

TORONTO FIELD NATURALIST

Number 459

April 1996



COMMON COLTSFOOT (Europe)
established Toronto plant

Lawrence Park
in leaf litter

Inside

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TFN MEETINGS

Sunday, April 7, 1996
at 2:30 pm
in the Northrop Frye Hall
Victoria University
73 Queen's Park Cres. East

- LAWN OUTLAWS AND THE WEED POLICE,
an illustrated talk by Lorraine Johnson,
author of "The Ontario Naturalized Garden" (see
review in TFN 454:6:OCT).
- The speaker plans to trace the history of the North
American lawn. What does it say about us and why
are we so attached to it? What happens to people
who transgress and create other kinds of landscapes?
Should the aesthetic standard of clipped lawns be
regulated by law? What's a weed?
- + "Social Hour" starting at 2 pm with free coffee and
juice.
- + TFN memberships and publications for sale from
2 pm.
- + "Always Alice" cards for sale.
(For custom or individual cards, call TFN member Alice
Mandryk at 767-6149.)
- + display and sale of Canadian Wildflower Society
publications, including back issues of "Wildflower"
and a recently published poster: Restoring Black
Oak Savanna (45 cm X 60 cm, full colour, \$5 each).

NEXT MEETING: Sunday, May 5, 1996

IT'S YOUR NEWSLETTER!

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

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

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

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

Send material to: Toronto Field Naturalists
20 College St., Unit 11
Toronto, Ont. M5G 1K2

Newsletter Committee members: Helen Juhola, Diana Banville, Jenny
Bull, Eva Davis, Nancy Fredenburg, Eileen Mayo, Joan O'Donnell,
Toshi Oikawa.

TFN OUTINGS

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

- Wednesday BABY POINT & MAGWOOD PARK - nature walk Humber, York
 April 3 Leaders: Nancy Fredenburg & Madelaine McDowell
 1 pm Meet at the northwest corner of Bloor St. West and Jane St.
 The first part of this walk will be on streets -- through the historic
 Baby Point area with its large oak trees; the rest of the walk will be in
 the Humber Valley where we should find the skunk cabbages in bloom.
- Saturday ALLAN GARDENS - nature arts Toronto
 April 6 Leader: Erik Weirsma
 10:30 am Meet at the entrance to the greenhouses on the south side of
 Carlton St., east of Jarvis St.
 We will be sketching and photographing and painting spring flowers, tropical
 plants and cacti. For lunch we will walk to College Park on Yonge St. to
 eat at the food court there. Bring a stool and your supplies as well as
 some of your recent work to show the group.
- Sunday TFN MEETING (See page 2.)
 April 7
 2:30 pm
- Wednesday HIGH PARK - birds Toronto
 April 10 Leader: Louise Orr
 10 am Meet at the park entrance on the south side of Bloor St. West
 opposite High Park Ave. Bring lunch and binoculars.
 The bird migration has begun. Bring your notebook and field guide and begin
 your list for the year. We should see red-winged blackbirds etc.
- Saturday LESLIE STREET SPIT - nature walk lakeshore, Toronto
 April 13 Leader: John Carley
 10:30 am Meet at the foot of Leslie St. Bring lunch.
 This is a joint outing with the Citizens for a Lakeshore Greenway. The
 gulls will have started to nest. As well, this point of land is a great
 place to find early migrants resting and feeding before continuing their
 journey north.
- Sunday BLACK CREEK - nature walk Humber tributary/North York
 April 14 Leaders: Alex Wellington & Kristin Geater
 2 pm Meet on Shoreham Drive where it crosses the creek (east of
 Jane St.).
 This is the first in a series of walks to explore Black Creek and its
 tributaries in Metro Toronto and is a joint outing with the Black Creek Project.

APRIL OUTINGS (cont'd)

Wednesday UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO GREENHOUSES - nature arts Toronto
 April 17 Leader: Cathy Holland
 10:30 am Meet at the northwest corner of College St. and University Ave.
 We will be sketching plants in the greenhouse. Bring a stool, your supplies
 and some recent work you have done. We will be meeting for lunch at the
 food court at the southwest corner of University and College.

Saturday DON WATERSHED ECO-TOUR - bus & short walks Toronto & north
 April 20 Leader: Peter Attfield
 8:30/9 am To attend, call the TFN office (968-6255) and leave a message
 to with your name and telephone number. Confirm by sending a
 4:30/5 pm cheque (NOT post-dated) for \$12, payable to TFN bus trip,
 to TFN, 20 College St., Unit 11, Toronto M5G 1K2. Meet at
 the East York Community Centre (1081½ Pape Ave. at Torrens)
 at 8:30 am or at the south exit of the York Mills subway
 station (on Old York Mills just east of Yonge St.) at 9 am.
 We'll explore the Don from its Oak Ridges Moraine headwaters to its mouth,
 investigating where it comes from, where it goes to, and what it does along
 the way. Numerous stops to visit natural, degraded and regenerating areas.
 This is a joint outing with the Outing Club of East York. Bring lunch and
 a drink.

Sunday LESLIE STREET SPIT - birds lakeshore, Toronto
 April 21 Leader: Ross Harris
 8:30 am/ Meet at the foot of Leslie St. Morning only.
 10 am Bring binoculars, notebook and field guide. For those who can't make it
 for an early start, the walk is being re-run beginning at 10 am.

+
 Sunday DON VALLEY FEATURES - nature walk Don, East York
 April 21 Leader: Helen Mills & others
 2 pm Meet at the southwest corner of Broadview Ave. and Mortimer
 Ave.
 This is a joint outing with the North Toronto Green Community. We will
 start by looking across the valley, then view where Cudmore Creek enters
 the Don River, walk north and cross the river to Crothers Woods, the North
 Toronto sewage treatment plant and observe the shoreline of ancient Lake
 Iroquois.

Wednesday CHINE DRIVE RAVINE - nature walk lakeshore, Scarborough
 April 24 Leader: Graham Neville
 10:30 am Meet at the southeast corner of Kingston Rd. and Chine Dr.
 Lunch optional.
 We will visit Chine Dr. Ravine and explore the top of the Scarborough Bluffs.
 Coltsfoot should be in bloom and birds returning.

Saturday COLONEL DANFORTH PARK - nature walk Highland Creek, Scarborough
 April 27 Leader: Robin Powell
 10:30 am Meet at the park entrance on the south side of Kingston Rd.
 at Col. Danforth Trail. Bring lunch.
 This is a good time to explore this lovely park with its wonderful
 collection of spring wildflowers.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

First off, a word of thanks and congratulations to all those who organized, participated in and attended (what is as far as I know) our first ever TFN outing leadership workshop. The meeting room at Todmorden Mills was filled despite the slushy weather. The meeting started off with a slide show of classic TFN outings. Then, as Bill Frankling brewed gourmet coffee at the back of the room, the gathered throng (some of whom had never led a TFN walk!) settled in to enjoy the good cop/bad cop routine from the outing luminaries assembled at the front.

First, Morris Sorensen offered words of consolation and encouragement to the neophyte, and passed on further words of wisdom from the flu-stricken Helen Juhola. Then, lest we get too complacent about our trip-leading skills, Richard Aaron gave us a bracing and inspiring (not to say intimidating) demonstration of the kind of research you could put into preparing to lead a late-autumn or winter stroll, if you wanted to make TFN outing-leading an educational challenge for yourself. I didn't know so many books (field guides, pamphlets, tomes, etc.) about plants in winter existed. On top of this, Richard treated us to some quaint and curious forgotten teasel lore gleaned from distant manufacturers of fine woolens. And I think I'm especially well prepared if I manage to show up on time! Then George Bryant capped things off with a very useful show-and-tell of the contents of his ever-packed, globe-circling 3-compartment Camp Trails nature-trip knapsack and survival kit, bulging with every accoutrement needed in the ravines of Toronto or the cloud-forests of Costa Rica.

All this interest in outing leading is very heartening, since attendance at TFN outings has been climbing sharply in recent years. We need all the leaders we can get.

Now, **YET ANOTHER APPEAL FOR VOLUNTEERS**. That time of the year is upon us again. A year ago, I issued in these pages the following poignant invitation:

"Emily Hamilton Reserve ecological inventory: The "new" reserve property is no longer very new, but we have yet to produce even a preliminary ecological description/bio-inventory. (It hasn't even been botanized--what would Emily think!) At the very least, this spring should see the beginnings of some vascular plant and breeding bird field work. We thus need birders (especially those with breeding bird surveying or atlassing experience) and botanists (including--or should I say especially--those ever-in-demand sedge buffs), as well as mammal-spotters, herpetophiles, moss people, etc. etc. Please be advised that these scientific endeavors will involve some element of wading, thrashing and otherwise struggling through trackless swamp and hummocky marsh. It should be rewarding though--the interior is beautiful and secluded, and judging from the habitat there is a good chance of Alder Flycatchers and even of Sedge Wrens, and there are certainly lots and lots of deer and chickadees."

PRESIDENT'S REPORT (cont'd)

Sad to say, through no fault of the valiant few who heeded that call, those words remain as true this spring as they did last. My fault. A promised package of maps and such never got around to finding itself to those volunteers last year. This year, a crude but serviceable package really and truly exists. Those willing to take part (or better yet, to coordinate the whole shebang) please leave me a message at 757-0890 (please say your address and phone number real s-l-o-w; my brain lacks one of those newfangled fast processors) and I promise to mail you a package forthwith. Such research will be all the more rewarding now that we may be more or less assured that a highway will not be going through the reserve (see last month's report). However, since the highway (and other developments) may be proceeding in the general region, it would be nice to have good base-line data to monitor their effects on the reserves.

Allan Greenbaum

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Winged Euonymus

- an Asiatic shrub -

planted by a bridge

in the West Don Valley

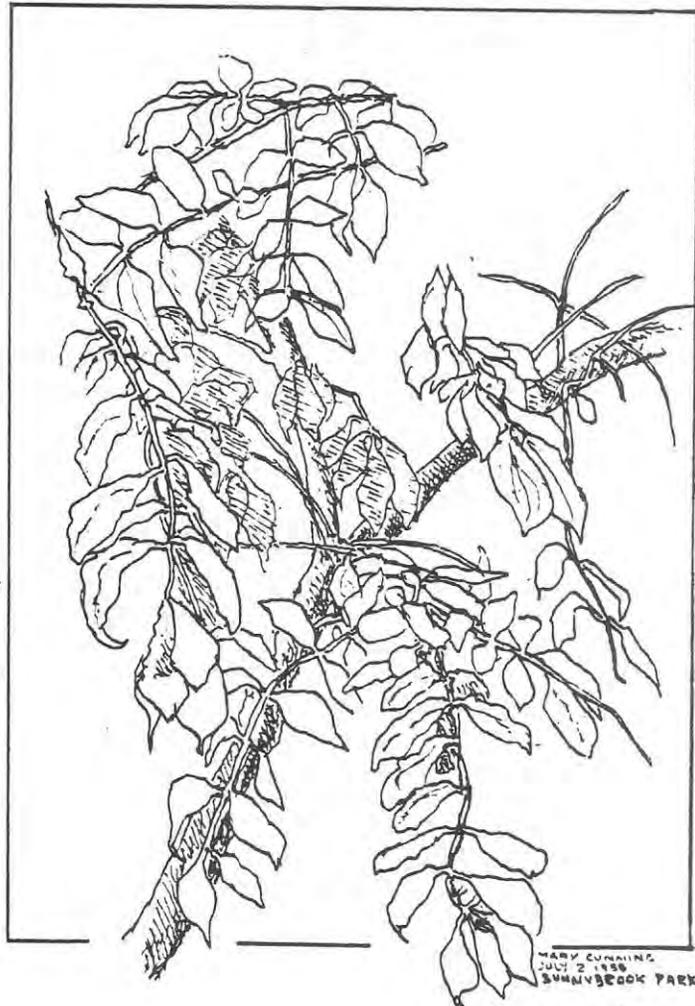
in the area which once

belonged to Glendon Hall,

was sketched by Mary

Cumming on a Nature Arts

Outing.



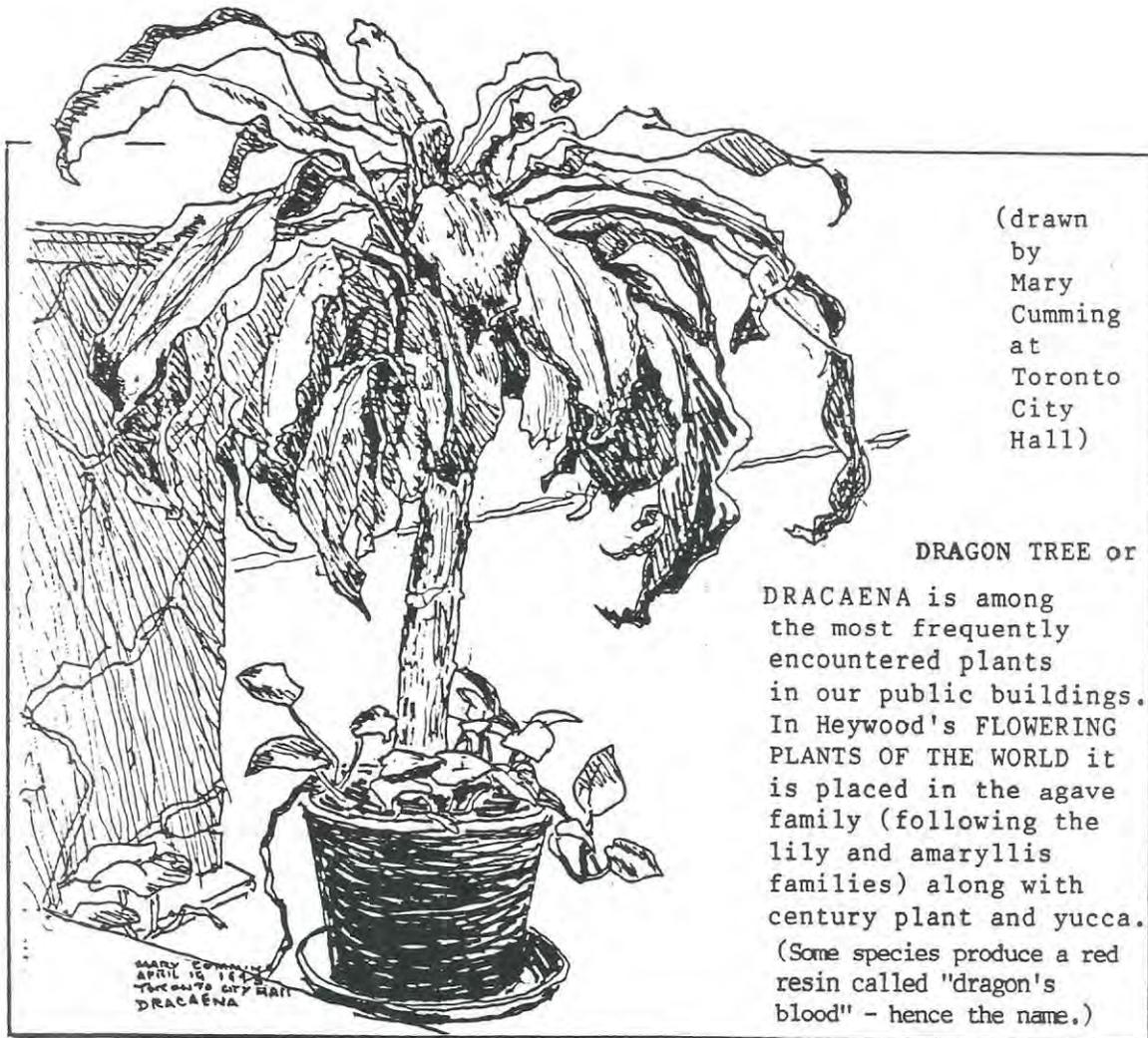
KEEPING IN TOUCH

January 31, 1996

I read the Toronto Field Naturalist from cover to cover, as you cover such a variety of interesting topics. One of the items I read in the February 1996 issue (no. 457) on page 29, was reference to me under Nature Travel Service. As I sold this company four years ago, when I retired, I no longer have any connection with it. However, I like to get away from time to time, so still take about ten nature trips a year. Since I enjoy sharing these with like-minded individuals, I welcome their participation. The trips are not run commercially; fees charged are intended to cover costs. I may be contacted at the address below for a listing of destinations. Keep up the good work.

Gustave J. Yaki, 420 Brunswick Avenue SW, Calgary, AB T2S 1N8

▽



(drawn
by
Mary
Cumming
at
Toronto
City
Hall)

DRAGON TREE or

DRACAENA is among the most frequently encountered plants in our public buildings. In Heywood's FLOWERING PLANTS OF THE WORLD it is placed in the agave family (following the lily and amaryllis families) along with century plant and yucca. (Some species produce a red resin called "dragon's blood" - hence the name.)

February 17, 1996

As a counter to the February blues I opened my journal at random and found this entry for September 11th:

The sun had not long risen and a cool, blustering wind blew off the land, but on the boardwalk in the lee of the beaches, walking was comfortable and clear skies gave the promise of a fine day. Few people were about and a flock of five migrating Dunlin probed along the shore, undisturbed by free-running dogs. For a while nothing else caught my eye until I noticed that a migration of another sort was taking place.

It was about 9 a.m. and at any one time I could see five or six Monarch Butterflies heading west along the shore in that erratic flight so typical of the lepidoptera. I stopped several times to count them and found that eight to ten were passing by me every minute at a height of between one and three metres above the sand. As though weather-wise and conscious of saving energy, they had chosen the lee of the lakeshore where they could make headway under the turbulence that boiled off the land. The great migration of raptors had also begun but there would be no gyring in the high thermals for frail papillon. Bent to the same direction, his erratic flutterings and purposeful glides made his westing a lot harder.

It was noon before I made the return journey along the boardwalk and by then it was crowded, people taking the sun and many dressed in light gear despite the cool air, wistful for the days of summer. "Few tourists now," I thought and suddenly the people vanished as again I became aware of the migration of the butterflies. The warmth had brought both people and Monarchs out in large numbers and my count was soon up to about 20 per minute which was about 1,200 per hour, which peak, lasting perhaps for four hours, would factor out at roughly 10,000 per day or 70,000 per week. Conditions were ripe for an accurate count and I suspected that, given an offshore wind, there could be no better place in the Toronto area for such a count to take place. The exodus continued, the butterflies flaunting their tickets in the face of the unseeing crowd, ecstatic vacationers on their way to a winter in Mexico.

Stan Long



Those who support the work of conservation can say, I have lived here, I have loved my country, and I have done something positive to ensure that its natural beauty and natural values continue.

a quote of Charles Sauriol from "Trust fund to raise money to complete Sauriol's dream" in the EAST YORK TIMES WEEKLY, Vol. 41, No. 1, Jan. 18, 1996

Note: Everyone is invited to help fulfill his dream for Milne Hollow. To make a donation or for more information, call 661-6600 (ext. 276) or write to the Conservation Foundation of Greater Toronto, 5 Shoreham Dr., Downsview, Ont. M3N 1S4.

KEEPING IN TOUCH (cont'd)

February 19, 1996

Are there any keen nature photographers in TFN who would like their work viewed by a larger public? The reason for this request is that work on an illustrated book about the Oak Ridges Moraine is proceeding well, but we would like to assemble a larger, loaned pool of colour slides for illustrations. For further details about our requirements see page 10.

We cannot pay for pictures. As with that fine publication of the Peterborough Field Naturalists, *Kawartha's Nature*, authors, editors and photographers must all volunteer their work. What we can offer, for pictures used, is a credit line and exposure to a nature-sympathetic viewership of some thousands.

When the book appears, probably in the spring of 1997, we hope to be in touch with you again about discounts for members of environmental groups. Meanwhile, any help you can give us re photographers will be most appreciated. Also, if any members of your group feel inspired to write 1,000 words or so about their favourite spots on the Moraine, we'd like to see the results. [See page 10 for address.]

David McQueen



PROJECTS

EAST YORK PHOTO CONTEST

In celebration of 200 years of East York's history, the Todmorden Mills Museum is sponsoring a photo contest to document East York in 1996 for future generations. Black and white and colour photographs will be accepted for the following three categories:

People of East York: Help us collect images of people who live, work, or play in East York.

Places in East York: Snap the sites of East York for instance Todmorden Mills, your street, your house or any other place in East York.

The Essence of East York - What East York means to me: This category is open to an image that you feel represents the meaning of East York, whether it be people, places, buildings, etc. Let your imagination run free and capture the spirit of East York!

Slides only for this category:

The Natural Environment of East York: Photograph our natural environment and resources ranging from your garden to the Don Valley.

Each entry will be judged by a panel of professional photographers who will be looking for shots that demonstrate creativity, originality and technical proficiency. All entries become the property of the Todmorden Mills Heritage Museum and Arts Centre to enhance the archival collection of the Borough of East York. Entries will not be returned. Entry forms will be available March 1, 1996 at the Todmorden Mills Museum and at the East York Civic Centre. Contest ends October 31, 1996.

COLOUR SLIDES OF OAK RIDGES MORaine NEEDED

We are particularly anxious to build up our selection pool of 35 mm colour slides of birds, mammals, reptiles and amphibians, flowers, and people enjoying activities on the Moraine -- skiing, hiking, etc. Also slides of the general topography of the Moraine, special features such as kettle ponds, gravel pits, etc., and trees.

All slides loaned to us will be receipted and returned to owners in due course. For further information, please contact David McQueen, R.R. # 4, Uxbridge, ON L9P 1R4; Tel. (905) 649-5276.

Environmentalists are not against everything, they are for the most important things on this planet that keep us alive and wealthy. They are for clean air, clean water, clean soil and a diversity of creatures throughout the world.

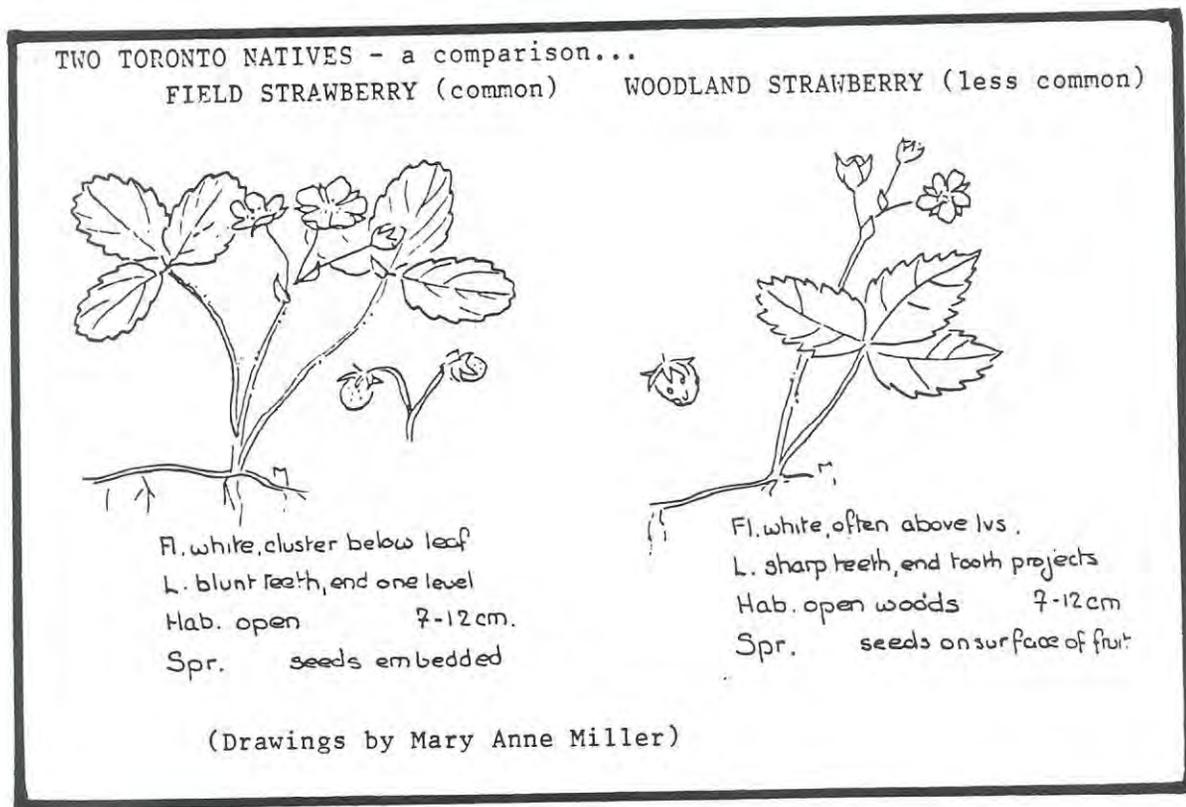
from "Environmentalists aren't the real radicals any more" by David Suzuki in the LONDON FREE PRESS, Oct. 21, 1995

INTEREST IN LADY BEETLES CONTINUES TO GROW

In its first year, the Canadian Nature Federation's lady beetle survey received over 1200 responses. From St. John's, Newfoundland to Victoria, British Columbia, gardeners, students, and backyard naturalists actively searched out lady beetles in their local areas to help CNF identify species at risk. So far, they've discovered that the southern lady beetle (*Harmonia axyridis*) has been expanding its range faster than previously identified. William Robichaud, a primary school student in St. Andrew's, New Brunswick reported that the outside of his house was covered in lady beetles, but they didn't seem to match any of the species illustrated in the spring 1995 special backyard issue of *Nature Canada*.

With the help of his father, William, he packaged up a few dead beetles and mailed them to us; and Dr. Henri Goulet at Agriculture Canada identified the unknown specimens as a variation of the southern lady beetle. According to Dr. Goulet, this species had not been found previously in that part of Canada. As a result, the eight-year-old boy's lady beetle has been entered in the National Insect Collection of Canada! We are currently in the process of producing a new and improved version of the lady beetle identification kit. To receive a copy of the species illustration with identifying tips, please call (613) 562-3447, fax (613) 562-3447, send email to epiccnf@web.apc.org or write to Scott Plunkett, Canadian Nature Federation, 1 Nicholas Street, Suite 520, Ottawa, Ontario K1N 7B7.

adapted from an article by Scott Plunkett in NATURE CANADA, Vol. 25, No. 1, Winter 1996



TREE SPOTTERS NEEDED TO HELP TALLY FORESTS

Seen any good trees lately? The University of Guelph is looking for tree spotters. Researchers at the university's Arboretum compiling an Ontario Tree Atlas need 900 volunteers to trudge through the woods to estimate the numbers of the 111 different varieties of trees in the province, including 83 native species. And there's a slim chance of finding a type not known to exist among the province's 29 billion trees. Sounds simple. Researchers say no special skills are needed and training will be provided. They've already lined up 600 volunteers. But the task involves some effort. Each tree spotter is assigned a 100 square kilometre area that would take about 30 hours to cover. Records of type and a rough estimate of the number in each plot must be kept. Most varieties are easily recognizable, says project co-ordinator Rob Guthrie. For accuracy, spotters will take samples from the dozen tree species considered difficult to identify, he says. Volunteers are provided with an instructional kit, occasional newsletters and a topographical map. "From a historical perspective, the project will give us a snapshot of tree distribution and abundance from the turn of the century," says Alan Watson, supervisor of the \$250,000 project. Volunteers can contact Guthrie by phone at (519) 824-4120, ext. 3615, by fax at (519) 836-1855 or by E-mail at: rguthrie@uoguelph.ca.

from an article by Brian McAndrew, THE TORONTO STAR, 12 February 1996

LOST CREEKS NEED HELP

Volunteers are needed to help explore, write about and map the secret life of water in the city - the history, ecology and archaeology of urban streams. Wherever you live in Toronto, there is a creek at your feet. The City is home to many rivers and creeks that have been wholly or partly buried. Each of these streams has a fascinating history which is woven into the fabric of the urban landscape. The North Toronto Green Community and the Toronto Field Naturalists have been exploring seven streams which formerly flowed through North Toronto to the Don. Field guides and maps are being prepared for each stream. We will also need help in preparing a display and presentation for a conference on Urban Rivers in Chicago in May 1996. You are invited to help us tell the story of Toronto's backyard streams and urban water system! Call Helen Mills at 781-7663 or Julie Nettleton at 708-6003. □

... What right have you, oh passer-by the way, to call any flower a weed? Do you know its merits, its virtues, its healing qualities? Because a thing is common, shall you despise it? If so, you might despise the sunshine for the same reason.

from THE CHICKADEE (Huntsville), Vol. 38, No. 2, Nov.-Dec. 1995

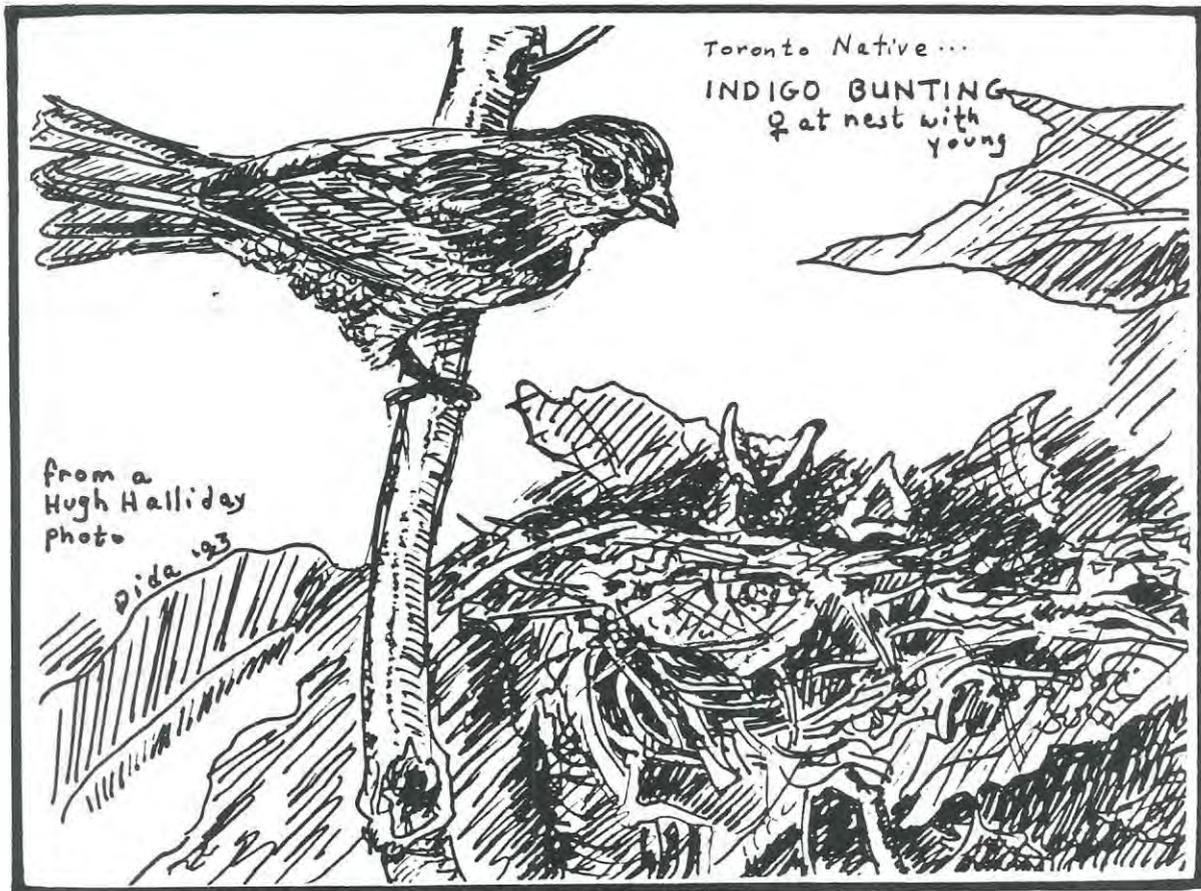
WHAT TO DO WHEN YOU FIND AN INJURED BIRD

Put it in the dark safety of a cardboard box. No wire cage. The first priority is reducing terror of us, their captors; this lowers their blood-pressure, allowing internal bleeding to slow and clot.

The second priority is to make sure they don't lie prone, but are propped if they cannot stand. Birds never lie flat in nature as it allows fluids to run into their lungs. (On the nest, they are not lying but crouching.)

Don't try to give fluids, and don't even think of offering man-foods such as sugar, bread, milk, cereal, hamburger, chicken or bacon. For the first hours, forget food and water.

extracted from NOTES AND ANECDOTES, June to Nov. 1994 (Avian Care & Research Foundation) □



When we stopped for lunch
the chill wind ceased tormenting
and spring moved closer.

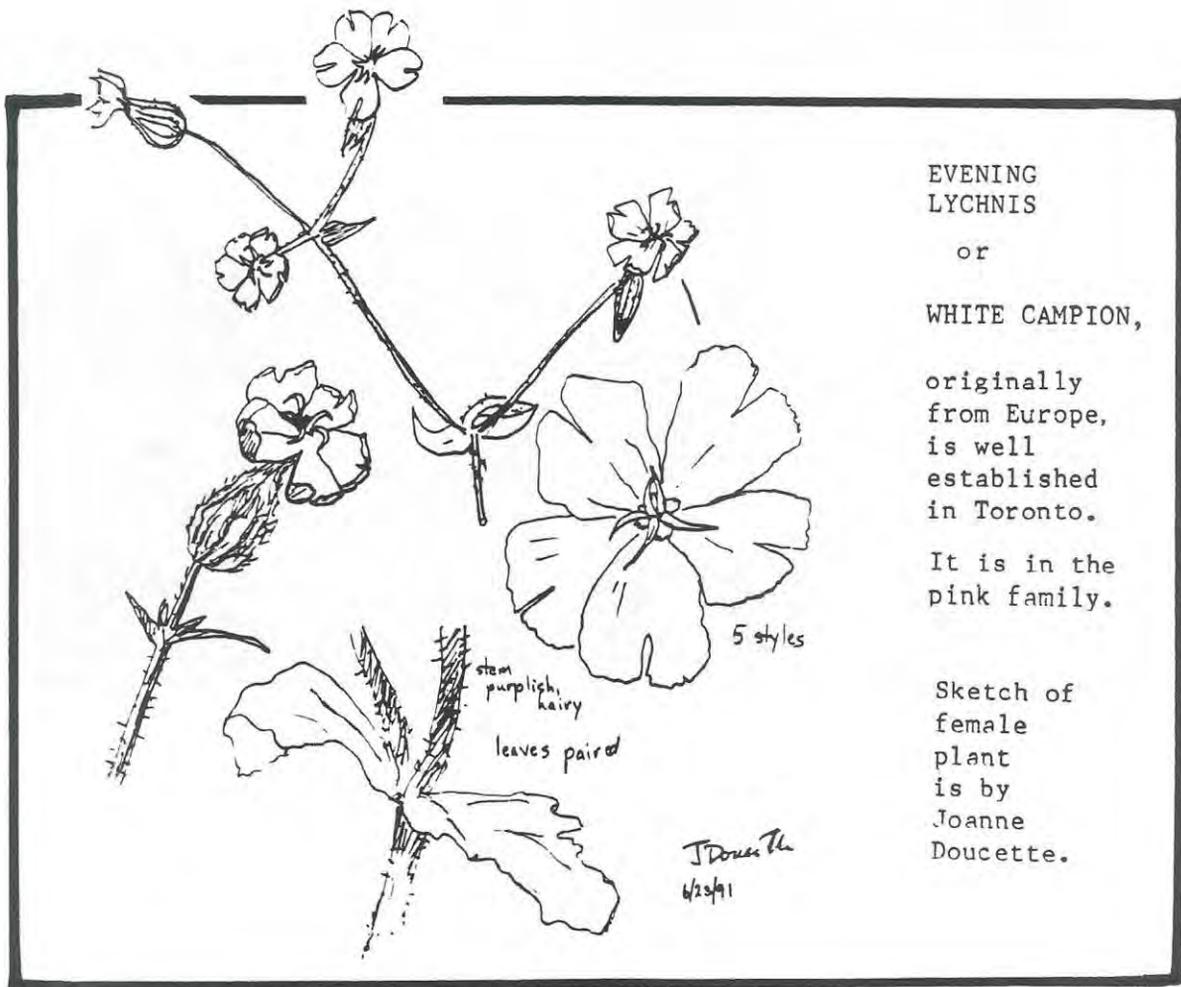
haiku by Arthur Wade

STALKING WILD SEEDS

Wild-grown plants are an excellent source of seed, which can be responsibly collected if you adhere to a few basic principles. First, you must be sure that you have identified the plant correctly and that it is not an endangered or threatened species. Second, you should harvest seed only from sizable populations of the plant. Even then it is good practice to take no more than 5 percent of the available seed. Third, don't collect from plants growing in preserves, refuges, or parks; also you should ask permission from private landowners. And finally, don't collect seed that you aren't able to use. If you take it, plant it. In addition, don't be tempted to dig up the plants themselves. Even where such collection is not expressly forbidden, it is a bad practice. Many plants are deep rooted or have deeply set bulbs, and transplanting them is rarely successful. Whenever you collect seeds, you are competing with birds and other hungry animals.

adapted from an article by Ann B. Swengel in HORTICULTURE, Aug./Sept. 1995, Vol. LXXIII, No. 7

□



EVENING
LYCHNIS
or
WHITE CAMPION,
originally
from Europe,
is well
established
in Toronto.
It is in the
pink family.

Sketch of
female
plant
is by
Joanne
Doucette.

PLANT CHECKLISTS - NEW AND OLD

All of the field work of recent years on vascular plants of South-central Ontario, all around us, is gradually being drawn together in checklists. Two excellent lists were published in 1995 (TFN 457:11). A CHECKLIST OF VASCULAR PLANTS FOR BRUCE AND GREY COUNTIES ONTARIO, a 40-page booklet, because it's zone-coded, serves as replacement for the F.O.N.'s CHECKLIST OF THE VASCULAR PLANTS OF THE BRUCE PENINSULA which many of us are still using on our trips to the Bruce. The 1969 list is still useful; the families being in botanical order, it's helpful if you're trying to learn relationships. The 1995 list is mainly alphabetical, which is useful for ready-reference. Though there are some new listings in the 1995 list, many of the name changes are the result of lumping and splitting, often reverting to choices in vogue much earlier than 1969.

THE VASCULAR PLANT FLORA OF THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH covers this area more specifically than John Riley's THE DISTRIBUTION AND STATUS OF THE VASCULAR PLANTS OF CENTRAL REGION published by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources in 1989 - a compilation in which it was combined with Brant and Oxford Counties. Other combinations of municipalities in the Riley list include Wellington-Dufferin, York-Metro, Niagara-Haldimand, and Peterborough-Durham-Victoria-Northumberland. Specific counties and regional municipalities include Waterloo, Halton, Peel, and Simcoe. The Riley '89 list is at the present our main source for confirmation of the status of a plant in the Toronto flora, though Metro is not separate on the list nor is the extended circle of "Toronto Region".

To work with new and old checklists and with field guides and manuals, you need a copy of A CHECKLIST OF THE FLORA OF ONTARIO - VASCULAR PLANTS by J. K. Morton and Joan M. Venn, published by the University of Waterloo, Biology Series 34, 1990, obtainable from U. of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ont., N2L 3G1. This work mercifully shows all the synonyms the authors could find. Thus it becomes "the bible". No matter what book you're using, with this cross-reference you will be able to decide whether a plant you are interested in is a member of the Ontario flora or not. No English names are given in the Morton & Venn but you will be able to find scientific names which relate to those in our popular field guides, manuals and checklists. English names are usually given in checklists expressly for the convenience of amateurs. I can imagine, however, a professional botanist stealing a look at one of the more commonly used English names when faced with a bewildering array of scientific synonyms or none at all. Often checklists do not give much status information, except in the case of rare native species, frequently termed "significant"; the unspoken "insignificant" status of the bulk of our prized native flora is the uncomfortable result. Please, let's revert to the term "rare"! Checklists do not often give the status of plants which they have coded as non-native, giving no hint as to whether or not they are established and how common they are. This is the kind of information we often look for but there may be some reluctance about making these judgments.

The format of the two 1995 checklists is agreeable to follow, and the accuracy, in a field of the many pitfalls of which Linnaeus complained, is admirable.

Diana Banville

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HEALTH HINT

Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome (HPS) or Navajo Flu is caused by the Hantavirus, which is carried primarily by the Deer Mouse, *Peromyscus maniculatus*, but not usually by the White-footed Mouse, *Peromyscus leucopus*. Other rodents that may carry the virus include squirrels, rats, chipmunks and other kinds of mice. Several human cases of HPS have been recorded in British Columbia and Alberta but, so far, no human cases have been reported in Ontario. However, two cases of infected mice were recorded in Algonquin Park in the summer of 1995. People contract the infection by breathing viral particles shed in the faeces, urine and saliva of Deer Mice. The virus is spread only through high-intensity contact with dust, which means that the risk of infection is low for most people. For those who become infected there is a mortality rate of at least 60%. To avoid contact, one should keep mice out of homes, barns and other buildings. Suggested precautions for people working with or near mouse droppings are as follows:

1. Old barns and other infested outdoor places: Use a full face respirator, rubber gloves and a 10% bleach solution to disinfect the area before and after removing mouse nests and waste. Avoid aerosol formation where possible (i.e. don't allow contaminated particles to become airborne). Disinfect and double-bag in plastic all dead rodents and waste before burning or burying them at a depth of two to three feet.
2. Outdoor mouse nests, bird boxes, etc.: Use face masks and rubber gloves. Again, avoid aerosol formation where possible. Note: Bluebird boxes are more likely to be infested with White-footed Mice than Deer Mice, so the danger of exposure to Hantavirus is low.

References: Cottage Life, Sept.-Oct. 1994, p. 108
Jack Miller, Dept. of Zoology, UWO.

from "Did You Know?" by Anita Caveney in THE CARDINAL (London). # 162. February 1996

□

...There is a curious satisfaction in being able to put a scientific name to [an animal] that you have just seen for the first time, or to confirm the name of one that you've seen before. I have been trying to think why that should be so. I think the answer must be that, as a naturalist, you always want to know more about any animal you see, and if you know its name you can read about it, you can compare it with related species, you can look out for the species which mimic it, and learn more about its distribution -- and there is some point in recording its behaviour, its relative abundance, and its individual variation. There is, of course, also a certain satisfaction in being able to say to an obscure [animal], 'Aha! I know you.'

from TRAVEL DIARIES OF A NATURALIST by Peter Scott, Collins, London, 1987

FALL MIGRATION 1995 -- NOTEWORTHY OBSERVATIONS

It was November 1st about 8 a.m. when nine immature Turkey Vultures came sailing over Humber Marsh # 7, their dihedral flight making beautiful patterns against the morning sky. They settled in a large willow tree half way down the marsh -- but not for long. For soon they all took off and disappeared to the west. I thought -- unusual, for I don't expect hawks to be moving before the thermals are present, about 11 a.m. Then as I was crossing the Bloor St. bridge over the Humber River, about 10 a.m. there they all were, on the sandspit in the river below the bridge. I know hawks don't eat during migration, maybe they drink, if given the chance.

...This time it was November 9th, our first wintry day, with snowflakes drifting down all day. I was idly looking over the marsh, when on a tree at the top of the hill in front, I noticed an Eastern Phoebe, madly flicking his tail. Wow! he's late -- no insects around now. Later I saw him at the upper corner of my window. Ah! he's looking for insects in spider webs. I'm sorry that one nice day in October I had cleaned my outside windows -- but maybe some of the other tenants had not.

Helen M. Smith

□



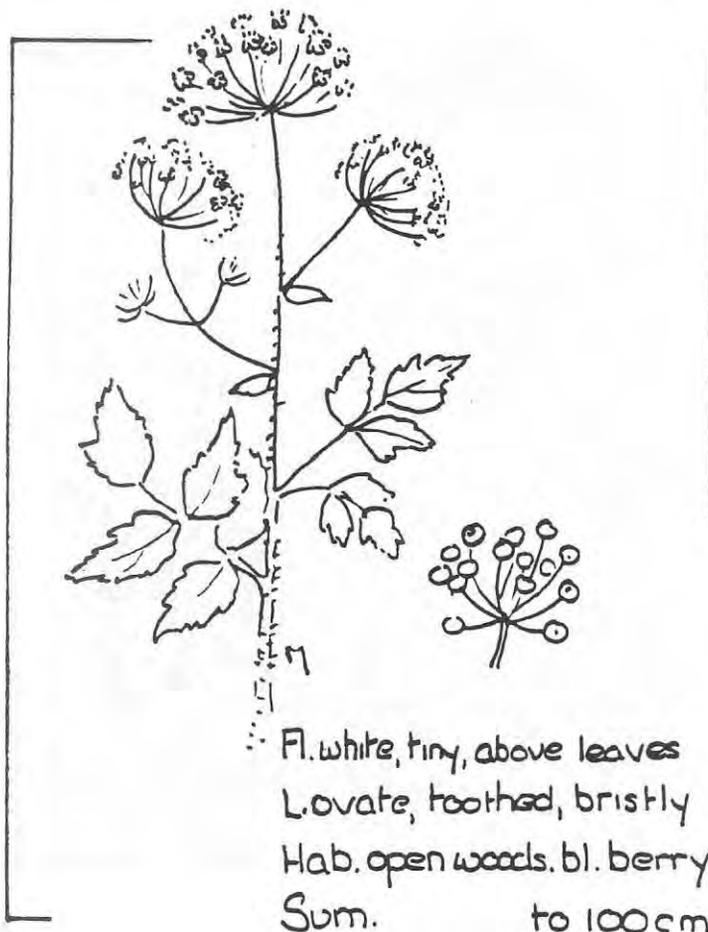
"OVERKILL"

I first understood the term Categorical Imperative one evening some 20 years ago. I was near the site of the future children's hospital on Bayview. The land had been partially cleared, but many clumps of old trees remained. That year was one of severe tent caterpillar infestation; in fact, I have never seen such an invasion since. Great silvery sheets lay draped over all the trees and the setting sun turned these a shimmering pink. Beautiful as this was, the fact that riveted attention was that these gauzy tents were alive, literally bulging, with thousands of caterpillars, every one of which had received the Order To Move. They wriggled down the needle-fine strands, clambering over each other in their drive to reach the ground, where they fanned out in diminishing circles and disappeared into the coarse grass. It was a sight both beautiful and repellent. Nature's "overkill" seemed so pointless. What was achieved by such numbers? - the following year this infestation might never have been, and as far as I know, tent caterpillars are not regarded as particularly choice by the bird population. However, they obviously feed something.

I, of course, did not have my camera on this occasion. Pleased as one might be with the occasional satisfying snap, it is always the Ones That Got Away which haunt the mind. Alas!

Eva Davis

□



BRISTLY SARSAPARILLA

(Aralia family)

native of Ontario
 rocky or sandy sterile soil
 - no current Toronto status

ref. Scoggan's
 FLORA OF CANADA

(from the portfolio
 FLOWERS OF LONGFORD
 by Mary Anne Miller)

A DAY IS THE LIFE OF A MAYFLY (SORT OF)

A regular sight on lakeshores and riversides is that of jostling swarms of Ephemeroptera, or mayflies. Usually they live only one hour to fourteen days and their whole purpose as adults is to mate. The adult mayfly is identified by its three long caudal filaments and the net-veined triangle-shaped forewings and smaller hindwings which it holds above the body when resting, much like a damselfly. It has reduced mouthparts and does not feed as an adult. Mayflies are the only order of insects to undergo a moult from a winged, sexually immature subimago to the imago or winged adult reproductive form. They and the dragonflies and damselflies, or Odonata, are the only winged insects that are unable to fold their wings over their abdomens. The word "Ephemeroptera" comes from the Greek "ephemeros" meaning "living only a day" and "pteron" which means "wing".

Immature mayflies can be found on rocks, vegetation, or buried in the sandy bottom of rivers, streams, ponds and lakes. They are a major source of food for fish and invertebrate predators in the aquatic food chain. As with other aquatic nymphs, mayfly nymphs can be collected by kicking the substrate and holding a net downstream of the disturbed debris. The features which distinguish them from other aquatic nymphs are the three long caudal filaments and only a single claw on each limb. They have lateral gills which protrude from the abdomen. Oxygen diffuses across the gill membrane into the tracheae contained in the gills.

Most mayfly nymphs feed by scraping algae from rocks or collecting deposited organic matter; only a few species are carnivores. Mayflies can also be indicators of pollution. Bodies of water that are enriched with nutrients from sewage, manure and fertilizer allow for increased population growth in species of mayflies that strain their food. These excess nutrients are transferred to the insects' biomass which are then carried out of the water back to the terrestrial environment when the mayflies emerge. The problem with this system is that the massive numbers of mayflies may promote their own collapse. This occurs when the abnormally large population of aquatic mayfly nymphs removes all the available oxygen from the water causing a massive nymphal dieoff. These collapses are usually the result of an extended calm period of weather, preventing the churning of the water and therefore oxygen replacement into the water. This increased mortality of the mayfly nymphs prevents the removal of excess nutrients from the water. The nutrients are then available to algae. The algae will undergo a growth bloom consuming large quantities of oxygen, inhibiting the growth and reproductive success as well as lifespans of other organisms, reducing the overall biodiversity and health of the aquatic community.

Mark Hanson

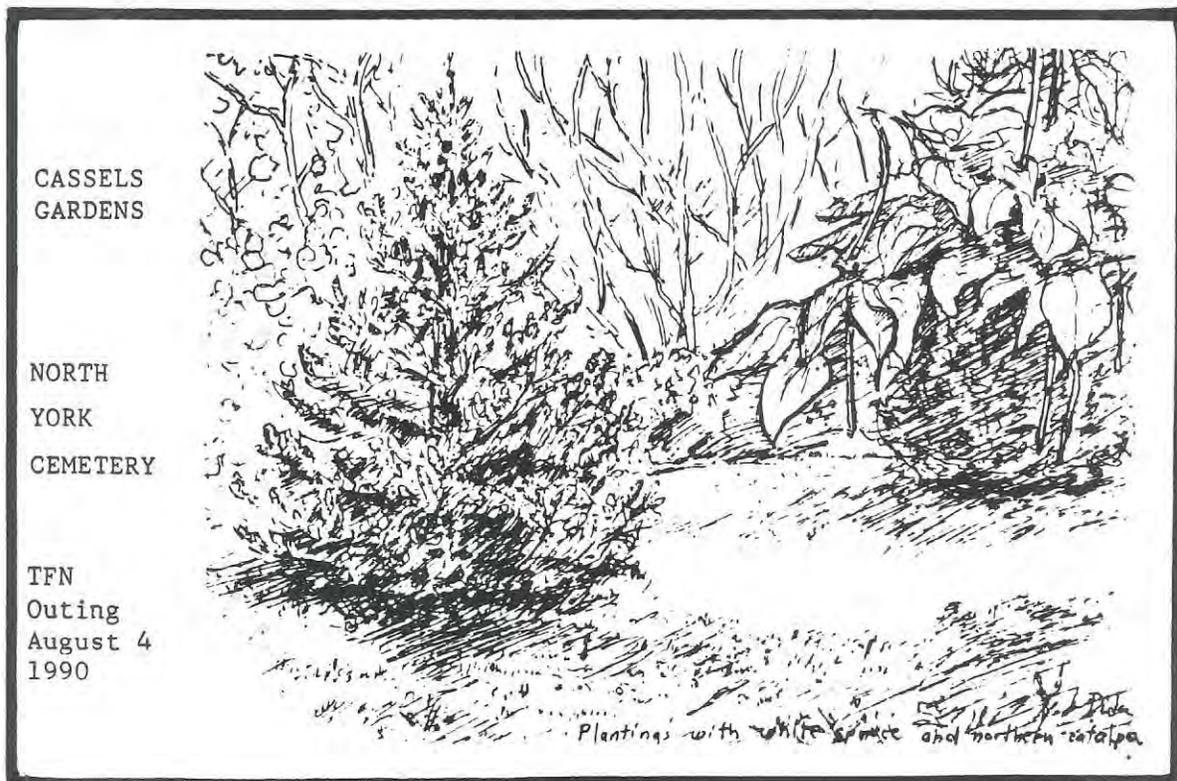
References:

- Currie, Dr. Doug - notes
Darling, Dr. Chris - notes
Edmunds, G and S. Jensen and L. Berner. THE MAYFLIES OF NORTH AND CENTRAL AMERICA, Burns and MacEachern Ltd., Don Mills, 1976. □

PARKLAND MAINTENANCE

As every manager of public parkland knows, it is always a challenge, especially with the diminishing funding available these days, to manage an area so that its natural features are not compromised. It is important that such areas be open to visitors so that they may know the value of what is being protected. Yet the presence of people can too easily become a threat to the integrity of a natural area, as various individuals and user groups practise their own ideas of how a site can best serve their own purposes. Some may view conservation areas as ideal venues for bush parties. In other cases, neighbouring landowners may dump organic yard waste in natural areas, thereby smothering native wildflowers and introducing seeds of invasive alien weeds. Fishermen and sometimes naturalists may damage delicate vegetation by thoughtlessly wandering off trails or taking shortcuts that create new paths. Each additional pathway diminishes the amount and quality of space on the forest floor that is available to native plants and animals. Visions of subdivisions may dance in the heads of developers, and they may convince cash-strapped politicians of the wisdom of rezoning, or of the sale of "surplus" natural lands now in public ownership. As time goes on, naturalists, environmentalists and others who care will have to become increasingly vigilant regarding the future of our best quality natural areas. Even if such an area was "saved" once and is now a park or conservation area, there is no guarantee that its integrity will be maintained or even that it will remain in public ownership.

extracted from "Coldstream Conservation Area" by Winifred Wake in the CARDINAL, newsletter of the McIlwraith Field Naturalists of London, Nov. 1995. □



IN THE NEWS

WARMEST YET

Scientists at the British Meteorological Office announced that the world's average temperature was two degrees Celsius above normal during 1995. This is further proof that global warming has truly resumed following a brief pause caused by a layer of volcanic ash from the eruption of Mt. Pinatubo in 1991, the researchers said. As predicted by computer climate models, some regions of the world were significantly hotter than average in 1995, such as parts of Siberia where it was three degrees above normal. Dr. Phil Jones of the University of East Anglia compared Britain's one-degree rise predicted by 2050. "A lot of people thought it was very hot last year. What might they think if it became twice that much above normal, which is a lot warmer?"

from "Earthweek: Diary of the planet" by Steve Newman in THE TORONTO STAR. 13 January 1996

SOUND BREEDS FURY AS NOISE POLLUTION GROWS

According to the Canadian Hearing Society, noise pollution is doubling every 10 years. Because of that and the aging of the population, hearing loss has become the fastest growing disability in North America. Because noise damage is cumulative, most people don't realize their hearing has been affected until it's too late. In Canada, about 10 per cent of the population has some form of hearing impairment. There are no federal regulations placing maximum limits on the noise that can be produced by household appliances. However, the increasing recognition that people are using more and more noisy appliances has prompted the federal government to start assessing them for potential risk to hearing. The hearing loss occurs because sound-transmitting hair cells in the inner ear shake loose. When this happens, they can't signal the auditory nerve to send electrical impulses to the brain. Once the hair cells are lost, they can't be replaced. While people may not realize they have done long-term damage to their ears, most recognize the anger, frustration and irritation that come from being exposed to unwanted, uncontrollable and unpredictable noise. Unwanted sound triggers the classic fight-or-flight stress response. The heart rate increases, blood pressure rises, digestion slows and muscles tense. There are productive ways to fight back. Becoming an antinoise activist is a better response than just trying to cope. Coping comes with a price. It gives licence to the noise-maker.

extracted from an article by Joan Breckenridge in THE GLOBE AND MAIL. 19 November 1994



Nine-thirty TV.
Competing with Menuhin,
the robin carols.

haiku by Diana Banville

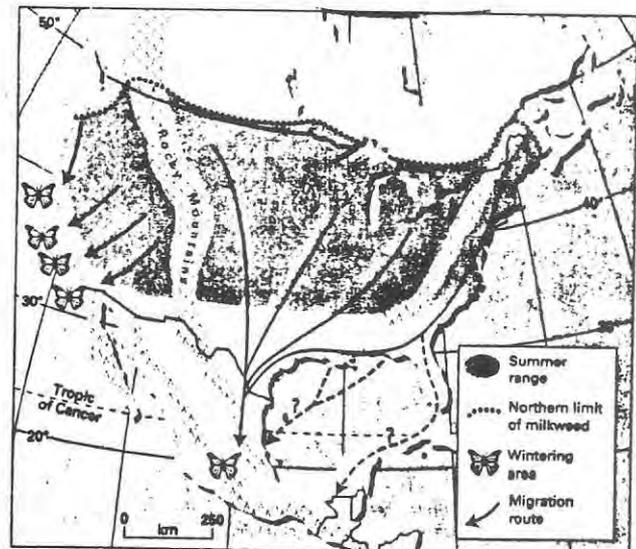
COLD KILLS MONARCH BUTTERFLIES IN MEXICO

The distinctive orange-and-black-winged monarch butterfly that is a harbinger of summer in Canada will be a rarer sight this year because of an unusual cold snap in western Mexico. A snowstorm dumped more than 18 cm of snow in their winter grounds high in the mountains of Mexico. The last major snowfall, in February of 1992, killed 70 to 90 per cent of the butterflies wintering there and the species has yet to recover. After nearly disappearing, the monarch is back in Southern California. The real danger to the butterfly comes after the snow. What usually happens is you get a period of freezing weather. If the temperature drops below -5°C , then the butterflies are really in trouble. In Canada, the monarch is having more and more difficulty finding milkweed, which it needs to survive. In many areas, treated as a weed, it is killed with chemicals.

extracted from an article by Michael Grange in THE GLOBE AND MAIL, 1 January 1996

MONARCHS REAPPEAR IN CALIFORNIA

After nearly disappearing, the monarch is back in Southern California. Thousands have been spotted this year clustering in their favoured wintering sites up and down the West Coast, including Malibu and the Santa Monica Mountains. Scientists and volunteers who monitor the more than 300 wintering sites in the U. S. West noted that the monarch population plummeted after 1992. The disappearance and return of the monarchs have created an entomological whodunit for scientists. The best explanation may lie with a parasitic wasp and a deadly disease that strikes only monarchs. Another contributing factor may have been the drought in the south west which could have reduced egg laying and cut down on crops of milkweed -- the only plant that sustains monarch caterpillars. Coastal butterflies go into a sort of hibernation on eucalyptus or Monterrey pine.



PAUL SNEATH/The Globe and Mail

extracted from an article by Tom Hardy in THE GLOBE AND MAIL, 1 January 1996



IN THE NEWS (cont'd)

MONARCHS IN BRITAIN

In October, there were records of 50 monarchs from North America, the best since 1981. Most made landfall on the South Coast west of the Isle of Wight, but then spread inland.

from "Too hot to handle" by Chris Mead in BBC WILDLIFE. Vol. 13. No. 12. December 1995

THOUSANDS OF HAWKS KILLED BY INSECTICIDE

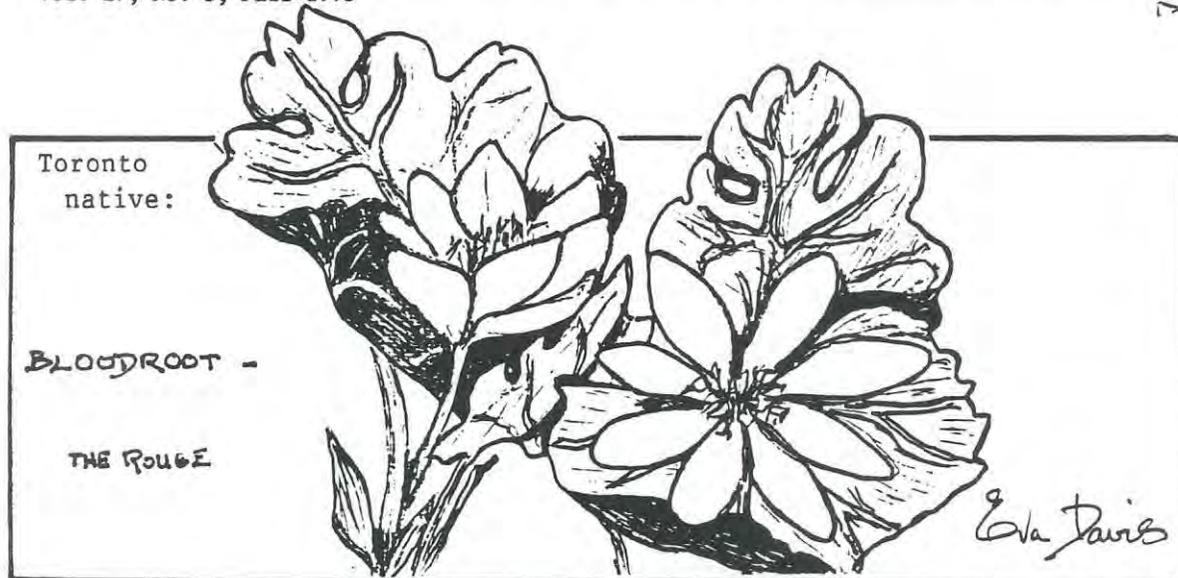
Insecticide poisoning has killed nearly 4,000 Swainson's hawks migrating from Canada and the United States to Argentina's grasslands since November. The 3,909 birds, 90 per cent of them adults, were found in an area of just 50 square kilometres near the town of General Pico in the western province of La Pampa. The hawks escape the northern winter by flying more than 11,000 kilometres south to Argentina every November. They return north in early March to nest and reproduce. The hawks follow tractors to catch grasshoppers disturbed by the passage of the machines. The insects contain a lethal dose of pesticides sprayed on fields by farmers. There are an estimated 350,000 to 400,000 Swainson's hawks worldwide. [In Canada, they are found from Manitoba to British Columbia.]

extracted from an article in the TORONTO STAR, Feb. 16, 1996

EFFECTIVE DETERRENTS AGAINST WINDOW KILLS?

According to a brief study done at Long Point Bird Observatory by a student, aluminum foil covered birds and black silhouetted birds did not stop birds from flying into mist nets; however a bird looking more realistic such as a bird coloured as a Merlin did deter the birds.

extracted from an article by Andrea Pomeroy in the Long Point Bird Observatory Newsletter, Vol. 27, No. 3, Fall 1995



THE FEEL GOOD FACTOR

So-called advances in the insulation of our homes and offices save energy on the one hand -- but they can reduce air-exchange and create potential health problems. Various harmful gases and compounds, albeit in small quantities, are emitted by modern synthetic furnishing materials, computers and electrical equipment and by everyday household objects like cleaning materials. Indoor plants, it seems, have amazing air purification capabilities and consequently do much to reduce these apparent hazards. The humble spider plant is an excellent vehicle for the removal of carbon monoxide from the atmosphere around it. Hibiscus and rubber plants are good at keeping carbon dioxide at bay during daylight hours. Other popular plants which are similarly beneficial in various ways include ivy, peace lily (*Spathiphyllum*), dragon tree (*Dracaena marginata*), pot chrysanthemum, philodendron and pot gerbera. Anyone who is vulnerable to irritations of the eyes, nose and throat -- particularly sufferers from asthma, I would have thought -- could do a lot worse than invest in such plants and benefit from their combined ornamental and functional qualities.

extracted from Garden Centre News by Denis Russell in AMATEUR GARDENING , 1995

GARDENS ARE OASES FOR YOUR INNER SELF

If we are to look at our gardens as a collection of plants, planted and displayed in a pleasing manner, creating an oasis where we can sit or stroll away from the bustle of the city, office, telephone and television, a place to contemplate and renew our inner self, how could one feel at peace with nature in the garden if half of nature was not there? I think we should all think twice before we buy insecticides or herbicides. Even fertilizers are grossly over used. If cars are going to continue to pump carbon monoxide into the air, then we must do all we can to counter this pollution. At best, we can keep our gardens clean of pollutants. We need insects to pollinate the flowers so they will produce seeds so we can grow more flowers. The birds in turn eat the seeds, and insects in turn play a big part in breaking down the compost in the composter. It's almost like a symphony orchestra.

extracted from an article by Eric Slater in BEACH METRO NEWS. October 10, 1995

▽

...Across the acres of industrial dereliction, simple neglect has been a great aid to conservation. Nature has healed the scars magnificently. By contrast, most of our official parks and open spaces are still manicured with mowing machines and sprayed with chemicals.

extracted from "The Baines Report" by Chris Baines in BBC WILDLIFE, Vol. 10, No. 3, March 1992

IN THE NEWS (cont'd)

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT ERODES ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATIONS

The Progressive Conservative government of Ontario has moved the province to the forefront of efforts to eliminate environmental regulations and programs. Among the changes, the Ontario government has:

- Repealed the ban on municipal garbage incineration and replaced it with regulations setting out the pollution emissions permitted from waste burning.
- Ended a preservation program for the province's fruitland. It is also proposing changes in Bill 20, covering the province's planning act, that would speed development of agricultural land.
- Cut funding for conservation authorities by 70 per cent and made it easier to wind down the authorities and sell their assets.
- Passed omnibus legislation allowing mine operators to regulate themselves when closing mines. The legislation also loosened requirements for permits to undertake developments, such as dams, on Crown land.
- Announced a study to determine which of the 80 regulations covering the environment might be eliminated.
- Exempted the Ministry of Finance from the province's Environmental Bill of Rights. The change means citizens cannot use the bill to challenge government fiscal policies for their effect on the environment.
- Disbanded the Advisory Committee on Environmental Standards, a group that managed the Minister of Environment's public consultation process for controversial projects and policies.
- proposed the reduction of the area covered by strict development restrictions on wetlands, which could open the Georgian Bay and Muskoka areas to further development.

extracted from an article in the GLOBE AND MAIL, Feb. 14, 1996

CONSERVATION AREAS PROGRAMS CANCELLED

Expect fewer public events at Ontario's conservation areas and higher fees for those that go ahead in light of provincial government cutbacks. To cope with massive fund cuts, many conservation areas have cancelled such public programs as hikes and guided birdwatching sessions. The Grand River Conservation Authority based in Cambridge is dropping Sunday afternoon programs at its nature centres; the Kawartha Region Conservation Authority of Lindsay has cancelled its education programs and most public programs; the Hamilton Region Conservation Authority plans fewer free weekend programs; however, the Metro [Toronto] authority educational and interpretive programs have been made top priority because a committed and informed public is necessary to the agency's future. Instead, money has been saved through cuts on the operations side. As a result, gates to the parks may be shut at periods of low use, but members of the public will be able to park outside and enter on foot.

extracted from an article in the GLOBE AND MAIL, Feb. 28, 1996

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IN THE NEWS (cont'd)

CUTS PUT LID ON PARK TOILETS

Residents still will be able to enjoy nature but will have to make their own arrangements when nature calls in most Metro parks for the rest of the winter. Under severe budget pressures, Metro stopped servicing all but eight of its 69 "named" parks this winter to save \$2.5 million. Residents used to taking their cars to Metro parks will find chains barring their entrance to parking lots. The municipality has laid off 23 people who used to plow the parking lots and maintain the facilities in winter. That leaves some 600 parks staff. Many services are under pressure this year as Metro tries to absorb \$90 million in revenue shortfalls. After closing washrooms and locking up parking lots on Jan.1, the municipality has made plans to re-open them on April 15. Parks with services still operating are G. Ross Lord, Sunnybrook Park, Coronation park on weekdays only, Edwards Gardens, James Gardens, Earl Bales Park and the west side of Bluffers Park and the winter tennis court parking lot at Eglinton Flats.

extracted from an article by Peter Small in the TORONTO STAR, Feb. 7, 1996

RULES FOR TREE CARE RELAXED

North York Council has approved a new tree protection bylaw that will make it easier for builders to work around older trees. The bylaw will, among other things, cut the area of protection required for root systems in half, and streamline the process for the recovery of security deposits from builders. North York Parks Commissioner Joe Halstead told council that the amendments to the 1992 tree protection bylaw would put an end to abuse by builders, many of whom claim that the '92 bylaw was unclear about what builders could and couldn't do. The new bylaw, among other things, creates one of the smallest "no touch" zones for trees in Canada and also would allow builders to retain their own arborists to supply opinions as to whether a tree had been damaged. As well, the previous bylaw saw security deposits retained by staff until it was determined the trees hadn't been damaged in the building process. The amendments would see security deposits returned immediately following construction, where the builder hadn't violated any agreements.

extracted from an article by David Nickle in THE NORTH YORK MIRROR. 10-11 February 1996

NEWSLETTER CLIPPINGS: Files are kept in the TFN office of clippings submitted. Topics include Waterfront, Valleys, Pesticides, Trees, etc. These may be borrowed or examined by anyone interested. Please call the TFN office (968-6255) to make an appointment.

CONTRIBUTORS OF NEWSLETTER CLIPPINGS THIS MONTH: Diana Banville, Sheila Bruggeman, Mary Cumming, Nancy Cumming, Sandy Cappell, Pheobe Cleverley, Karin Fawthrop, Nancy Fredenburg, Jean Macdonald, Eileen Mayo, Alen McCombie, Joan O'Donnell, Louise Orr, Jim Purnell, Irene Smith, Grace Somers, Gloria Somerville, Mary Thomson, Mel Whiteside.

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THE WEATHER (THIS TIME LAST YEAR)

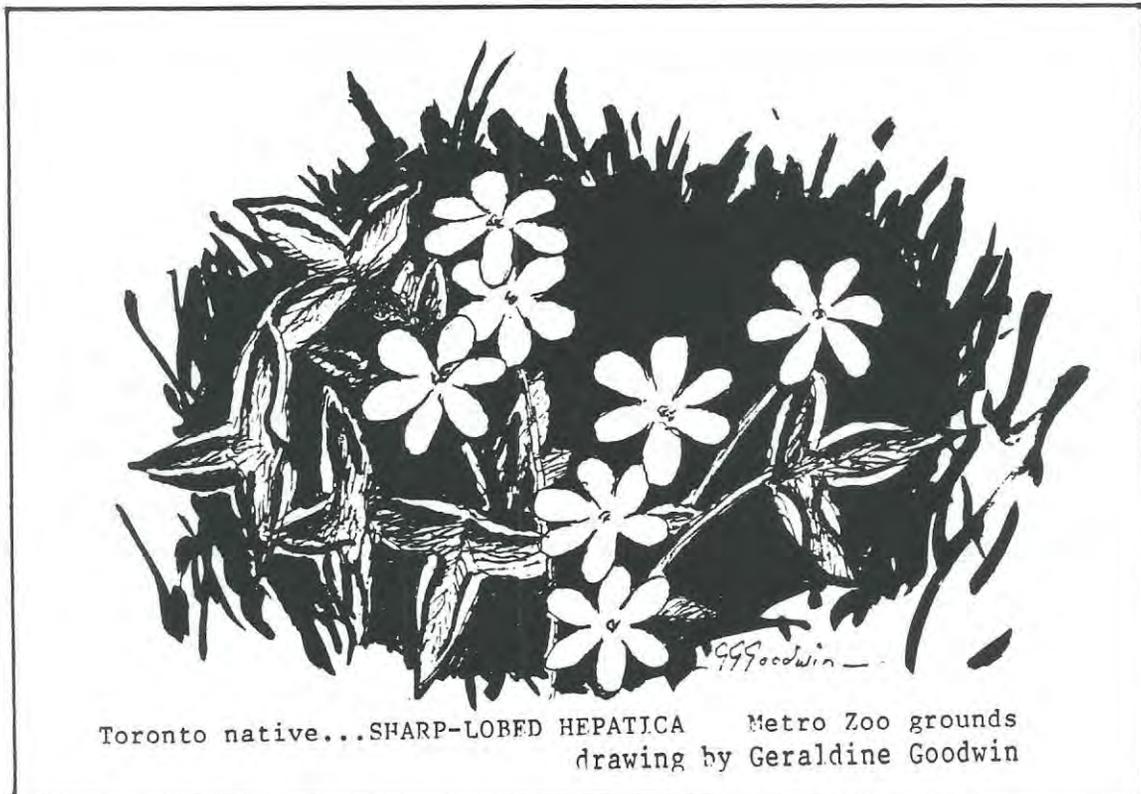
Toronto, April 1995

After a taste of pleasant things in March, spring was put on hold in April. It was cold. A strong cold front on the early morning of April 4th swept in arctic air, and it stayed below freezing all day on April 5th. The minima were -7.9°C downtown and -9.2°C at L.B. Pearson International Airport, the lowest for the month since 1982. Any recovery from this cold spell was equivocal, for below-normal, unspectacular temperatures persisted the rest of the month. Pearson's monthly maximum of 16.8°C more or less tied the low monthly maximum of about 16.7°C recorded in 1956. It was the coldest April since 1975 downtown, and since 1978 at the airport. Maximum temperatures were particularly low on average, about three degrees below normal. Very little plant growth occurred.

Precipitation was above normal, but this has been the pattern for April in the 1990s. It was widely scattered, with at least half of it coming during heavy rains on April 21st, which also featured the warmest weather of the month. Snowfall was, somewhat surprisingly, below normal: barely 3 to 5 cm. The winter of 1994-95 was the least snowy downtown since 1983 with a total of 74.8 cm. 1982-83's total was 73.0 cm, while the normal is 130 cm or more. Sunshine was about 26 hours below normal.

Gavin Miller

□



Toronto native...SHARP-LOBED HEPATICA Metro Zoo grounds
drawing by Geraldine Goodwin

COMING EVENTS

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

- Spring Migration at the Leslie St. Spit - Sat. April 27 from 8 am (all day) with Hugh Currie. Meet at the foot of Leslie St. and bring lunch.

Toronto Entomologists' Association meeting - Sat. April 20 at 1 pm in the Public Lecture Room at the McLaughlin Planetarium, next to the ROM. The meeting will include a talk by Dr. Jim Corrigan of the University of Guelph about Biological Control of Purple Loosestrife. For more information about the group, call Al Hanks at 905-727-6993.

Mycological Society of Toronto - for information about meetings and forays, call HI-FUNGI.

Canadian Wildflower Society - East Toronto Chapter meeting - April 24 at 7:30 pm at the Beaches Recreation Centre, 6 Williamson Rd. with Tom Atkinson talking about Growing Native Trees and Shrubs. For more information call Paul McGaw at 261-6272 or Carolyn King at 222-5736.

Society of Ontario Nut Growers Auction of nut tree seedlings and sale of nuts, nut tree books, crafts, cookery etc. - Sat. April 20 from 1:15 pm to 4 pm at the Civic Garden Centre (Lawrence and Leslie).

Citizens for a Lakeshore Greenway nature walk at Guildwood Park - Sat. April 27 at 10:30 am. Meet at the corner of Galloway Rd. and Guildwood Parkway. Bring lunch.

Fourth Annual Treasure Hunt (environment clean-up) at Tyler Creek - Sat. April 27 from 10 am. Meet on the north side of Eglinton Ave. East just east of Bob Bannerman Motors (at Sloane Ave.). Wear boots and gloves. Many hands make light work! For more information call Kathleen Fall at 751-4617.

Black Creek Project meeting - Wed. April 3 at 6:30 pm in the Centennial Bldg. (Senior's Lounge), 2694 Eglinton Ave. West. For details, call Kristin Geater at 661-6600, ext. 364. See below also.

Humber Watershed Task Force meetings - April 2 and April 30. All meetings open to the public. To confirm dates, times, and locations, call Madelyn Webb at 661-6600, ext. 331.

Black Creek Project planting of trees, and shrubs along the creek in Trethewey Park - Sat. April 13 from 10 am to 12 noon. See above. ▷

*Farmer is plowing.
Gulls are planted behind him,
lined up in a row.*

haiku by Aarne Juhola

COMING EVENTS (cont'd)

Task Force to Bring Back the Don events

- Sat. April 27 at 10 am - planting trees and shrubs in Lawrence Park. Meet at Yonge St. and St. Edmunds Dr. Rain or shine.
- Sunday, April 28 at 10 am - planting trees and shrubs along the Lower Don Trail. Meet at the Riverdale footbridge at 9:45 am.
- Garbage removal from the Don Valley - every weekend. Call 392-0401 to find out where. Hip waders provided.

Long Point Bird Observatory - Annual General Meeting - at Port Rowan on April 20, 1996. For more information contact LPBO at P.O. Box 160, Port Rowan, Ont. NOE 1MO or telephone 519-586-3531.

Early Birders - an introduction to birding for absolute beginners (how to observe and identify birds, use of binoculars and field guides) - Sat. April 13 from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm (lunch optional) at Thomson Memorial Park (near Lawrence and Brimley). Pre-registration necessary. Call Morris Sorensen at 755-6030. The cost of this Urban Naturalist workshop is \$5 per person.

Walking tour with Ian Wheal - Sat. April 20 at 1:30 pm. Meet at the southwest corner of Carlaw Ave. and Gerrard St. East.
also: Sat. April 27 at 1:30 pm. Meet at the Casimir Gzowski Park at the foot of Windermere Ave. and Lakeshore Blvd. West to look at the High Park embankment.

TFN display
included

The History of Yonge St. - a travelling display - opens at College Park (corner of Yonge St. and College St.) - April 13 (runs to May 10); also Pioneer Food Focus and Farmers Market at Roy's Square (on west [719 Yonge St., side of Yonge St. just south of Bloor St.] - Tuesdays from 11 am to 4 pm. 2nd fl.]

55+ Outdoors Club walk with Ed Freeman to the Fringes of Rosedale - April 21 from 2 pm to 4 pm. Call 588-9648 for more information and to register. Cost \$10 per person.

Toronto Gem and Mineral Show - April 26 (5 pm to 9 pm), April 27 (10 am to 9 pm), April 28 (10 am to 5 pm) at Oriole Community Centre, 2975 Don Mills Rd. West. Admission: adults, \$5; seniors, \$4; 12-18 yrs., \$3.

□

The irony of conservation is that, while wild creatures and wild places can be destroyed for ever, it's impossible to save them once and for all. New threats and changing situations mean that conservationists are destined to be continually on the defensive. And, as in other areas of human life, history continues to replay itself.

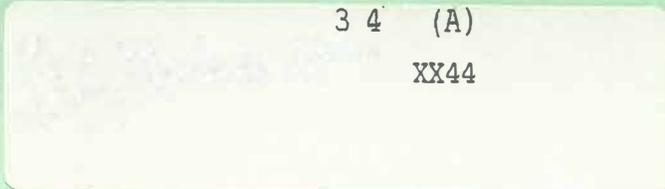
extracted from the Editorial by Rosamund Kidman Cox in BBC WILDLIFE, Vol. 14, No. 2, February 1996

TORONTO FIELD NATURALISTS

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Survey #8 - West Don Valley, 1978			

NO G.S.T.

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