING

AUTUMN LEAVES: A GUIDE TO THE FALL COLORS OF THE NORTHWOODS by Ronald M. Lanner, published by NorthWord Press, Inc., 1990. \$19.95 U.S.

Viewing the fall colours is an annual tradition for the legions of tourists and locals who pour onto the roads and trails to savour this dazzling photosynthetic extravaganza. But how many are concerned with the natural history of trees at this time of year?

The Northwoods which AUTUMN LEAVES refers to ranges from the western Great Lakes region to the Atlantic coast. The book starts with the premise that fall is the time of year when people most notice trees and the author uses this as a starting point to convey his love of the subject to his readers.

The book is divided into three chapters. The first deals with why leaves change colour. Following a detailed explanation, the author suggests some of the best areas for "leaf peeping" and even includes government hotlines to call for up-to-the-minute progress on the fall colours. Finally, a number of interesting investigative projects are presented for the serious chlorophyll detective to explore.

The middle chapter describes "the major three species contributing to the great fall spectacle in our region". Accompanying the excellent colour plates of leaves, branches and trees strutting their autumn finest is a fascinating text covering the ecology, natural history and human history of each species. The final chapter offers a similar treatment of the "cone-bearing trees associated with the brilliant broadleaves".

In all, the guide deals with 72 tree species (some, like red-osier dogwood, are actually shrubs). It contains no keys or lengthy physical descriptions as in a standard tree guide. But it does contain a wealth of information which will provide hours of enjoyable reading.

Richard Aaron

Comment: The above is available, on sale,  
for \$12.95 at Open Air Books & Maps, 55 Adelaide St. East.

TFN LIBRARY ACQUISITIONS: Between January and August of 1992, TFN has acquired an unusually extensive list of books and other literature. The bulk of this material has come from the estates of Emily Hamilton and Dennis Clarke, on many aspects of botany but on other aspects of nature as well. We are keeping a collection of reference material at the office: Books, as well as files of checklists, records, reports, papers, unpublished manuscripts, booklets, folders, clippings and artwork. If you are studying any aspect of natural history, you may arrange to examine these materials by calling the office, 968-6255. Some may be borrowed. While at the office, you may wish to examine materials for distribution to appropriate libraries, including those of our members. Donations to TFN Library have helped in preparation of TFN publications. We wish to thank all our donors. (At present we are preparing a checklist of Toronto mosses. If you should come across a copy of *MOSESSES WITH A HAND-LENS* by A. J. Grout - any edition - please let us know.) If you would like to discuss recent acquisitions or availability of Natural History books in Toronto, call Diana Banville at 690-1963.

DB

□

## OUTINGS REPORT

To help everyone of us enjoy TFN outings, please note the following:

- TFN outings take place whatever the weather. Call 676-3066 for up-to-date weather information.
- For TTC information, call 393-INFO.
- Outings start on time. Don't be late.
- Walks begin and end at the same location unless indicated otherwise.
- Bring a notebook and pencil so you can look up what you have learned when you get home.
- Children are welcome on all outings; also, visitors.
- Please leave pets at home.
- Get yourself a FREE TTC ride-guide and a MAPART map of Metro Toronto.

▷ If you want to lead or have suggestions about leaders or places to go, please leave a message at the TFN office.

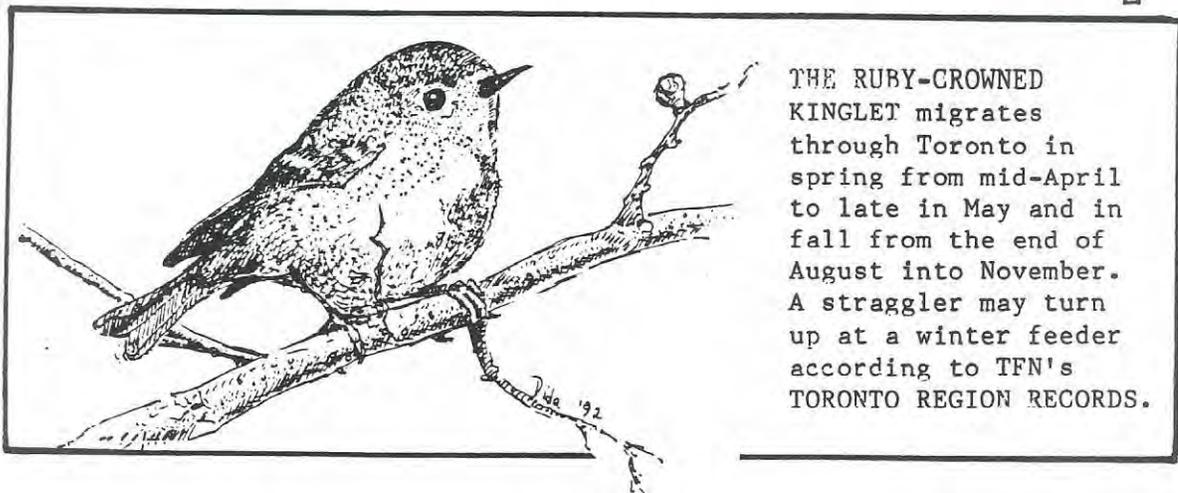
Mid-week outings, including mid-week nature arts outings, are now being arranged by Ann Millett. (Betty Paul has retired after several years of arranging imaginative mid-week nature arts outings.) Outings may be Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays from now on and the time of the outing is the leader's choice. So read your newsletter carefully before setting off. Sandy Cappell is making the arrangements for the weekend outings. Also on the committee are Robin Powell, Ken Cook, Nancy Fredenburg, Eileen Mayo, Helen Juhola and Mary Cumming (who arranges a nature arts outing for the first Saturday of each month).

After seven years of sending out and receiving leaders' reports from outings, Joyce Cave has retired. Eileen Mayo has taken over this volunteer position. Information in the reports is examined carefully by Diana Banville who then reports to us periodically on the state of the environment as reported by our leaders. Suggestions for leaders, etc. in the reports are considered by the outings' committee members at their meetings. All reports are stored in the TFN office where they may be examined on request by anyone doing research on Toronto's natural heritage.

Anyone interested in out-of-town outings, other than to our own nature reserve, should read page 29 where opportunities are listed.

H.J.

□



# PROJECTS

## STREET TREE PLANTING RECOMMENDATIONS

The City of Toronto must have planting requests and payment for balled and burlapped trees before February 15 for spring planting (and August 15 for fall planting). This is so that the appropriate number of trees can be ordered and clearances be obtained from the utility companies and other civic departments before holes can be dug for the trees. Any requests received after these dates will be deferred until the following planting season. Bare root trees are planted free of charge. Balled and burlapped trees can be planted at a cost to the owner of \$125.00. Payment must be made by certified cheque or money order, and is to be made payable to the City Treasurer of Toronto and sent to Mr. Herb Pirk, Commissioner, Department of Parks and Recreation, 21st floor, East Tower, City Hall, Toronto M5H 2N2.

The following tree species can be planted only in the spring:

Hackberry - columnar form, dense foliage, deep green.

Red Oak - balled and burlapped only - large relatively fast-growing. Dense, shade. Excellent red fall colour.

The following tree species are preferably planted in the spring:

Turkish Hazel - columnar, narrow - good alternative to Littleleaf Linden.

English Oak - broad, dense shade - hardy, but poor fall colour.

The following tree species are planted during the spring and fall seasons:

Green Ash - vigorous, dense growth.

Shubert Cherry - red foliage, white bloom, useful under hydro wires.

Japanese Tree Lilac - white bloom, single stem - short tree, very hardy.

Ornamental Pear - smaller tree - excellent orange/red fall colour.

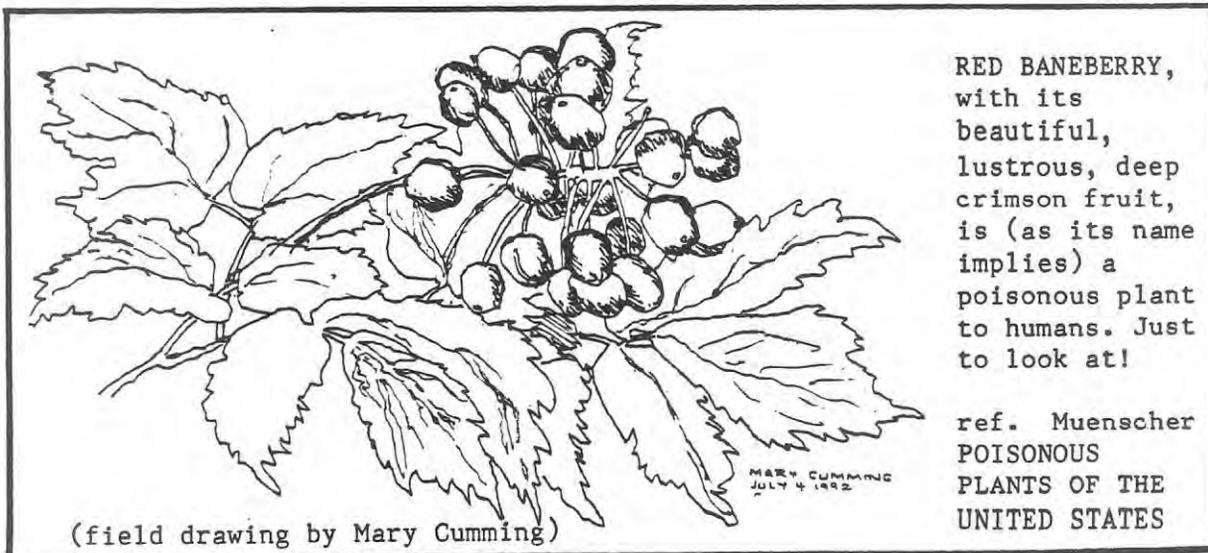
Ginkgo - prehistoric virtually disease-free, beautiful bright yellow fall colour.

Sugar Maple - excellent native tree, brilliant fall foliage.

Note: Keep lawnmowers and string trimmers away from the base of young trees -- the bark will be flayed off and trees will die. (Instruct your gardeners!)

extracted from a City of Toronto Urban Forestry Section information sheet

□



(field drawing by Mary Cumming)

RED BANEERRY,  
with its  
beautiful,  
lustrous, deep  
crimson fruit,  
is (as its name  
implies) a  
poisonous plant  
to humans. Just  
to look at!

ref. Muenscher  
POISONOUS  
PLANTS OF THE  
UNITED STATES

PROJECTS (cont'd)

ADOPT A VALLEY OR A STREAM CORRIDOR

For several years, residents of the communities surrounding Sherwood Park have been expressing concerns about the deterioration of the ecological systems in Sherwood Park. Sherwood Park is located north of Eglinton Ave. East, west of Bayview Ave., south of Blythwood Rd. and east of Mt. Pleasant Rd. It is a relatively small park but possesses beautiful old growth remnant woods along its steep ravines.

The Sherwood Park Resident's Association Environment Committee is working with the Department of Parks and Recreation (City of Toronto) on an ecologically sound management plan intended to ensure the ecological well being and sustainability of the Park's woods.

An important feature of Sherwood Park is a stream which runs the length of the Park, formerly called Burke Brooke, now called the North Toronto Storm Sewer. This stream, which is extensively channelized and polluted, ultimately flows into the Don River.

As a part of the management plan, guidelines for the management of the stream flowing through the park are being developed which will help to ensure that the ecological links between the woods and the stream are recreated and preserved. In addition, an inventory (environmental data collection) of the Park's natural environment features, its recreational and educational resources and Park user patterns will be undertaken in the near future.

At the moment, a tree and shrub education and planting activity along the stream, involving local residents and students from local schools, is being planned for late October. For more information please call Deborah Butterfield, Chairperson of the Environmental Committee at 480-2312.

Projects such as the Sherwood Park Residents' Association's tree and shrub education and planting activity is a good example of the kind of projects that the Don Watershed Task Force will be encouraging and assisting over the next 15 months.

from ON THE DON, Vol. 1, No. 3, Sept. 1992 (a Conservation Authority publication - MTRCA)

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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 11  
Toronto, Ont. M5G 1K2

## ALTONA FOREST

An old oak tree had been reported "somewhere near the centre" of the Altona Forest in Pickering. Several visits by local naturalists had failed to actually locate this oak. Now I hoped to try my luck at finding this legendary tree.

I entered the Altona Forest on its east side, from Rosebank Road. The forest was surrounded by new subdivisions. Rosebank Road itself was dug-up and closed in preparation for installation of storm-sewers. I walked down a grassy ditch -- one of several artificial channels that cut through Altona with the intention of lowering the forest's water-table and thus making it more suitable to development -- and on the other side of the ditch I entered a dense stand of eastern white cedars. This forest type covered about one-fifth of Altona's 130 hectare area. The cedars appeared healthy, unaffected as yet by the attempts to alter the area's drainage patterns.

The raw newness of the surrounding suburbs was hidden by the cedars, and their green boughs muffled the busy sounds of the city. Underfoot, the thin stony soil was strewn with newly fallen cedar leaves which cushioned every footfall. The only sound was of a light rain falling, whispering through the cedars and bringing their fragrance onto the cool October air. Then a ruffed grouse flew up closeby, startling with its suddenness. At the grouse's flight a blue jay called loudly overhead.

I continued west into the cedars, aiming for the forest's centre, where the elusive oak might be. Soon I came to a wide survey line recently cut, north-south, through the cedars. I stopped to count the annual rings on several of the freshly-cut stumps, and arrived at an age of fifty to seventy years for the cedar stand. I wondered at the cedars' continued security, though, since their shallow root systems made them very susceptible to wind-throw. Even the survey line's relatively minor opening could lead to disastrous consequences for the entire stand.

Leaving the survey line I made my way among the closely-spaced trunks. I was increasingly impressed by the stand's extent and quality, and by the fact that it represented an upland forest type. Cedar groves are often found on the bottomlands of neighbouring river valleys -- i.e. the Rouge -- but rarely on the uplands. Losing this stand to development, would be to lose one of the best examples of upland cedar forest in the region.

A clearing became visible ahead. I emerged from the cedars into a small wetland. Tall cattails, now a fading green, stood before me. No open water was apparent (in October), but closer inspection revealed dried duckweed on the soil: water would accumulate here in spring and summer. I realized that this diminutive wetland secreted within and protected by the upland cedar forest, was a source of the Petticoat Creek which drained south to Lake Ontario. And as I glanced around its perimeter, I noticed that above the conical crowns of the cedars on the opposite side, the gnarled branches of a large oak spread. Could it be the oak which I'd come to find, but had almost forgotten among the other tantalizing features of the Altona?

Skirting the wetland edge, I came to the oak. I felt certain this was the long-lost tree. It measured about four feet (dbh) [diameter at breast height], and appeared to be in excess of two hundred years old. After

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## ALTONA FOREST (cont'd)

examining the large size and shallow cups of the acorns scattered beneath the oak, I concluded that it was the sometimes recognized northern subspecies of red oak: *Quercus rubra* var. *borealis* (Michx.f.) Farw. It was situated on a slight rise of ground adjacent to the wetland, but still within the cedar forest. Perhaps a squirrel, several centuries ago, had dropped the acorn here which gave birth to this tree on a rather unusual site (oaks are more often found on drier, open areas).

Encouraged by the oak, I continued on into the forest. Northwest of the oak I came upon a second wetland. This one had fewer cattails and more of a meadowy appearance. I paused to examine deer tracks at the wetland's edge. It was exceptional that such large mammals could dwell here, virtually surrounded by urbanization. Indeed, Doris and Murray Speirs who have lived for decades on the edge of the Altona Forest, reported other large mammals such as bear and brush wolves. These mammals are dependent on the forest's size and integrity for survival.

From the wet meadow, I swung north. The cedars gave way to an open field; and as I emerged from the trees, a woodcock flew up on whistling wings. Out on the field another bird caught my attention. It was a buteo flying low over trees to the west. Hurriedly I adjusted my binoculars, but not in time to confirm whether it was a nationally rare red-shouldered hawk.

At the northern edge of the field, sugar maples and other hardwoods grew tall. Many of their leaves had turned crimson with the autumn. As I approached the hardwoods I noticed a large stick nest high up in a black cherry; could it be a red-shouldered hawk's nest? (This species is reported to nest regularly in the Altona Forest area.)

As I followed a trail eastward along the 'edge' of the forest where it met the field, I found much white pine regeneration; most of the pine saplings were four to five years old. White pine is notoriously difficult to regenerate, and these Altona pines represented a significant white pine 'nursery'. Additionally, I knew that the Altona Forest contained further diversity which I'd not seen. For instance, the presence of balsam fir in some sections of the forest added a boreal element, while the occurrence of eastern red cedar, along with a neighbouring population in the Rouge Valley, constituted an extension of that species' known range.

Flitting among the pines and bushes along the trail which led back toward Rosebank Road were white-throated sparrows. They were feeding and resting on their journey south for the winter. The sparrows were only briefly visiting the Altona Forest which, nonetheless, played an essential and vital part in their lives.

James Garratt

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THE SPRING PEEPER is uncommon in Metro according to Bob Johnson's AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES IN METROPOLITAN TORONTO. Its early spring mating call is "a clear, loud peep emitted at one-second intervals." Write to Bob at Metro Zoo, Box 280, West Hill, Ont., M1E 4R5, with reports of any amphibian and reptile observations, or call him at 392-5900 (evenings 839-7139).



## IN PRAISE OF CITYSCAPES

...Rather than attempt to mirror a mythical countryside, our urban walks should unashamedly set out to confront the inner city landscape and the experiences of the people who inhabit it. They should be explorations which help to uncover hidden facets of our own history as well as the amazingly diverse natural history of even the most hostile environments. Planners and walkers should think of urban walking as a celebration of the city and not as an escape from it...We should be encouraging all walkers to discover the possibilities of urban exploration; not as a replacement for country walking but as a different, an additional experience. We need to become activists on our home patches -- discovering paths, researching their history and natural history, ensuring their protection and looking to create new routes. It is only by exploring, rather than avoiding, our cities that we make them more satisfying places in which to live.

extracted from an article by Bob Gilbert in RAMBLING TODAY, Spring 1992, Issue No. 4

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In this field drawing by Mary Cumming in Queen's Park, overlooking University of Toronto campus, the tree featured has since died as a result of damage caused by work to install seating around the base of the trunk.



Snow? Oh, no! Its just  
the redpolls in the birches  
raining down the chaff.

haiku by Diana Banville  
Taylor Creek Park  
November 17, 1991

## IN THE NEWS

### BERRY SHORTAGE COULD CAUSE BEARS TO ABORT THIS FALL

Alberta's grizzly and black bears, already endangered by increased poaching, face another threat this winter. Biologists say many female bears will likely abort their fetuses in mid-November because they've been unable to fatten up on sugar-laden huckleberries and buffalo berries this summer and fall. Although berry seasons often fluctuate, provincial and federal officials say the summer of 1992 is the worst in memory. Exceptionally warm May temperatures prompted most berry patches to blossom early. That was followed by a hard, killing frost. Bears breed in the spring, but their internal organs delay implant -- usually until November, when their hibernating bodies react to how well they fed the previous year. Little fat buildup often results in abortions.

extracted from an article in the TORONTO STAR, Aug. 29, 1992

### MUTANT FUNGUS

The popular Russian summertime sport of mushroom gathering is being disrupted by an outbreak of poisoning caused by eating mysterious mutations of the fungus. Hundreds of people have fallen ill across the country after eating normally safe varieties. Researchers say that for some unknown reason, a toxin found in the white toadstool is also being formed by the mutant mushrooms.

from the TORONTO STAR, Aug. 15, 1992

### SIGNS INDICATE CAR-FREE CITIES AHEAD

Supporters of car-free cities are getting encouragement from the European Community. A recent study by an Italian institute concluded that city centres ought to be out of bounds to cars and a network of complementary alternatives should be created. It said attempts to adapt cities to cars had achieved only negative results. Transportation systems in car-free modern cities would be at least 50 per cent cheaper and perhaps as much as 80 per cent cheaper than the cost of roads, bridges, underpasses, traffic lights and parking spaces, the study said. (A comprehensive City of Toronto report on automobile use released last September said drivers should voluntarily reduce their personal car use by 20 per cent to help battle air pollution and traffic congestion. It also called on governments to slash automobile emissions by improving public transit, promoting bicycle use, making life easier for pedestrians and putting more people into the central area.)

extracted from an article by Ute Meinel in the TORONTO STAR, Aug. 15, 1992

### EXTENDING LESLIE STREET

Metro Chairman Alan Tonks is understandably wary about proceeding with a costly environmental hearing next month into the Leslie Street extension. A year ago, Metro reaffirmed its 20-year-old plan to extend Leslie St. south of Eglinton to Bayview Ave. But last fall, a scathing review of the project from the provincial environment ministry put the future of the 3.2-kilometre, four-lane road extension in doubt. The cost: \$141 million!

extracted from the TORONTO STAR editorial, Aug. 26, 1992

## IN THE NEWS (cont'd)

## FLORAFRONT

Weather forecasters in Japan tracked the movement of an annual front as it spread northward across a nation celebrating a festive and colourful holiday period. The leading edge of the cherry blossom front is plotted each spring on television and in newspapers, adding a modern sense of urgency to the age-old Japanese springtime custom of lying in the park, contemplating flowers, singing, and drinking rice wine. Maps like those used to plot storms show the front's progress for those planning "hanami" or flower-watching parties. This year's early blossoming has caused problems for festival organizers who set their dates long in advance according to traditional calculations.

from the TORONTO STAR, March 28, 1992

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## OUT OF SEASON

Cherry trees across parts of southern Japan have erupted into full bloom more than six months early. Weather experts believe the untimely display was caused by typhoon Janis, which blew off leaves as it hit the region last month, fooling the trees into thinking it was springtime. "They mistook the falling of the leaves for natural defoliation," said a Japan Weather Association spokesperson. Spring, which starts in February in subtropical Okinawa and May in northern Japan, is the proper season for the cherry blossoms.

from the TORONTO STAR, Sept. 12, 1992

## LEAVE YOUR TURTLE AT HOME

The Allan Gardens management has a request: When you come to visit, don't bring your turtle. It seems people have been getting rid of their unwanted pets by dumping them in the goldfish pond in the conservatory. Perhaps they figure the environment is safer than Lake Ontario for the tropical amphibians. But the goldfish don't agree. The turtles eat them. In one two-week period staff pulled out 18 turtles.

extracted from TORONTO GARDENS, Vol. 1, No. 2, Sept. 1992

## SHOE BANDIT

For months, residents of Santa Barbara, Calif., wondered why their sneakers would disappear when left outside to dry. Gary Johnson, who had lost three pairs to the overnight thief, rigged an alarm to some old shoes and hung them in front of his bedroom window. The very first night he was awakened and saw a fox making off with the footwear. Johnson later discovered the animal's lair in a nearby gorge and found a supply of shoes worthy of a Philippine first lady. The fox had filched 84 pairs and 130 single shoes, as well as several issues of the Los Angeles Times and The Wall Street Journal. Experts speculated that the animal needed salt, and was able to get it from the sweaty shoes. They were unable to tell what it got out of the newspapers.

from the LONDON FREE PRESS, July 25, 1992

IN THE NEWS (cont'd)

CORNELL ORNITHOLOGISTS WARN AGAINST ANTIFREEZE CHEMICAL IN BIRD BATHS

Articles in magazines and newspapers around the country have recommended using glycerine, an alcohol-like chemical, as a bird-bath antifreeze.

Cornell ornithologists conducted experiments and consulted with wildlife veterinarians. They found two problems with using glycerine in bird baths:

- Rather large concentrations of glycerine must be used to prevent a water bath from freezing. Glycerine is a low-level toxin and has a sweet taste. Birds that ingest large amounts of the substance will experience elevated blood sugar levels, causing hyperglycemia and possibly death.
- Many birds bathe and preen themselves in cold weather. If enough glycerine is used to prevent the water from freezing, it causes the feathers to mat. Birds bathe and preen to enhance the insulation value of their feathers. Matted feathers are poor insulators and can be fatal in cold temperatures.

A better solution to the frozen bird bath problem is an electric immersion-style heater, which costs only pennies per day to operate. More information on providing a watering hole is available by sending a stamped self-addressed envelope (international postal coupon required) to: Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, EIS Dept. N4C, 159 Sapsucker Woods Road, Ithaca, N.Y. 14850, U.S.A.

a release from the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology

WILDLIFE CENTRE CLOSE TO DYING

Metro's only wildlife rehabilitation centre faces almost certain closure. WILDCARE which treats about 500 injured and orphaned animals every year on four acres (1.6 hectares) of leased land just off Pine Valley Road in Vaughan is run by 57 volunteers who Rescue, Rehabilitate and Release animals in the same area in which they were found -- as long as it has the necessary food, housing and climatic conditions for survival. About 75 per cent of the cases can be handled over the phone. Staff is trying to educate people on what to do if they find an injured or orphaned animal and to be more tolerant and to co-exist with animals in harmony. Anyone interested in making a donation or becoming a volunteer can call the centre's 24-hour hotline at 832-6957 or write to Box 364, King, Ont. L0G 1K0.

extracted from an article by Bobbi-Jean MacKinnon in the NORTH YORK REGION STAR, Aug. 27, 1992

PICKERING FOREST AND MARSH LANDS SAVED

Environmentally sensitive forest and marsh lands bordering Frenchman's Bay in Pickering that were slated for a residential development will instead be purchased by the Metro Toronto and Region Conservation Authority and placed under public ownership. The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources announced it has approved the acquisition of 8.5 hectares in the north-eastern section of Frenchman's Bay, as a buffer around the bay. Environmentalists and local ratepayer groups have been lobbying to preserve these lands. The province and the town of Pickering will share equally the \$1-million cost.

from the GLOBE AND MAIL, Oct. 2, 1992

## IN THE NEWS (cont'd)

## SAVE RENO COLLARS WITH REUZE IT CENTRE

Thinking of renovating or already in the middle of a job? Then Metro Toronto's first ReUze Building Centre on Birchmount Rd. has good news for you. Not only can you buy many of your renovation needs at about 50% off the regular retail price, but you can unload that old bathtub or sink, or mirrors, doors or light fixtures at no cost as well. The concept is deceptively simple. Instead of contractors and renovators having their job site waste hauled to a landfill, useable items can be dropped off at the ReUze centre where they can be sold to others at greatly-reduced prices. Everyone wins. There's a diversion of material from rapidly-filling landfills and a cash savings to builders and renovators. For renovators trying to figure out how to get rid of left-over materials or unwanted bathtubs, ReUze will, for a \$25 fee, find out what you have and arrange a pick up of usable materials and objects. About 20% of landfill usually consists of construction and demolition waste, but centres like ReUze it are helping to cut that percentage. To help the environment and help yourself, call the ReUze Building Centre at 699-6000 for more information or drop by 380 Birchmount Rd., Monday to Friday from 10 am to 6 pm or on Saturdays from 9 am to 4 pm.

extracted from an article by John Beaufoy in the BLUFFS MONITOR (BIRCH CLIFF NEWS), Sept. 1992

## SHORELINE CONTROLS DRAW LITTLE PUBLIC REACTION

The Ministry of Natural Resources is working in cooperation with a local committee to adopt a management plan for the shorelines of Manitoulin and Cockburn Islands. The plan will take three years to finalize and then will be good for 20 years, but will be subject to review. The shoreline of both islands has been mapped and filmed from a helicopter and is now on a video. Any specific section of the shoreline can be called up and any problem areas could be identified if development is being considered. Deeryards, eagle's nests and sensitive areas have been mapped. If a person is considering the purchase of a lakeshore lot they can go to the MNR office. That section of the waterfront will be called up so that any restrictions or potential problems can be considered.

extracted from an article in THE MANITOULIN RECORDER, Aug. 19, 1992

## POWER BOATS TO RACE IN T.O.

World-class power boat racing is coming to Toronto. City Council voted to allow a one-year trial of a Canadian Formula One Powerboat Grand Prix. The three-day event would take place sometime next summer in the outer harbour, east of Cherry Beach. The boats, powered by 300-horsepower motors, would reach speeds of up to 240 kilometres (150 miles) an hour over a 2-kilometre (1½-mile) course. Power Events International Inc. expects to attract 50,000 people and generate more than \$10 million.

from the TORONTO STAR, Sept. 16, 1992

IN THE NEWS (cont'd)

PARK TO BE BUILT AROUND MAPLE

Toronto City Council has voted to spend almost \$3 million to create a park around a maple tree said to have inspired the song "The Maple Leaf Forever". The silver maple tree on [Laing St.] in the east end [was] the inspiration for Alexander Muir's 1867 song. Critics say the Laing St. tree and a tiny cottage behind it have become pawns in a fight to keep a 102-unit social housing project out of the neighbourhood, in the Queen St. East - Leslie Ave. area. The \$2.99 million would go to buying about 0.4 hectares (1 acre), cleaning it up, and building the park. The land is severely polluted from contaminated backfill and local industries, including a lead refinery. Both Mayor June Rowlands and Councillor Tom Jakobek, the budget chief who has slashed the city's budget, said it was a good use of \$3 million.

extracted from an article in the TORONTO STAR, Sept. 15, 1992

Comment: City Councillors should be congratulated on their action to save this heritage tree which is of national significance in the year of Canada's 125th birthday. Write to City Council, City Hall, 100 Queen St. West, Toronto M5H 2N2.

SANDMAN FLOPS REPLACING SALT ON ICY ROADS

An experiment to clear Toronto streets with sand instead of salt has been rated a dismal failure. Sand doesn't wreak havoc on roads, cars, and the environment the way salt does -- but it's costly, doesn't clear ice all that well and can create a giant dust bowl, a public works report says. The report did conclude the city can drastically reduce the amount of salt used each year. The city has long looked for a replacement because of the damage that salt causes to cars, roads, concrete and the sewer system, as well as curbside trees. Last winter, the city decided to try sand in an east-end neighbourhood. The results were unimpressive. The sand didn't clear ice nearly as well, proved three times as expensive and, because it doesn't melt, generated mounds of dust that must be collected and shipped to landfill sites. Last winter, city crews sprinkled 8,165 tonnes of salt, a 61 per cent reduction from the previous winter. City crews confined salt distribution to intersections, main thoroughfares and steep hills and saved the city \$610,000 in salt bills. To compensate, city of Toronto snowplows hit the streets after just 3-4 centimetres of snow had fallen, compared with 8 centimetres of snow the year before. Despite the salt cutback, the city didn't see an increase in the number of "slip-and-fall" accidents.

extracted from an article in the TORONTO STAR, May 20, 1992

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The earth is patient. She endures. She is slow to anger. For a time she may acquiesce in [being violated], but in the end she will turn upon her tormentors and destroy them.

from THE GAIAN EXPEDIENT by Wayland Drew

## THE WEATHER (THIS TIME LAST YEAR)

November 1991, Toronto

Overnight on November 1st-2nd, arctic air which had been hovering to the north and west swept across southern Ontario. Temperatures hovered around freezing for a few days, and snowsqualls affected the east shores of the Great Lakes. Toronto only received flurries, but this cold outbreak ensured that November was a cool month. It was the first month with a below normal mean temperature downtown since October 1990. Precipitation and sunshine also fell short of the average.

The month brought some more surprises. Notably, there was a general warming trend as November progressed, contrary to the seasonal norm. And there was a strong disturbance during the final three days that brought an unexpected snowfall followed by unseasonable warmth and high winds.

On the evening of November 28th, the approaching warm front brought about 16 cm of wet snow and made November the snowiest since 1983 downtown (17.8 cm total this month) and since 1958 at the airport (18.2 cm). The next day brought rain and drizzle, which had the usual effect on Toronto snow. And then on November 30th, skies cleared and strong southwesterly winds brought temperatures into the upper teens (the highest reading for the month at some locations in our area). A gust of 96 km/h at Toronto Island tied for the November record set in 1989.

Gavin Miller

□

*This attractive vine  
sketched by Mary  
Cumming at Sunnybrook  
Park decorates some  
of the service  
buildings there.*

*Called "climbing  
hydrangea"  
(Schizophragma), it is  
a relative of the  
hydrangeas in the  
saxifrage family.  
Native of Japan.*

*Ref.:*

*Fernald -  
GRAY'S MANUAL OF  
BOTANY 8th Edition*



MARY CUMMING  
JULY 2 1992  
SUNNYBROOK PARK

## COMING EVENTS

Toronto Ornithological Club - Jim Baillie Memorial Bird Walk - Saturday, Nov. 21 at 8 am (all day) with Ross Harris to view waterfowl at the west Toronto lakeshore. Meet in the parking lot at Humber Bay Park East. Bring a lunch. Carpool if necessary.  
THE NEXT JIM BAILLIE MEMORIAL BIRD WALK WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE NEW YEAR.

Toronto Entomologists' Association - monthly meeting - Saturday, November 28 at 1 pm in the lecture room of the McLaughlin Planetarium on Queen's Park Crescent south of Bloor Street West.

Royal Canadian Institute - free science lectures, Sundays at 3 pm in the J.J.R. Macleod Auditorium, Medical Sciences Building, University of Toronto (Queen's Park north of College Street).

- Nov. 1 Visualization in Mathematics - Ivars Peterson
  - Nov. 8 The Human Genome Project. Where did it come from? Where is it going? - Margaret W. Thompson
  - Nov. 15 Dinosaur hunting in the Alberta Badlands and China's Gobi Desert - Emlyn H. Koster
  - Nov. 22 Carnival of death: the great Montreal smallpox epidemic of 1885 - Michael Bliss
  - Nov. 29 The astronomical theory of ice ages - W. Richard Peltier
- For more information call 928-2096.

Zoocheck Canada - lecture series:

- Gorillas in the Mist - the true story by Ian Redmond (tickets: \$12.50 each) Friday, Nov. 13 at 8 pm at Hart House Theatre, University of Toronto
  - Orcas of the Pacific by Dr. Paul Spong (tickets: \$12.50 each) Friday, Dec. 4 at 8 pm at Hart House Theatre
  - Black Rhino, on the Brink of Extinction by Andy Lodge (tickets: \$10 each) Friday, Jan. 22 at 8 pm at Hart House Theatre
- A series ticket is available for \$30.00 from Zoocheck Canada, 5334 Yonge St., Ste. 1830, Toronto M2N 6M2 or by calling (416) 696-0241.

Mycological Society of Toronto - monthly meeting - Nov. 16 at 8 pm at the Civic Garden Centre. Dr. Jim Anderson will be talking about the Fungal Individual (giant mushrooms).

The Market Gallery of the City of Toronto Archives (second floor, South St. Lawrence Market, 95 Front St. East at Jarvis St.) - until Nov. 22 - Official Photographers - more than 150 photographs capture the changing face of Toronto during decades of major growth and development. Wed. to Fri. - 10 am to 4 pm; Sat. - 9 am to 4 pm; Sun. - 12 noon to 4 pm.

Save the Rouge Valley System - monthly walks in the valley - call Robert Marshall after 7 pm at 439-8489.

Black Creek Project - monthly meetings and work days along the creek - call Julie Parnaby at 661-6600, extension 345 for details.

## COMING EVENTS (cont'd)

Our Vanishing Heritage - an exhibit showing what has been lost and the devastating effects of the losses (both natural and built heritage) at the CHP Heritage Centre (Cumberland Terrace, Upper Level, west end, east side of Bay St. just north of Bloor St. West), Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays from noon until 4 pm. Free admission. Special fund-raising event: Sat. Oct. 31 from 11 am to 5 pm. Heritage exhibit ends Oct. 31. [TFN has a display at the centre in the month of October.]

Heritage Resources Centre workshops: Nov. 5 - Planning for World Heritage Sites; Nov. 20 - Heritage Planning in an Urban Context. For details contact the Centre, Faculty of Environmental Studies, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ont. N2L 3G1.

Kortright Centre for Conservation - Riders on the Storm (pollutants in storm runoff) - Nov. 21-23 & 28-29 at 11:30 am. Call 661-6600 for details.

Long Point Bird Observatory 1992 Fall Meeting - Oct. 23 from 7 pm to 10:30 pm at the Royal Botanical Gardens in Burlington - \$8.00 per person - evening includes an illustrated talk by Dr. George Finney on the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network. Write to LPBO, P.O. Box 160, Port Rowan, Ont. NOE 1M0 for details.

Federation of Ontario Naturalists - membership trip program - includes Niagara Birding Weekend (Nov. 6 to Nov. 8) for \$195 among many other educational experiences. For details, write to FON Trips, 428 Falconer St., Port Elgin, Ont. NOH 2C2.

Nature Travel Service - Niagara River Birdlife - Nov. 25-27 for \$299 or Nov. 28-29 for \$175. Many other educational trips offered. For details, write to NTS, P.O. Box 1334, Kingston, Ont. K7L 5C6.

Lakeshore Greenway - waterfront walks on Sunday afternoons at 2 pm

- Nov. 15 - Meet Boris Mather (698-6131) at the southwest corner of Queen St. East and Neville Pk. Blvd.
- Nov. 22 - Meet David Charlesworth (591-7474) at the southeast corner of Bathurst St. and Queen's Quay (Harbour Community Centre)
- Nov. 29 - Meet Tim Dobson (260-0380) at the south side of Queen's Quay at Jarvis St.

Canadian Wildflower Society - Annual General Meeting - Sat. Nov. 14 from 10 am to 4 pm at the Civic Garden Centre (Leslie & Lawrence). Meeting includes plant sale. Visitors welcome.

Toronto Christmas Bird Count - Sunday, Dec. 27, 1992 - organized by the Toronto Ornithological Club. Call Beth Jefferson at 251-2998 if you want to participate.

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Collected sunshine  
returned on a dark fall day,  
yellow leaves shining.

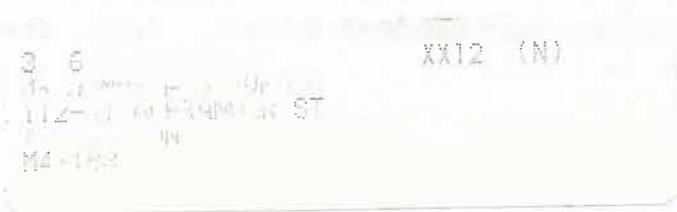
haiku by Aarne Juhola

# TORONTO FIELD NATURALISTS

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## TORONTO FIELD NATURALIST

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TORONTO FIELD NATURALISTS CLUB: ITS HISTORY AND CONSTITUTION, 1965.....	\$ 2.00	INDEX OF TFN NEWSLETTERS (1938 to present) .....	\$ 10.00
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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 .....	\$ 8.00	A GRAPHIC GUIDE TO ONTARIO MOSSES, 1985 .....	\$ 4.00
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