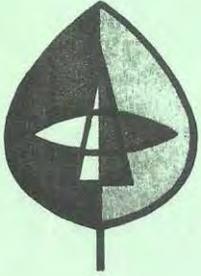
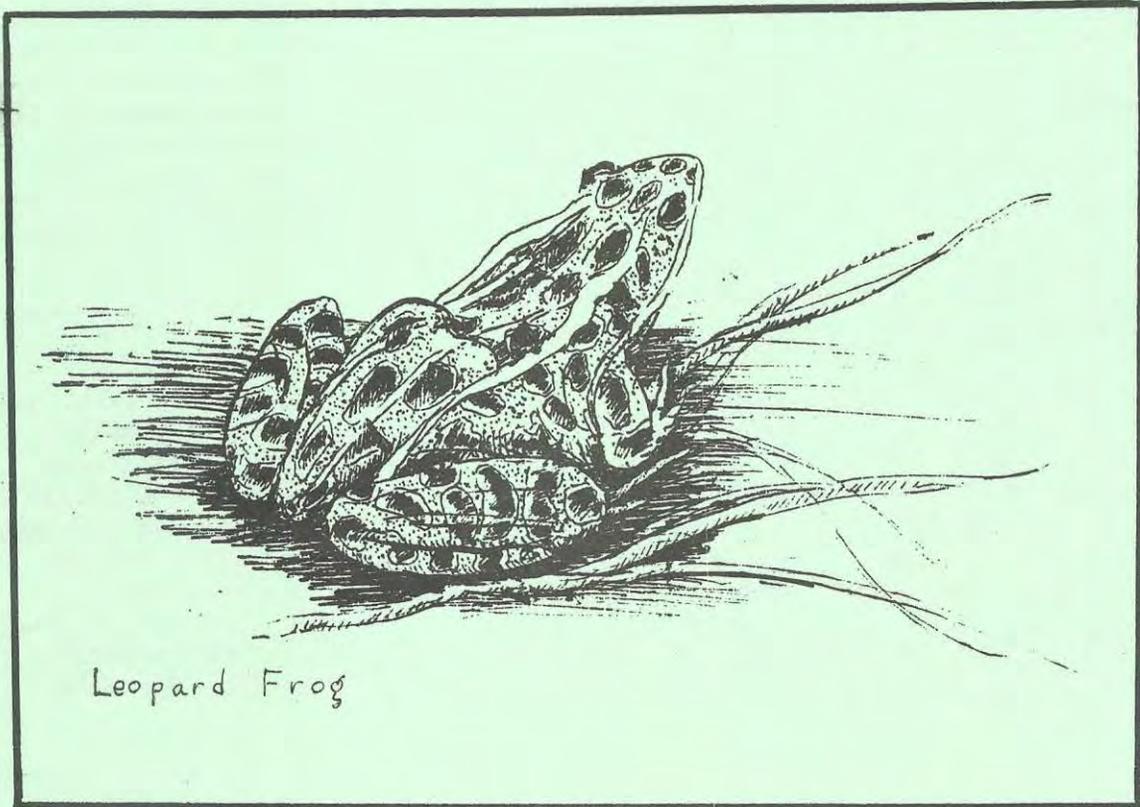


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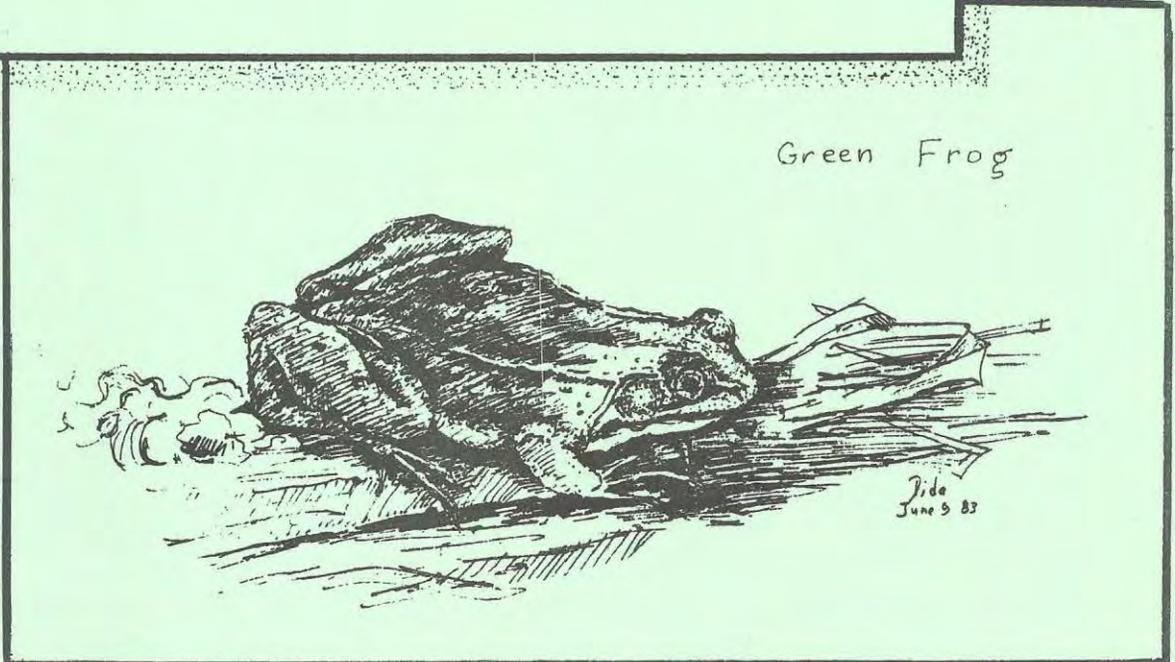


TORONTO FIELD NATURALIST

Number 365, September 1984



Leopard Frog



Green Frog

J. J. Jida
June 9 83

Watch-frogs...

See page 22.

President's Report

As I write this in June, Toronto really is "Toronto the Green". The trees are putting on a whole year's growth at once. I wonder, as I look out, if this year's tree ring will be another narrow acid rain ring like the last twenty-five, or whether we have broken the pattern and returned to the pre-acid rain days of strong growth. The tulip tree outside my window is parading its orange and green cups from top to bottom. Will it grow to its full genetic potential?

TFN members have been promoting the enjoyment of natural history. At the Garden Show, eight members led outings from the Civic Garden Centre into Wilket Creek. Three slide shows were given, one at the Northern District Library, one for the Seventh Day Adventists, and one for the Scarborough Garden Club. The TFN display unit has been well used. Jean Macdonald changed the display to suit its location. In April it was on show at a library and then a school, both in Etobicoke. Since then, it was at Eddie Bauer's store on Bloor Street for two weeks in May, three weeks in the Northern District Library, and one week at North York City Hall for World Environment Week. The display is now at the Kortright Conservation Centre for the summer.

In addition, members continue to maintain the log cabin in Sunnybrook Park, and Harold Taylor writes his weekly nature notes that are read on Art Drysdale's gardening program on CFRB on Saturday mornings. TFN membership applications were sent to Scarborough Town Centre for World Environment Week, and a successful sesquicentennial walk was held on the Leslie Street Spit where between five and six hundred people enjoyed the hot weather down "in" the lake. This was the first time many of them had seen the Toronto Islands "from the outside".

Master planning for the Spit has begun and many of our members are interested in the planning and especially in its results. We are hoping that the Spit will remain wild and free.

A letter was sent from the TFN in regard to the Leslie Street extension. The TFN is against the road expansion, but sent detailed comments in case the road goes through anyway. The route beside the railway is definitely the next best option that has been found since discussion began about eight years ago.

I want to comment on the Outings Program of the TFN. There is nothing like it, and I hope you are all enjoying it. When I have visited elsewhere, I found naturalists counting birds from the safety of their cars. Here we actually watch the behaviour of wildlife. The other day we watched a fat snake angrily flicking her tongue and discovered that being pregnant is just as hard on a snake's temper as it is on some people. Did you know that a pregnant garter snake delivers perhaps fifteen young ones?

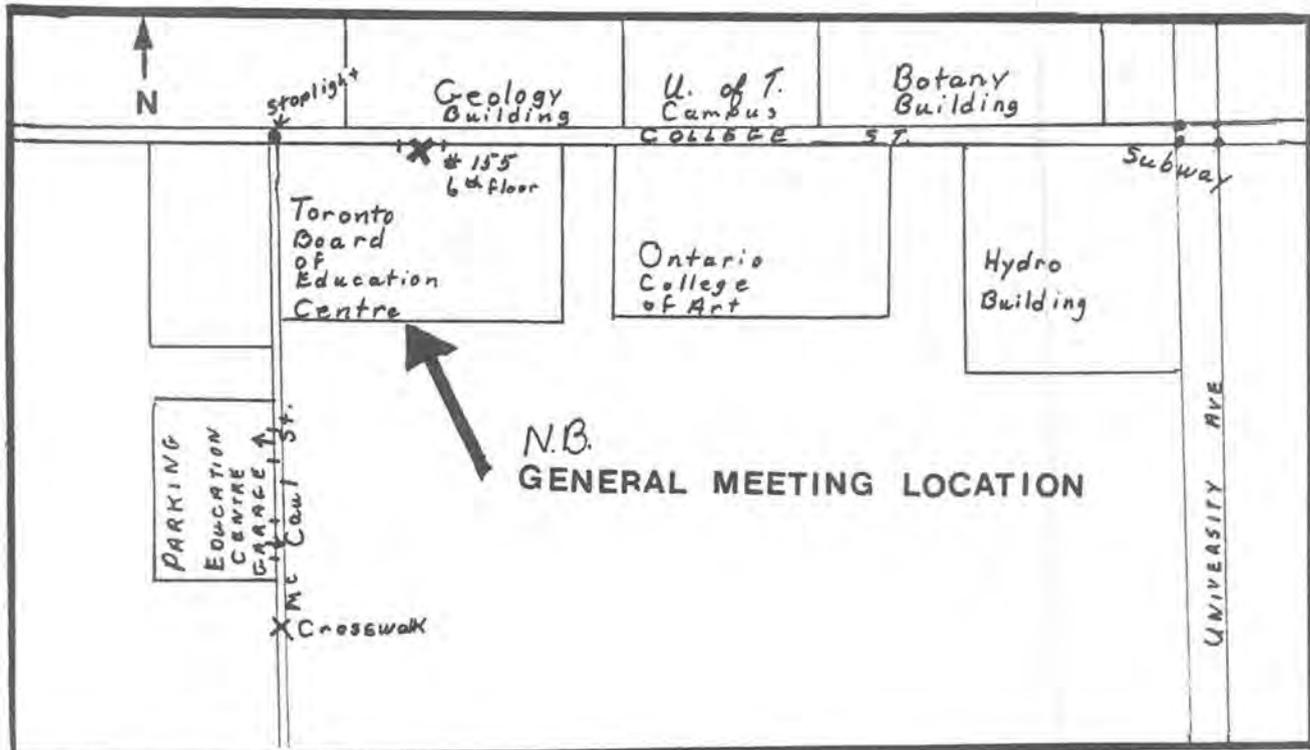
I have been trying to become more aware of my individual effect on the Great Lakes. For example, when it rains, runoff from my garden goes via the storm drain on the corner of the street to Mimico Creek and then to Lake Ontario, source of our drinking water. When I make my garden absorb all the rain, the ground filters it clean before it gets to the lake. I like that. When I am tempted to spray, I look for a cleaner answer. I wash off the pests, and even apply a little potassium soap in the water on occasion. I feed the leaves with mineral rich seaweed extract and fertilizer rich ocean fish liquid. I feed

PRESIDENT'S REPORT continued...

beneficial insects by planting a continuous sequence of bloom from frost to frost, and by planting a continuous sequence of bloom from frost to frost, and by supplementary feed in the gaps with a mixture of food yeast and sugar, and by promoting variety in plantings. Other tricks are innoculating pasteurized "dead" soil with one teeming with earthworms, and feeding the earthworms. If we can remember that garden plagues are nearly all manmade, we can see how we did it, and stop. It's up to us.

Hope you have all enjoyed the summer. I'll look forward to seeing you at TFN meetings in the fall.

Mary Smith



Board of Directors 1984 - 1985

Past President: Mary Smith, 49 Thorncrest Rd., Islington M9A 1S6 (231-5302)
 President: Jean Macdonald, 88 Parklea Dr., Toronto M4G 2J8 (425-6596)
 Vice-president: Winifred Smith, #509 - 145 St. George St., Toronto M5R 2M1
 (923-9015)

Directors:

Howard Battae, 130 Alfred Ave., Willowdale M2N 3H9 (225-9780)
 Billie Bridgman, #801 - 2825 Islington Ave., Weston M9L 2K1 (749-7860)
 Alexander Cappell, #109 - 35 Cedarcroft Blvd., Willowdale M2R 2Z4 (663-7738)
 Jim Hodgins, 90 Wolfrey Ave., Toronto M4K 1K8 (466-6428)
 Phil Joiner, 51 Trailridge Cres., Apt. 1111, Scarborough M1E 4S9 (282-6438)
 Aarne Juhola, #112 - 51 Alexander St., Toronto M4Y 1B3 (924-5806)
 Muriel Miville, #607 - 33 Eastmount Ave., Toronto M4K 1V3 (463-8066)
 Robin Powell, #402 - 169 St. George St., Toronto M5R 2M4 (928-9493)
 Ann Reynolds, #203 - 2730 Yonge St., Toronto M4N 2J1 (484-6911)

	Upcoming OUTINGS TFN	
RAIN	or  SHINE	Everybody Welcome!

In the fall, cold air triggers migration, warm weather stalls it. August and September, watch mudflats, wet fields and shorelines for shorebirds. This is a good time to visit Presqu'ile, the Leslie Street spit and Hanlan's Point. Monarch butterflies (the large orange and black ones) are migrating along the north shore of Lake Ontario. Watch for spectacular gatherings south of Unwin Avenue from Leslie Street to Cherry Beach. Late August and early September flocks of 40 to 50 nighthawks are often seen migrating down Metro's ravines and valleys and along the lakeshore. Listen for their buzzing calls in the evenings. In September watch for large flocks of blue jays moving along the shore of the lake. Also, check marshes for herons and dabbling ducks, and the lake for gulls, terns, early diving ducks and grebes. Hawks too follow the lakeshore westward. Cool sunny days with winds from the north or northwest are best.

- Saturday JIM BAILLIE NATURE RESERVE - work day
 Sept. 1 Leader: Herb Smith (231-5302)
 11 am to Please bring hammers, chain saws, clippers; also work gloves and
 3 pm rubber boots. We are planning to install signs, clear trails and
 make more ducks boards (board walks). Call Helen Juhola (924-5806)
 if you plan to attend. We would particularly like to hear from
 anyone with a car who wouldn't mind meeting other volunteers at
 either the Finch or Kennedy subway station. Don't forget to
 bring lunch. The "Guide to the Jim Baillie Nature Reserve"
 includes a map showing how to get to the reserve. These are
 available throughout membership secretary for \$1.75 or may be
 purchased at the September meeting for \$1.25. If you don't want
 to operate a chain saw, perhaps you can help by carrying branches
 or identifying plants along the trail.
- Sunday HIGHLAND CREEK - tributaries
 Sept. 2 Leader: Raphael Sussman
 10:30 am Meet at the concession stand in Thompson Park (north of Lawrence
 Ave. East on the east side of Brimley Rd.) The leader is a
 landscape architect who works for the Scarborough Parks Dept. He
 plans to lead us through a necklace of 7 parks (involving 3 road
 crossings) in three hours. Bring lunch.
- Monday DEVIANT FLORA OF TORONTO
 Sept. 3 Leaders: Sandy Cappell, Mary Smith, and Helen Juhola
 10 am Meet at the southwest corner of University Ave. and Dundas St. West
 for an introduction to unusual introduced plants. Lunch
 may be purchased in the area.
- Tuesday Sept. 4: ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF TFN (see page 39.)

UPCOMING OUTINGS continued...

- Wednesday HUMBER VALLEY 15 - Black Creek - Derrydown Park
 Sept. 5 Leader: Volunteer needed
 11 am Meet on Finch Ave. West where it crosses Black Creek (east of Jane St. and west of Keele St.) to walk south. Bring lunch.
- Saturday Sept. 8: JUNIOR CLUB MEETING (see page 39.)
 also
- Saturday KEW BEACH - sketching
 Sept. 8 Leader: Mary Cumming (536-2746)
 10 am Meet at the Beaches Library, 2161 Queen St. East, near Lee Ave. (Queen car #501 to Lee Ave.) A chance to sketch water and plants. Bring stool and any sketching material.
- Sunday EAST DON VALLEY - nature walk
 Sept. 9 Leader: Maureen Allain
 10 am Meet in the shopping plaza on the north side of Finch Ave. East (east of Bayview Ave.) to walk north. Bring lunch.
- Monday HOBBERLIN MUSEUM
 Sept. 10 Leader: Heddy Hobberlin
 7 pm The museum is located in what used to be Glen Avon School at
 to 10 pm 171 Avondale Ave. which is 4 blocks south of Sheppard Ave. and one block east of Yonge St.
- FULL MOON (Monday Sept. 10)
- Wednesday HUMBER VALLEY 16 - Black Creek - Downsview Dells Park
 Sept. 12 Leader: Volunteer needed
 11 am Meet on Sheppard Ave. West where it crosses Black Creek (east of Jane St., west of Keele St.) to walk south. Bring lunch.
- Saturday EAST DON VALLEY - Wigmore Park - BIRDS
 Sept. 15 Leader: Dave Kelly
 9:30 am Meet at Sloane Ave. Public School which is four blocks north of Eglinton Ave. East on Sloane Ave. (east of Don Mills Rd., west of Victoria Park Ave.)
- Sunday DON VALLEY - bees
 Sept. 16 Leader: Charles Sauriol (author of "A Beeman's Journey")
 2 pm Meet at Todmorden Mills (on Pottery Rd. which runs west off Broadview Ave. north of the Danforth -- opposite Mortimer Ave.) This outing will be to see Mr. Sauriol's honey bees which live in the Don Valley north of the village. Bring veils to wear. Mr. Sauriol is the author of several books about the Don Valley. Other leaders will be on hand to identify plants and birds of this part of the valley as only a few people may examine the bees at a time.
- ▷ Sept. 17 to 21 Time to reserve a place on the outing to WINDSOR on the weekend of October 12-14 by phoning Emily Hamilton (484-0487).
- Wednesday HUMBER VALLEY 17 - Black Creek - tributary
 Sept. 19 Leaders: Sandy Cappell and Merne Powers (for worms and bugs)
 11 am Meet at the corner of Jane and Heathrow (the second block north of Wilson Ave.) to walk east. Bring lunch. Walk will finish at Sam Hambly's winterized composter with its interesting bugs and worms.
- Fri. Sept. 21: Fall Solstice -- sunrise 7:30; sunset 7:18

UPCOMING OUTINGS continued...

- Saturday HIGH PARK - fall flowers
 Sept. 22 Leader: Emily Hamilton
 9 am Meet in the first parking lot on West Rd. (on your right as you enter the park from Bloor St. West at High Park Ave.)
- Sunday HIGHLAND CREEK - Morningside Park - nature walk
 Sept. 23 Leaders: Gay and Phil Joiner
 11 am Meet in the first parking lot of the park which is located on the west side of Morningside Ave. (north of Lawrence Ave. East and south of Ellesmere Rd.) Bring lunch. We hope to see late migrating warblers.



DARK OF THE MOON - Mon. Sept. 23 -- a good time for star watching

- Wednesday BLACK CREEK - Pioneer Village - sketching
 Sept. 26 Leader: Betty Paul
 10:30 am All welcome! Bring stool and sketching materials. (Adults \$4, seniors \$2) Meet on Steeles Ave. W at Murray Ross Parkway just east of Jane St.
- Saturday EAST DON VALLEY - Mushrooms
 Sept. 29 Leader: Jean Macdonald
 9:30 am Meet at the northwest corner of York Mills Rd. and Don Mills Rd. Members are expected to share their knowledge on this topic. Bring a magnifying lens if possible.
- Sunday GARRISON CREEK 2 - urban natural history
 Sept. 30 Leader: Sandy Cappell
 2 pm Meet at the Christie St. subway station to walk north.

Monday, October 1 -- TFN GENERAL MEETING (see page 39)

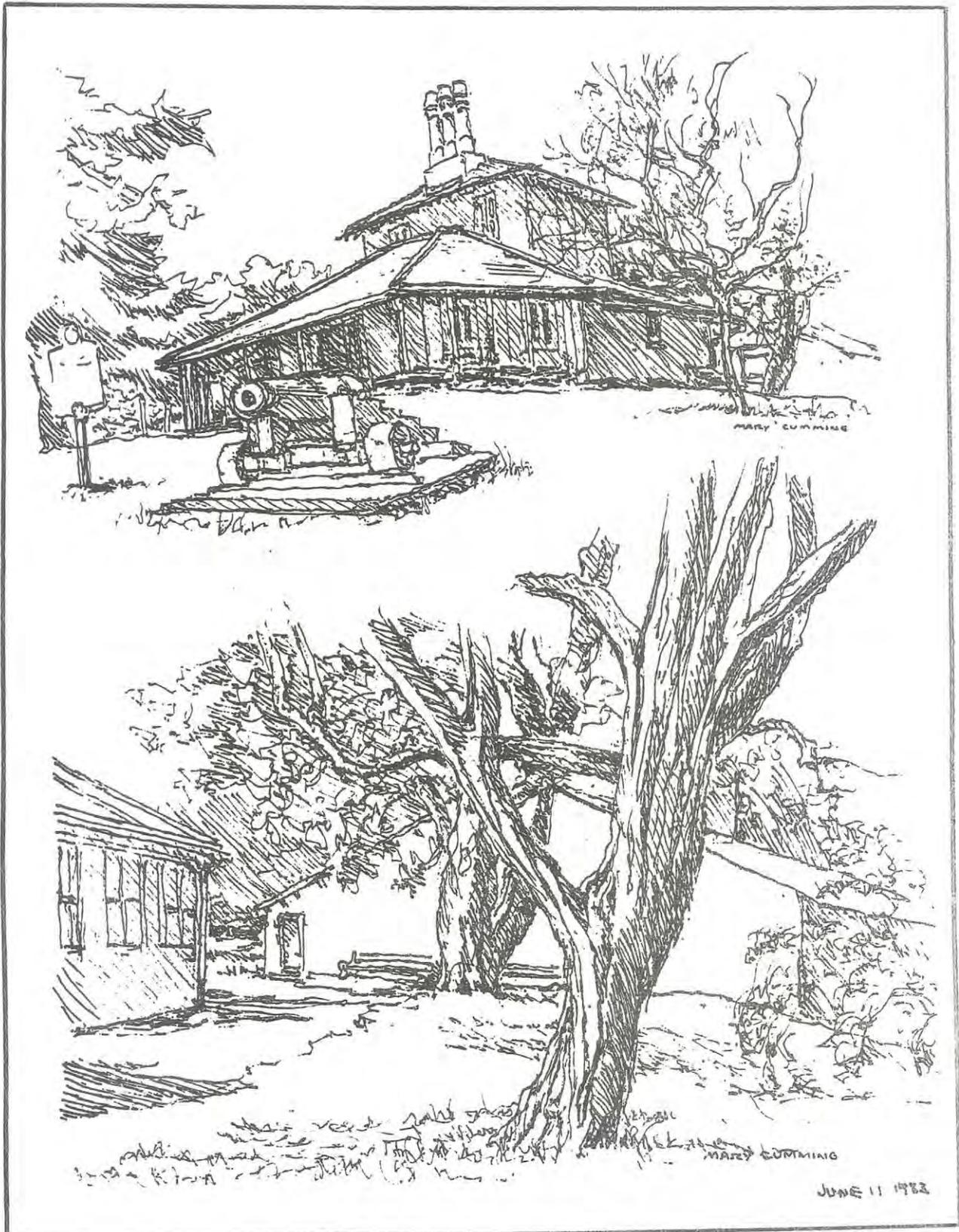
Saturday, October 6 -- JUNIOR MEETING (see page 39)

- Friday WINDSOR, ONTARIO - trees and southern vegetation
 Oct. 12 Leader: Bill Morsink
 to Sun. Plans are to drive to Windsor on Friday and spend Saturday and
 Oct. 14 part of Sunday visiting natural areas of interest. Bill Morsink is a city forester in Windsor. Please call Emily Hamilton (484-0487) if you are interested in attending. Further questions may be directed to Mary Smith (231-5302). (2 nights at motel)

Except where noted, all outings are accessible by public transit. Pick up a Ride Guide in the subway. It's free! Also, buy yourself a good map of Metro. "Mapart" may be purchased in regular form for about \$1 or in book form for about \$3. For information on other events and outings, see pages 36 to 38.

Autumn's passing Is clearly seen in the Monarch's flight.

haiku by Christine Hanrahan



Views of Colborne Lodge ("Howard House"), High Park, Toronto

AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO: MEMBERS OF THE TORONTO FIELD NATURALISTS

I have examined the balance sheet of the Toronto Field Naturalists as at June 30, 1984 and the income statement for the year then ended. My examination included a general review of the accounting procedures and such tests of the accounting records and other supporting evidence as I considered necessary in the circumstances.

Membership fees, donations and other revenues are as shown in the books. These receipts have been tested by me to bank deposits. However, because of their nature, these revenues are not susceptible to complete audit verification.

In my opinion, subject to the limitation of the scope of my audit as explained above, these financial statements present fairly the financial position of the corporation as at June 30, 1984 and the results of its operations for the year then ended, in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.



ALISTAIR J. KENNEDY
Chartered Accountant

TORONTO, CANADA
July 13, 1984

49 Harringay Crescent, Scarborough, Ontario M1W 1Z4 - (416) 491-1564

TORONTO FIELD NATURALISTS
(incorporated without share capital under the laws of the Province of Ontario)

BALANCE SHEET
as at June 30, 1984

<u>ASSETS</u>		
	1984	1983
Current Assets		
Cash - for general club purposes	\$14,836	\$20,948
Prepaid Expenses	105	-
Accrued Interest	555	695
Short Term Investments	3,082	2,640
Inventory	2,019	2,048
	<u>\$20,597</u>	<u>\$26,331</u>

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	\$ 300	\$ 3,261
Membership Fees received in advance	5,955	6,490
Unexpired Subscriptions (Note 2)	-	1,461
	<u>6,255</u>	<u>11,212</u>

EQUITY

Retained Earnings		
Balance at beginning of year	15,119	12,861
Income (loss) for year	(777)	2,258
	<u>14,342</u>	<u>15,119</u>
	<u>\$20,597</u>	<u>\$26,331</u>
Working Capital: Dollars	14,342	15,119
Ratio	3.29:1	2.35:1

JAMES BAILLIE RESERVE - RESTRICTED FUNDS (Note 1)

Current Assets		
Cash	\$27,601	\$21,161
Short Term Investments	27,405	24,781
Accrued Interest	777	380
	<u>55,783</u>	<u>46,322</u>
Property and Equipment		
Land	42,770	42,770
Building	\$3,050	
Less Accumulated Depreciation	<u>1,550</u>	<u>1,750</u>
	<u>44,320</u>	<u>44,520</u>
	<u>\$100,103</u>	<u>\$90,842</u>
Equity		
Reserve for future expenditures	55,783	46,322
Property	44,320	44,520
	<u>\$100,103</u>	<u>\$90,842</u>

APPROVED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD

W. L. ... (Director) *Jean Macdonald* (Director)

The attached notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

TORONTO FIELD NATURALISTS
COMPARATIVE INCOME STATEMENT
for the year ended June 30, 1984

REVENUE	<u>1984</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>1982</u>
Membership Fees	\$18,325	\$17,892	\$13,080
Income earning programs:-			
Audubon Wildlife Films (Note 3)	-	1,790	525
Publications	551	504	415
Outings	719	583	534
	<u>\$19,595</u>	<u>\$20,769</u>	<u>\$14,554</u>
 EXPENSES			
Subsidized programs:-			
Ontario Field Biologist (Note 2)	-	959	611
Junior Club	337	78	250
Meetings expenses	732	1,898	1,985
Newsletters, printing and mailing	14,904	12,597	11,244
Other printing expenses	586	438	924
Other mailing expenses	1,642	1,085	1,031
Honoraria	2,100	2,050	1,300
Advertising and publicity	816	795	292
Donations and affiliations fees	40	25	75
Liability insurance	475	475	535
Office supplies	708	351	156
Telephone	375	328	317
	<u>\$22,715</u>	<u>\$21,079</u>	<u>\$18,720</u>
 Operating Income (loss)	(3,120)	(310)	(4,166)
Interest Income	1,709	1,938	1,610
Cash Flow (loss)	(1,411)	1,628	(2,556)
Depreciation (Note 4)	-	-	-
Net Income (loss) before donations	(1,411)	1,628	(2,556)
Donations	634	630	6,220
Net Income (loss)	<u>\$(777)</u>	<u>\$2,258</u>	<u>\$3,664</u>

The attached notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

TORONTO FIELD NATURALISTS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
as at June 30, 1984

NOTE 1 - ACCOUNTING POLICIES

JAMES BAILLIE NATURE RESERVE

Donations received for the James Baillie Nature Reserve are segregated on the financial statements, and are to be used solely for Reserve purposes. The interest earned on these funds is sufficient to cover the normal operating costs of the Reserve. This year's statements were revised to clearly segregate the restricted funds from general club funds. The prior year's figures were restated to be on a comparable basis.

PROPERTY VALUATION

The Land and Shelter at the Baillie Nature Reserve are recorded at cost. The cost of the Shelter is being amortized on a straight line basis over its estimated useful life of 15 years.

NOTE 2 - The Ontario Field Biologist is no longer associated with or subsidized by the Toronto Field Naturalists. It now operates completely separately.

NOTE 3 - The Toronto Field Naturalists ceased sponsorship of the Audubon Wildlife Films after the 1983 season.

NOTE 4 - The depreciation on the shelter at the James Baillie Nature Reserve is no longer charged against general operations. This change has been made retroactively.



Question: Where can one go to see the effect of wind on a tall grass prairie, to experience the beauty of alpine meadows, to visit a lush green arctic oasis only 400 miles from the North Pole, to handle and learn how to identify asters, goldenrods, sedges and mosses?

Answer: The Toronto Field Naturalists' Botany Group.

If the answer surprises you, it's time you attended a Botany Group meeting. We have slide presentations, plant identification workshops and outings. Our workshops are designed for beginners. Expert assistance, microscopes and field guides are available at each workshop. To give you an idea of what you are missing, here is a list of Botany Group activities during our previous season.

September 1983. Our fall identification workshop highlighted Ontario's asters and goldenrods. I gave a brief introduction to the composites. Members were then able to handle the live material. To aid in identification, microscopes and field guides were available.

October 1983. Sedges of southern Ontario was the theme of this workshop. After my brief introduction to sedges, members were provided with a key to sedges of upland woodlands in the Toronto region -- designed for beginners. With the aid of microscopes and several experts, members were surprised to learn that they could identify these often ignored, but common, members of our flora.

November 1983. Dave Langedoen gave a talk on Ontario's tall grass prairies. Largely confined to southwestern Ontario with outliers reaching east to High Park in Toronto and north to Holland Landing, a few small remnants are all that remain of this once more common habitat. Don focussed his talk on two of Ontario's most spectacular prairies: Walpole Island Indian Reserve (in the St. Clair River) and the Ojibway Prairie Nature Reserve in Windsor. On Walpole Island one can become lost in the hundreds of acres of five-foot high big bluestem (the dominant prairie grass). Amongst the bluestems one finds such showy forbs as the four-foot high purple-flowered dense blazing star, ironweed, the white-flowered culver's root and the yellow-flowered tall coreopsis. Spectacular slides of prairie fires demonstrated how the tall grass prairie is maintained. Without regular ground fires much of Ontario's prairies would have become forest.

January 1984. Paul McGaw gave a breathtaking slide presentation of North America's only international park -- Waterton Lakes/Glacier National. Situated in the southwestern corner of Alberta, Waterton is especially well endowed. Here prairies are found among montane forests and alpine meadows. A combination of climate and topography allows numerous plant species to thrive, many of which are found nowhere else in Alberta. Paul focussed particularly on the remarkable alpine meadows at Waterton. The meadows support such noteworthy species as elephant head (*Pedicularis groenlandica*). As suggested by the common name, its flowers look like an elephant's head, complete with tusks, floppy ears and a trunk. He also showed us beargrass (*Xerophyllum tenax*) which is not a grass but a member of the lily family with a huge flowering stalk 1.5 metres tall, terminated by a cluster of showy white flowers.

March 1984. Did you realize that Canada's high arctic has much in common with the Sahara? In fact, both regions are deserts with pockets of higher

BOTANY GROUP REPORT continued...

moisture sustaining oases. Joyce Gould introduced us to the high arctic oasis of the Lake Hazen area on northern Ellesmere Island. In the midst of a polar desert only 400 miles from the North Pole, this oasis is sustained by melt-water from surrounding glaciers. Joyce outlined with her slides the relatively high botanical diversity of this oasis and its importance to the herds of musk ox. It quickly became apparent why Lake Hazen is to become Canada's newest national park.

February and April 1984. In a three-part extravaganza, Joyce Gould and Deb Metsger introduced 16 novices to the miniature world of mosses. In the first workshop, Deb focussed on where to look for mosses and Joyce outlined the terms used in moss identification. The workshop was followed by a collecting expedition to the tamarack-cedar swamp in the valley of the East Don River southeast of the intersection of Bayview and Finch Avenues. In the second workshop, Deb and Joyce helped us to identify the mosses we had found. With the aid of microscopes, members were able to see the small features used to differentiate moss species.

Summer 1984. Three outings were held to give members an opportunity to learn the local plants and to contribute to the ongoing study of the flora of York Region and Metropolitan Toronto.

To whet your appetites for the coming season of Botany get-togethers, consider the following: We will be having workshops on how to identify aquatic plants; also grasses; slide presentations on the Carolinian and Boreal regions of Ontario; a talk on outstanding natural areas in the Toronto Region; a number of outings to significant natural areas in Toronto, to the Oak Ridges Moraine, and to the Lake Simcoe lowlands. If you have ideas for speakers or other topics, or if you have any questions about the Botany Group, please call me.

Steve Varga (223-4151)



We hope this program will make you more knowledgeable and outings more enjoyable. Over a three-year period, with the use of slides and recordings of bird songs, we will try to cover the identification of most of the species recorded in "The Toronto Region Bird Chart" by Bruce D. Parker. We plan to include field marks, the spring and fall migration period and the breeding areas in Canada.

The "course" which will begin during the fall migration will start with water birds.

This year meetings will be held the THIRD WEDNESDAY of the month from 7 to 10 pm in the auditorium of the Toronto Education Centre Building at 155 College Street (6th floor).

Meetings will be as follows: Wednesday, September 19; Wednesday, October 17; Wednesday, November 14 (Note this is the second Wednesday.); Wednesday, January 16; Wednesday, February 20; Wednesday, March 20; Wednesday, April 17.

I hope you will arrange time to attend and please bring a friend.

Howard Battae (225-9780)



The 1984/85 season of the TJFN (for ages 8 to 16) opens at 10 am, Sat. Sept. 8 in the ROM planetarium (see page 39). We usually have a one hour lecture followed by separate outings led by knowledgeable leaders for each interest group in the club. Lectures and outings are of a quality similar to that in the senior club and TFN members are welcome to attend. The younger children (8 to 10) are placed in general interest groups while the older ones can choose subjects ranging from insects to astronomy. If you would like to help the club (by assisting a leader on outings, by leading a group in which you have knowledge or by supplying transportation) please call Alexander Cappell at 663-7738.

Acknowledgement: The Junior Club would like to thank TFN member Eileen Chopping for a gift of nature books and optical equipment. These are from the estate of Rena Butterfield, also a TFN member, who died not long ago.

Sandy Cappell (663-7738)

Description of Cicada:

(a perfect specimen externally - found in Leaside Aug. 16, 1983 - which chose to die on Jean Macdonald's bicycle)

Length: 4.2 cm

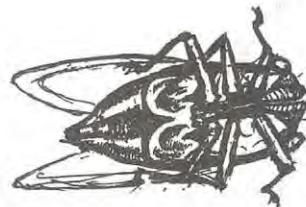
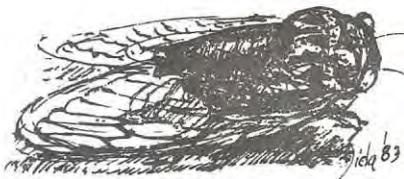
Width: 1.5 cm (at thorax)

Appearance: Head, thorax, and abdomen fused; two eyes; three tiny ocelli arranged in triangle between eyes; wings membranous; sucking mouth-parts; a beak of .7 cm protrudes from the zebra-patterned nose-like base; very short antennae; 6 legs. Below the last pair of legs is the sound-producing organ; there are two plates, depressed in the middle, and above them two barbs (exaggerated in size in the picture).

Colour: Abdomen black; thorax and head tan with black markings and green "collar"; eyes copper; ocelli white.

The cicada is a giant in its order, the Homoptera, which includes tiny hoppers and aphids.

DB



issues---THE DON VALLEY BRICKYARDS

The 45-acre Toronto Brick Company property on Bayview Avenue in the Don Valley has recently been sold to a development firm which plans to do something with the property - exactly what is still undecided. It is to be hoped that meetings of all the people concerned will be held to discuss this important issue. This group includes local residents, geologists, parks people, transportation folks, municipal officials, etc.

On May 26 our Club had a bus trip to these brickyards, led by Ed Freeman. Everyone on that trip will be following the progress of these discussions closely. Could not at least part of these geological formations be left in their present pattern for further study and enjoyment?

ME

NIAGARA ESCARPMENT

All your letters must have had a good effect - at last protection of the Niagara Escarpment area is about to begin. Money is being allotted at the rate of 2½ million dollars a year for acquisition of land, and donations from citizens and corporations can be accepted by the Ontario Heritage Foundation for the same purpose. The Ministry of Natural Resources will be in charge of ten new Provincial parks, and the Bruce Trail will connect the whole chain.

Letters encouraging the acceptance of this plan should be sent before September 15 to--

▷ Assistant Clerk of the Executive Council,
Queen's Park, Toronto, Ontario. M7A 1A1.

Copies of the Stirling Report on the Niagara Escarpment are available from:
Ontario Government Book Store,
880 Bay Street, Toronto, Ontario. M7A 1N8. Cost \$10.00.

LESLIE STREET SPIT

▷ Ideas for what you want to happen on the Leslie Street Spit can be sent to--
Larry Field, MTRCA,

5 Shoreham Drive, Downsview, Ontario. M3N 1S4.

A copy to your alderman is a good idea as ultimately the Spit will be managed by Metro Parks.

EAST YORK NATURAL AREAS PROJECT

This summer Environment Canada is funding a project in which several TFN members are playing a key part. It is hoped that the project will identify important natural areas in East York and will support environmentally sound bylaws.

Keeping in touch . . .

April 30, 1984

Dear Helen,

Am I imagining things or is the city of Toronto becoming dirtier and more litter-ridden by the minute?

Every week I have occasion to walk in the following areas: Davisville Avenue; Mt. Pleasant from Davisville to St. Clair; Yonge Street from Merton to St. Clair; St. Clair from Yonge to Avenue Road; Russell Street; and Bloor Street from St. George to Yonge. Less often, but with some regularity, I also walk in the Moore Park Ravine, High Park, and the Toronto Islands.

In all of these areas, without exception, the amount of litter that I see makes me want to cry. Has it all been hidden under the snow during the winter? I do not recall seeing this much garbage everywhere as recently as two years ago.

My impression is that the general public in Toronto has lost its awareness of the importance of keeping the city clean. Ninety per cent of the population -- young and old, male and female, poor and wealthy -- thinks nothing of tossing garbage onto the street. How many times a day do you see someone throw a cigarette butt, or box, or wrapper onto the sidewalk, in full view of dozens of witnesses in broad daylight, as though the behaviour were perfectly normal?

I am afraid that if this problem is not taken seriously soon, Toronto is going to become as filthy as Buffalo. We no longer deserve the reputation we once enjoyed as a clean city, in my opinion.

I realize that you may not want to print this letter in the Newsletter because it is repetitious of the content of the article I wrote in the May newsletter. However, I would like to hear the opinions of other TFN members on the subject. I really wonder whether or not I am exaggerating the situation. It seems absolutely alarming to me. Also, could you please suggest to me some names and addresses of the most appropriate city officials to whom I should send my complaint? I want the mess to be cleaned up, but most of all I want the public to be re-educated about the undesirability of littering.

Lise Anglin

Ed. Note. Lise was advised to send copies of her letter to her alderman and all the local newspapers. The result:

1. from Executive Alderman, June Rowlands of the City of Toronto: "The past winter brought an exceptionally long period of snow-covered streets, boulevards and other open land and did result in a larger-than-usual accumulation of "winter" garbage on public property. However, our Department of Public works now has the clean-up well underway and you should be seeing an improvement in the areas you mention. If not, please telephone me with specific locations (including street numbers, if possible) so that I can request specific action at that location. Many thanks."
2. "Our planet suffers from the blight of littering" by Barry Kent MacKay, THE TORONTO STAR, July 15, 1984

(Some members of the Editorial Committee have noticed of late that Buffalo has been making a considerable effort at clean-up and renewal. Perhaps in some respects Toronto could take a leaf from their book.)

KEEPING IN TOUCH - continued...

May 25, 1984

Dear Editor,

I am curious about the recent "In the News" note (TFN 363, 26, April 1984) on the "Wildlife business falls in crack" re Unification Church elk herd.

In commuting to Toronto along Derry Road I have passed an area just east of Meadowvale where a small elk herd has been held over winter. This herd of 15 or 20, including young, was in a small stockade with a pond. The area was trampled badly, looking like a feedlot. This herd suddenly disappeared this spring and the area is now a church site. Should we have reported this to someone when we first saw the elk? Is this part of the same Rice Lake herd mentioned in the TFN article? If so, I'm sure they are better off in a 93-acre forest than a small pen. What is the business involved? Is the article implying these animals are being improperly treated? Would they be better off in an Alberta game farm or being culled? I would be most interested in being put in touch with some CWS member looking into this to find out if these questions have answers.

Wilson Eedy, Moffat, Ontario

Ed. Note. We did call Maureen Martinuk, Regional Information Officer, Environment Canada, who promised to contact Mr. Eedy and answer his questions.

Help Wanted!

RECORDING SECRETARY REQUIRED - VOLUNTEER POSITION

The TFN Board needs a Recording Secretary. The Board meets 8 times a year at 155 College (location of our general meetings) on the fourth Monday of the month from 7.00 to 10.00 p.m.

The Recording Secretary:

- Attends the Board Meetings and records the minutes (shorthand is an asset but not necessary).
- Types or writes out the minutes.
- Mails the minutes to each Board member along with an agenda which the president prepares

This is not a time-consuming job. You will be committed to eight evenings a year plus two or three hours additional to complete the minutes. There may rarely be requests for small additional tasks.

Would anyone like to volunteer? Or try out on a temporary basis? If you are interested or would like to discuss it further, please call Jean Macdonald at 425-6596.

Humber Arboretum requires one staff naturalist to assist in the children's Nature Studies Program. Duties include conducting small walks, constructing display and promotional material and some adult tours. Position open for September 10, 1984. For more information, call Donna Reid at 675-5009.

TFN LIBRARY

BOOKS IN TFN LIBRARY - PART III CANADA GENERAL/CANADA WEST NORTH/QUEBEC

- Canadian Nature Notebook, by Aleta Karstad, 1979, McGraw-Hill Ryerson.
(See review TFN (328) 23, D79.)
- A Nature Guide to Alberta, Provincial Museum of Alberta Publication No. 5, 1980
published by Hurtig/Alberta Culture (TFN (343) 15, N 81)
- Nature West Coast, as seen in Lighthouse Park, Vancouver Natural History Soc.
1973, ed. Kathleen M. Smith et al., an excellent
natural history of the park. Discovery Press, Vancouver.
271 pages plus index, including 376 pen-and-ink
illustrations as well as maps and charts.
- Calgary's Natural Areas, a Popular Guide, ed. by Peter Sherrington, Calgary
Field Naturalists' Society, 1975. (TFN (343) 15, N 81)
- The Last Best West by Jean Bruce, pub. Fitzhenry & Whiteside for Supply &
Services Canada multiculturalism program, 1976. 177 pages.
Pictorial history, centering on immigrants 1896-1914.
- The Pacific Coast by Fred Bodsworth, a volume of The Illustrated Natural History
of Canada, Natural Science Canada Ltd., Toronto, 1970.
Liberally illustrated in colour. 160 pages, index.
- High Arctic by George Miksch Sutton (bird artist), published by Fitzhenry &
Whiteside, Don Mills, 1971. Personal adventures on
expedition to Baffin Island, illustrated in colour and
black-and-white. 116 pages.
- Kluane, Pinnacle of the Yukon, ed. John Theberge (Review TFN (339) 16, A 81).
Doubleday, Toronto & NY, 1980.

In our RESOURCE FILES we have a general file on natural areas and parks in Canada including material from Environment Canada on the subject as well as literature on Interpretation Canada, The Nature Conservancy of Canada, Canadian Council on Ecological Areas, and Open Spaces. We have individual files on natural areas of Alberta, British Columbia, Yukon, Québec, Prince Edward Island, as well as our Ontario material. (We shall be glad to receive park literature, checklists, &c. for centres in any province or territory.)

The Miscellany

We've received some clippings and booklets on birds from Jacques Gravel who has been collecting material on his favourite subject for years...Thank you, Jacques!

Point Pelee National Park and Vicinity - Seasonal Status of Birds - chart
published by Parks Canada, second edition, 1981, with map. (aussi en français)

J'ai joué à la mère avec Ghibou, L'Oiseau Tombé du nid. L'hibou était le grand duc. 2 pages avec illustrations en couleur. 1979.

Birders have a field day in Christmas count by Barry Kent MacKay TORONTO STAR
Jan.4/81. Status of gadwall included. Clipping.

Birding column excerpt GLOBE & MAIL Oct. 31/79. Rarities Ottawa & Toronto.

Sud du/Canada/south, Point Pelee National Park, published by Parks Canada.
Vol. III No. 1. 4 pages, illustrated with photos & maps.

The Miscellany - continued

Material donated by Jacques Gravel - continued...

Long Point Provincial Park - Folder with photo illustrations and maps, published by Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources.

Ducks Unlimited (Canada) - folder, illustrated in colour with range-maps, text on identification, nesting. Describes aims of this sportsmen's organization for duck conservation as a resource.

Castoff fur: Animals' loss a gain for nest-building birds by Barry Kent MacKay TORONTO STAR. Clipping about nesting materials. Illustration.

Rescue bid spells disaster by Robert A. Jones, LA TIMES clipped from TORONTO STAR Aug. 10/80. 1 page with illustration about California condor.

Backyard Habitat published by Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources. 10-page brochure in colour and black-&-white. On attracting wildlife to urban sites.

Le Retour du Faucon Pélérin par Jean-Pierre Rogel, QUÉBEC SCIENCE septembre, 1979. Article de 5 pages illustré avec photos. "Traqué par l'homme, décimé par les pesticides, le magnifique faucon pèlerin avait presque disparu. Grace à certaines recherches, il est de retour parmi nous..."

Peregrines vs. Pesticides/Pigeons vs. People by Professor D. Bird, Director, Macdonald College Raptor Research Centre. 4-page article with photos.

Pakistan - Haleji Lake - Asia's Greatest Waterfowl Reserve. Colour folder published by Pakistan Ministry of Minorities Affairs & Tourism, with maps.

We also wish to thank the members who submitted the following interesting material:

Who wants a dirty swamp? about the issue of the Centennial Swamp in the Rouge Valley, in SCARBOROUGH MIRROR Feb. 22/84. 1-page clipping. Bob Johnson who submitted the article comments, "A most positive editorial! over a most negative decision."

Kermit the Frog named Wildlife Week chairman reprinted in the SCARBOROUGH MIRROR Feb. 22/84 from WASHINGTON (UPI). Muppet characters used in public service announcements promoting theme "Water - we can't live without it." Sponsored by National Wildlife Federation. Submitted by Bob Johnson (naturally). Short item.

CLOCA honors guardians of Cranberry Marsh and CLOCA honors Naomi and Bertrand Le Vay... from THE TIMES "District Today" Feb. 23/84 and "Whitby Today" Feb. 20/84 respectively. Story and photos by John Goodwin, about presentation made to the LeVays, long-time TFN members, for their efforts over 25 years in monitoring this marsh in the Lynde Shores Conservation Area. ("CLOCA" = Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority".) Submitted by Barry Penhale. 2 clippings.

"Blue Lake & Rocky Shore release. 2 pages describing book on the history of children's camping. Submitted by Barry Penhale (Publisher) Natural Heritage/Natural History Inc., Box 69, Stn.H, Toronto M4C 5H7.

The Canadian Nature Federation - Past, Present and Future. 22-page brochure about the CNF organization and aims. Donated by Ruth Airey.

Nature Canada published by the Canadian Nature Federation. Ruth Airey is donating a number of back copies of this popular quarterly.

The Environment Today...What would Saint Francis say? by Diana Banville, COMPANION Vol. XLIV No. 9 Oct./81. 4 pages. A little research into the attitude of early environmentalist, Francesco Bernadone.

Guide to the Metropolitan Toronto Library Collections and Services, published by the Metropolitan Toronto Library Board. A 32-page brochure describing the functions of the Metro Library, Yonge and Asquith; how to use the library.

Friends of the Spit leaflet. One sheet "what we achieved last year", "what's to be done in 1984", small map and status report "The Leslie Street Spit... public amenity or private playground?" Membership offered. \$3 (\$5 family).

20 Years of the Toronto Bruce Trail Club and Footnotes Winter 1983/84 Vol. XXI, Number 4; published by the Toronto Bruce Trail Club, Postal Station M, Box 44, Toronto M6S 4T2. An 8-page booklet with illustrations - history and plans; 8-page newsletter.

Livestock on Small Farms, published by Agriculture Canada, Publication 1381/E 1982, 21-page booklet with hints about raising dairy cows, goats, sheep, hogs, rabbits, chickens, turkeys, geese, ducks, squabs, bees. Individual brochures available on each of these in more detail from Communications Branch, Agriculture Canada, Ottawa. For back-to-the-land members, suggests "write for Publication 5103, 'Publications for Farm and Home'." Donated by Judy Hernandez.

Vegetation, Flora and Vegetational Ecology of the Hudson Bay Lowland: A Literature Review and Annotated Bibliography, by R.A. Sims, J.L. Riley, and J.K. Jeglum. 177 pages. Published by Environment Canada. Report O-X-297. For copies contact: Great Lakes Forest Research Centre, Box 490, Sault Ste. Marie, Ont. P6A 5M7. Floristics and Phytogeography, Ecology; handy "keyword" system used. Cross-referenced. Submitted by Judy Hernandez.

Toward a Wetland Classification for Ontario by J.K. Jeglum, A.N. Boissonneau, V.F. Haavisto. Published by Canadian Forestry Service, Environment Canada, 1979. Great Lakes Forest Research Centre, Box 490, Sault Ste. Marie, Ont. P6A 5M7. Report No. O-X-215. 43 pages plus 11-page bibliography plus 32 pages of appendices with black-and-white photographs, maps, check-list of plant species by habitat. Donated by Judy Hernandez.

Towards a Wetland Policy for Ontario, September 1981 discussion paper published by Ministry of Natural Resources, Ontario. Benefits, problems, solutions.

The Ontario Regional Lily Society literature: Society leaflet and instruction sheet "Growing Lilies from Seed". Obtained at Garden Festival 84. We asked "the lily lady" (Gwyneth Brandett) if the Society had any literature on wild native lilies. She had none on hand, but says they can be grown from seed and these "species lilies" are being cultivated for sale now. (Deplores taking lilies from the wild except to save them from the bulldozer.)

The Wolf in Canada - The Problem of Conserving a Controversial Species - a Canadian Nature Federation Position Paper, prepared by Rosemary Fox, 1983. A 12-page paper, including a one-page bibliography. Also a news release was sent to us entitled Conservationists Oppose B.C. Wolf Kill. "The wolf is always seen as the villain, but many other factors may be involved in the decline of a moose or elk population...such as habitat loss, over-hunting or severe winter...Wolf control should never be considered unless a prey population is truly endangered, and the program should always include a ban on hunting." For more information, contact Gregg Sheehy, CNF, 203-75 Albert St., Ottawa, K1P 6G1.

TO ARRANGE TO BORROW FROM TFN LIBRARY, CALL 690-1963.

AND STILL MORE ACQUISITIONS...

May and June, 1984

Such generosity! Eleven more books have been donated from Mildred Easto's shelves on world and Canadian issues, animal life in general, and birds in particular, plant life, and natural areas. Three more books have come in from Edith Cosens on world wildfowl, Ontario's natural areas, and botany. And from the library of Barbara and Margaret Douglas, five books on tree-related hobbies, wildlife observations, North American wildflowers, Canadian birds, Ontario snakes, endangered bird species. As we list books by category, we'll be giving you more details on these interesting additions to our library. Meanwhile, here are some of those in categories already covered:

A NATURALIST'S GUIDE TO ONTARIO, Federation of Ontario Naturalists, Editors W. W. Judd and J. Murray Speirs, drawings by Sylvia Hahn, U. of T. Press 1964/72; 186 pages and bibliography, index; with notes on geology of Ontario by Walter M. Tovell, maps; and on vegetation and fauna by J.B. Falls & J. H. Soper; 41 regional guides provided by local nature clubs and individual naturalists familiar with the areas.

TOWARDS A WORLD OF PLENTY? transcript of a lecture by Barbara Ward on closing the gap between rich and poor. U. of T. Press 1963.

BREAKING UP ONTARIO HYDRO'S MONOPOLY Energy Probe 1, 1982.

OIL UNDER ICE Canadian Arctic Resources Committee 1971, by Douglas Pimlott et al. - about offshore drilling in the Canadian Arctic.

Through Eileen Chopping the Junior Club has received from the estate of Rena Butterfield some equipment and field guides which will be useful for study sessions and outings.

Besides all this the bonanza of articles, booklets, periodicals continues! From Jim Hodgins' direction seventeen articles on wildflower-gardening, including three on trilliums (including their "greening" disorder), one on fringed polygala, three on orchids, two on prairie plants, one on mosses, and two on western gardens. He's also sent us a paper on insects which attack ferns as well as one on the effect of pollution on trees, three articles on attitudes towards insects, one on citizens' struggle against insecticides, two on public gardens/arboretums, an invitation to Larkwhistle Garden (on the Bruce), a study on an isolated prairie, a paper on the evolution of seeds, some articles on ethics of transplanting from the wild, on "immigrant plants", re-introduction of native plants, benefit of toads in the garden, and (here's something to think about) "Gardening in the spirit of Zen". Jim has also sent us a copy of his own article on albino wild columbine. Miriam Fabish has sent us an article on the "sport" of bird-watching. Edith Cosens has donated booklets on duck identification, tropical trees, the Everglades, Toronto bird-finding, and Ontario heritage trees. We've received illustrated booklets on the wildlife of Southern Africa from Lise Anglin, a list of vegetarian restaurants in Toronto from Mary Cumming, booklets on butterflies, acid rain, shade-tree research, and urban forestry from Peggy Love, newspaper clippings from Betty Paul. A release has come in from "Mobilization for Animals", together with a leaflet explaining this animal welfare group which now has a Toronto Chapter (from Vicki Miller). Emily Hamilton has donated Nature Art calendars. Periodicals include issues of NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC, NATURE CANADA, and HUMANE VIEWPOINT from May Staples, Ruth Airey, and Mollie McEwen. We have been offered blocks of issues of such publications as NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC; such sets may be useful to Metro Public Libraries, but if not, DO NOT DISCARD! We sometimes file or distribute copies.

TFN LIBRARY 690-1963 (DB)

projects

PHENOLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

Most people have forgotten about phenological observations. They include the times of first-leaf, blooming, and leaf-fall of certain species of plant, the arrival of migrant birds and their departure. Examples from the past:

"May 19, 1868: Strawberries in flower."

"Oct.11, 1868: Several flocks of wild geese flying south."

There are some things to remember about such observations:

- 1) They should be taken on an individual plant at one site if possible, so that only climatic factors are involved. Animals studied should be those of one locality.
- 2) They should be taken year after year, over a long period, if possible.

It is a good idea to choose a favourite tree or shrub or bird in your backyard and concentrate on it over the seasons. If you have a sugar maple, for example, you could record when its sap starts running, when its first leaves appear, when it blooms, when it is in full leaf, when it reaches full fall colour, and when it has lost all its leaves.

Phenological observations are very interesting, especially in conjunction with weather records. I noted that in 1983, the first snowdrops of spring appeared about February 28; the last bulbs - the tulips - were still blooming in June. This was because of an exceptionally mild winter followed by a very cool May and early June. At Hamilton's Royal Botanical Gardens, where they have been watching a lilac bush since 1976, there is great variation in times of blooming and duration of bloom. In 1978, the spring was very cold - it didn't hit 20° C until May 19; then came a sudden heat-wave with temperatures near 30° C. The result was that the lilacs didn't start blooming until the last week of May - but they finished the first week of June! This was the opposite situation to that of 1983. In 1982, an April cold-wave reportedly caused a reverse migration of birds.

Good things to observe:

Plants: Any flowering shrub or tree, any tree with fall colours

Animals: Birds (eg cardinals, nighthawks); Mammals (eg groundhogs); Toads, frogs.

If anyone has any phenological observations already, I'd be interested in seeing them, as I have weather records for Toronto covering a good number of years. This fall is a good time to start - with the leaf changes occurring.

An example of a
TORONTO CITY METEOROLOGICAL SUMMARY...

The September, 1983, weather was the most pleasant in several years. We enjoyed the lingering effects of the outstanding 1983 summer. September 1983 was the warmest since 1971 at 18.2°C mean temperature. A maximum of 34.1°C on the 10th was the hottest September reading since at least 1959 and possibly since the record was set in 1953 with 38°C. After the 10th, cooler and more unsettled weather set in but it wasn't all that cool and wet; cicadas were singing under hazy skies on the 20th. It was the driest September since 1979 (largely a function of the dismal wetness of September 1980, 1981, and 1982). We also had the most sunshine since then with about 20 to 30 hours more than normal. There were 4 days with thunderstorms but no severe weather occurred. All in all, aside from a little excessively hot weather, September was a very fine month that pleased everybody.

Gavin Miller

58 Roxborough Drive,
Toronto M4W 1X1 (221-0306)

PROJECTS continued...

WETLAND ASSESSMENT

The Halton Region Conservation Authority is conducting a wetland assessment in two areas of the Grindstone Creek Watershed. The first extends between the Niagara Escarpment southward to the shores of Coote's Paradise and Hamilton Harbour, from West Pond in the west to Falcon Creek in the east. The second area lies northward between the Fourth and Seventh Concession Roads of both East and West Flamborough Townships, from south of Gulliver's Lake in the west to the Niagara Escarpment in Halton Region in the east. This area includes Lake Medad, Medad Valley, the Carlisle Swamp, Haysland Forestry Area and the Royal Botanical Gardens.

The staff is interested in receiving sighting information of plant and animal species in the wetland areas, particularly those that may be considered regionally or provincially significant. For the bird species, they are interested in those that utilize the wetlands for feeding or breeding and in the case of colonial nesting birds, would appreciate nesting information further defined in terms of currently nesting birds or those which are known to have nested within the past five years.

As these assessments will be updated on an ongoing basis, information may be forwarded at any time. As specific a geographic location as possible should accompany any of the above information which should be forwarded to:

▷ Marilyn Feth, c/o Ms. Brenda Brobst, The Halton Region Conservation Authority, Trafalgar Square, 310 Main St., Milton, Ont. L9T 1P4

ONTARIO BREEDING BIRD ATLAS

▷ Judith Kennedy is now the regional co-ordinator of this project for the Toronto area. Look over your records for this past nesting season and send any nesting information you may have to Judith at the FON Conservation Centre, 355 Lesmill Rd., Don Mills, Ont. M3B 2W8 (444-8419). This includes presence of species in midsummer, even if you have no other evidence, such as nest with young seen or heard, adult carrying food or a faecal sac, or even just entering or leaving a nesting site or engaging in a distraction display, nest building or excavation, anxiety, courtship display or feeding, interaction between male and female or two males, singing and territorial display, fledglings or downy young seen. Report anything you have, if you would like to participate. And next season starts in February.

FOR FIELD BOTANISTS

1. Crataegus (hawthorn): Taxonomic and geographical range study (J. B. Phipps)
2. Sida hermaphrodita (a white mallow): Distribution study (Dave Bradley)
3. Aquilegia canadensis L. forma albiflora House (white-flowered columbine);
Sightings records sought (Jim Hodgins)

If participation in any of the above three projects appeals, see further details in THE PLANT PRESS Vol. 2 No. 1 March/84.

THINK GLOBALLY. ACT LOCALLY.

(heard at an Elderhostel Camp)

SEEDS OF COOPERATION

Throughout the world, botanical gardens, arboreta, university botany departments and forest research institutes regularly send each other seeds at no charge. Participants are listed in the "International Seed Exchange Directory", most recently published in 1977.

In 1954, the late Dr. George Duff, assisted by Dr. James H. Soper, started a seed exchange program at the University of Toronto Botany Department. Some of the seeds received were used for the Glendon Hall Botanical Garden-- which was removed when Glendon College was built -- but the seed exchange continues, aiding in research and in teaching as well as University of Toronto greenhouse displays. Seeds of native Ontario plants collected in the wild are kept separate from those of cultivated plant seeds. Hundreds of copies of lists of available seeds are sent out each year by the participants. The University of Toronto's Glendon Hall Research Laboratory is one of four Ontario participants. In 1982 Glendon Hall sent out 2400 packets of seeds to 212 participants and received in exchange 2480 packets from 200 participants. Red pine is a favourite and our native lily-family species are much in demand.

Margaret Riley who has been on the staff of the Glendon Hall lab since 1959 is often surprised by what seeds are requested and has the impression that what is regarded as a weed in one part of the world is prized in another. She has even sent poison ivy seeds to Moscow and dandelion seeds to Peking!

adapted from an article by Margaret Riley in THE PLANT PRESS, Vol. 2, No. 1, March 1984

This Month's Cover

Leopard Frog (*Rana pipiens*) and Green Frog
(*Rana clamitans*) - ink drawing by Diana Banville

The two frogs pictured live a tranquil life in the greenhouse of Herb and Mary Smith. They were so still I was able to sit very close without disturbing them; as a result my drawings were very much larger-than-life and had to be reduced for the newsletter. Within frog species colour of individuals varies greatly and changes with age. The leopard frog in the picture is light green, with brown spots outlined in a whitish shade like the twin ridges down the sides of the back. It apparently enjoys life among the onions, assuming an inclined sitting stance. The green frog pictured is light green about the head and forelegs, shading to brown toward the middle and tail-end. It prefers to make its home in the compost-pile at the edge of the drip-fountain pool - crouching low. Once it moved to devour a pill-bug. Finally, when I had progressed far enough with the sketch to risk a still closer look...my stealth was not reassuring. PLUNK!

DB

▷ DON'T FORGET to contact BOB JOHNSTON and report your amphibian and reptile sightings. (284-8181) ◁

PRIVATE ACTION FOR LAND PRESERVATION -- THE NATURE CONSERVANCY OF CANADA

Canada is a vast, beautiful country rich in natural resources; yet, over the years, changes have occurred at the expense of our natural areas. It is a prime mandate of The Nature Conservancy of Canada to seek out significant natural areas and to secure their preservation. This is accomplished through the support of individuals, corporations, foundations and with the cooperation of various levels of government.

Over the past twenty years, the Nature Conservancy has raised and distributed over four million dollars for the purchase of land and related expenses. The major thrust of this work has been in Ontario. The monies raised by the Conservancy, in general, serve to release government funds or other monies in the ratio of two or three dollars for every Conservancy dollar raised privately. This four million dollars has helped to purchase 235 properties for a total of 39,000 acres across Canada worth fourteen million dollars. Along with gifts to the Crown arranged by the Conservancy, worth over nine million dollars, the land the Conservancy has been instrumental in preserving has an estimated total value of twenty-three million dollars.

Property acquisition requires painstaking investigation. This includes site visits, legal work and selection of properties which meet with Conservancy standards. Several years of ground work may be required before a purchase is made.

The natural features of the areas are of primary importance. Scientific research, outdoor education and other non-destructive uses may be permitted, depending on the fragility of the area involved. Local volunteers, donors and other conservation groups work together with Conservancy representatives to formulate a management plan which provides for the maintenance and protection of the areas.

A significant part of the work is also directed to providing advice and guidance to private landowners who wish to maintain their property in its natural state and, in many cases, eventually to deed it to the Conservancy.

The Nature Conservancy is governed by a Board of Trustees whose particular strength lies in the diversity of background and talent of its members. The membership includes business executives, internationally recognized biologists, active conservationists and professionals in the fields of law, medicine and engineering. Geographically, Ontario and Quebec, the Atlantic and Pacific coasts, the mountains and the prairies are all well represented on the Board. The trustees are an integral part of the Conservancy's continuing success. They establish policy guidelines and approve all projects with which the Conservancy becomes involved.

Protection of the environment has become a high priority interest of all Canadians with growing demand for active land conservation. The Nature Conservancy of Canada is the only private, charitable organization solely dedicated to preserving all types of important natural sites across Canada. Much has been accomplished in the past, but the challenges that lie ahead are no less urgent if an adequate pattern of Canada's valuable natural land is to be preserved for present and future generations.

If you would like to know more about The Nature Conservancy of Canada, or make a contribution to assist its continuing efforts in land preservation, please write or call The Nature Conservancy of Canada, Suite 1710, 2200 Yonge Street, Toronto, Ont. M4S 2C6 (486-1011)

L.M. Best

NEW TOOL FOR NATURAL HERITAGE PRESERVATION

One of the most beautiful and prized features of the Toronto region is its system of natural ravines. Formed through stream erosion and glacial activity, these ravines offer a welcome, tranquil, green environment in an otherwise dense urban setting. As well, they provide refuges and migration corridors for a wide variety of flora and fauna.

The first efforts to protect Toronto's ravines were made in 1911. However, despite continual loss of ravines through filling, etc., it was not until 1971 that the City petitioned and received from the Provincial Government an amendment to the City of Toronto Act enabling the City to pass protective legislation for ravine lands. In 1973 the City published a consolidated report on the designation of ravine lands which contained proper descriptions of all ravines. This was followed by an amendment to Toronto's Official Plan which outlined the City's intent to prevent the destruction of natural vegetation and to control the changing of land levels within defined ravine areas. Next, Ravine Control By-laws were passed which included a map showing the actual boundaries of each designated ravine.

The Ravine Control By-laws are not intended to permit the City to acquire privately owned ravine lands. Rather their aim is to protect the ravines as a resource for everyone, and to prevent activities within the ravine areas which are harmful to the environment. Thus although portions of most ravines are privately owned and form the backyards of many residential properties, these too are subject to the preservation controls.

To explain the legislation and its ramifications, public meetings are being held throughout the city in neighbourhoods adjacent to ravines. Despite initial opposition by some landowners who are concerned about loss of property rights, the majority of citizens are more concerned about preserving the ravines -- and in as natural a state as possible.

To assist in the education process and to discuss some of the problems of setting such legislation in place, a Committee on Ravine Preservation Policies was created made up of members of the City of Toronto Planning Board, planning staff, and representatives from ratepayers' groups and the Toronto Field Naturalists. This committee which met almost monthly for several years has recently published two pamphlets: "Toronto's Ravines: Ours to Preserve" and "Ravine Owners' Guide to Maintenance" for distribution, especially to owners of properties adjacent to or containing ravine lands. The first pamphlet contains reasons why the ravines should be preserved and an explanation of the Ravine By-laws, a copy of the Ravine Control By-law, and a map showing the original ravine system in brown with the remaining ravines in green. The second pamphlet contains suggestions on how to keep ravine lands in a natural, healthy and stable condition, how to improve ravine property, how to prevent slopes from slipping and a list of numbers to call for further information.

For the members of the Toronto Field Naturalists who have been serving on the Committee on Ravine Preservation Policies, the opportunity to participate in the education process during the enactment of this legislation has proved

NEW TOOL FOR NATURAL HERITAGE PRESERVATION continued...

to be both encouraging and worthwhile. It is hoped that this example will be followed by other municipalities with similar natural heritage to preserve.

Copies of the pamphlets may be obtained from the City of Toronto, Information Services, City Hall, Toronto, Ontario, M5H 2N2, telephone 947-7341.

Helen Juhola

PREVENTING WINDOW BIRD-KILLS

The following is from a letter, of which TFN received a copy, which was sent to Mr. Julian Porter, Chairman, Toronto Transit Commission on May 3, 1984. On the TFN outing of August 3 which started at the Rosedale subway station, members stopped to admire the installed transfers. We'll hope they work. Thank you Merle.

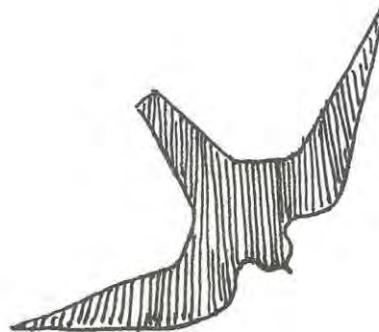
Birds are often seen lying stunned or dead after flying into the 8 large glass panes adjacent to the bus stop at the Rosedale subway station. This station was redesigned a couple of years ago and the glass panes are placed between two parks, in direct line of bird flight.

In a recent conversation with a Toronto Human Society employee about an unrelated matter, he commented that he had approached the TTC about acting on this matter without result.

I have two requests:

1. I will pay for 8 "hawk" transfers to be applied in appropriate positions on the 8 glass panes to try and avoid further bird kills/accidents. Cost, including delivery and application, will be approximately \$40.00. I will arrange for delivery and installation. All the TTC has to do is approve this request and allow entry to the Rosedale subway station to the delivery person from Conservation Enterprises Limited to apply the transfers to the glass.
2. Will the TTC please forward to me the name and business address of the planner who redesigned the Rosedale station a couple of years ago. I wish to forward to him/her a copy of this letter in an attempt to heighten sensitivity to environmental factors such as this on the part of planners.

Merle Chant



IN THE NEWS

THE FALCONS ARE HERE: The Canada Life weather beacon on University Avenue has become the temporary home of three young peregrine falcons, placed in a cage on a 12th floor ledge by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources.



In a few days time the birds will be released from the cage to start their new lives, soaring above the tall buildings of downtown Toronto.

It's all part of a Ministry program to re-establish endangered species in Ontario and Canada Life has been an enthusiastic partner in the project. Canada Life sponsors wildlife protection projects in cooperation with World Wildlife Fund, Canada.

The peregrine falcon was almost extinct before a joint Canadian-United States effort was made to breed them in captivity and release them to the wild. DDT residues accumulated in the body tissues of the birds causing them to produce thin-shelled eggs that broke before hatching. DDT is now banned in Canada and the United States but is still used in Latin America and South America where the peregrines spend the winter.

Wild peregrines have often used ledges of city buildings as nest sites, probably because the buildings bear structural similarities to cliff sites normally used by the birds in the wild. City release sites offer several advantages in that the food supply is relatively free from pesticides and there are fewer predators which might kill the young birds. The maturing falcons may be viewed in their rooftop cage from a closed circuit television monitor located in the lobby of the Canada Life building at 330 University Avenue weekdays from 8.00 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. For more information, please telephone Canada Life, Public Affairs, 597-1456, local 5479.
(GLOBE & MAIL, July 5, 1984)

TRUMPETERS: Toronto's happiest birding note may be the retirement from freedom of the tamest of the trumpeter swans planted on the lake Ontario waterfront. The bird, wearing a yellow neck band, was just too tame. I thought so, when it shoved its head through the open window of my car begging for food at Humber Bay East Park. It would be sad if this magnificent, scarce species of the West Coast, being re-established in Ontario where it lived in the last century, were to become just another feathered welfare bum of city waterfronts. The recaptured bird, which was raised in captivity, accepted humans too readily and is back in captivity, courtesy of the Ministry of Natural Resources. Its swimming mate is still at large on Toronto's western waterfront and was seen Monday in High Park's Grenadier Pond. It is not quite as tame.

from "Birds staying clear of spring lists" by Peter Whelan, THE GLOBE AND MAIL, April 11, 1984 (See also TFN 364, 28, Ma 84)

IN THE NEWS continued...

MOON TRIP HASN'T HURT CAMPUS TREE: On the grounds of the University of Florida campus here you can see a tree that's like no other on earth. It has been to the moon and back. The seed of the sycamore, which is now about 30 feet high, travelled to our planetary satellite on the second Apollo mission in 1969, along with two slashpine seeds. The seeds were planted on the university campus and were watched for any weird growth. For more than a decade the moon trees' whereabouts were kept secret for fear that vandals would harm them. Before a botany professor divulged the sycamore's location this year, one of the pine trees was accidentally run over by a mower and the other was killed by a weed cutter.

from an article by Lisanne Renner; THE TORONTO STAR, April 7, 1984

YOU WON'T RAISE A STINK IF YOU RAT ON A SKUNK: The natural resources ministry wants Metro residents to turn informer, telling the ministry where it can find skunks as part of a study on rabies. Anyone who knows where a family of skunks is living is asked to call 832-2761, extension 261.

THE TORONTO STAR, May 31, 1984

RARE FALCON RETURNS TO SITE OF MATE'S DEATH

Arnprior, Ontario - A rare pregrine falcon has returned to a church tower in this town 50 kilometres (30 miles) west of Ottawa where its mate was shot dead last year. The male bird, hatched by the Canadian Wildlife Service three years ago, re-appeared earlier this month.
(STAR, April 28, 1984)

CRANE POPULATION HITS ALL-TIME HIGH

The number of breeding whooping cranes at Wood Buffalo National Park, on the Alberta-Northwest Territories boundary, has hit an all-time high, says Ernie Kuyt, a Canadian Wildlife Service biologist. Mr. Kuyt said 28 nests have been located and 56 chicks should hatch within the next month. Five of the nests contain breeding birds that were hatched and raised in the park. Mr. Kuyt, who has worked with endangered whooping cranes since 1965, said there were 24 nests in the park last year. The rare birds spend the summer in the park and migrate south to Texas for the winter. Mr. Kuyt said there are 133 whooping cranes in North America, of which 75 are in the Wood Buffalo flock.
(GLOBE & MAIL, May 15, 1984)

CHARTER OF RIGHTS URGED FOR WILDLIFE

A charter of rights for wildlife should be created because wildlife interests have come second to economic concerns in the forestry industry, a University of British Columbia law professor says. Andrew Thompson told a joint conference of wildlife and forestry representatives Monday that such a charter is also needed because Canadian courts have been slow in preserving wildlife values. However, John Livingston, a professor of environmental studies at York University in Toronto, said a charter of legal rights for nature would have to be accompanied by obligations, and he questioned what obligations wildlife could fulfil. Mr. Thompson agreed the idea may be a long time coming, because "we've only just got ourselves a charter of rights for people."
(GLOBE & MAIL, May 8, 1984)

IN THE NEWS continued...

LESLIE STREET SPIT GULLS A RESOURCE NOT A MENACE, BIRD EXPERT SAYS: The gull population in Metro is a valuable resource, not a menace, a world authority on birds says. Roger Tory Peterson says that reducing the gull population on the Leslie Street spit could affect gull populations as far away as Spain and England. "This is a great nursery here and it should be protected," he said. "If anything were done to cut back the number of gulls, it would be tragic." Peterson was in Toronto to promote the 50th anniversary issue of his classic book, A Field Guide to the Birds East of the Rockies, which has become the bible of birders throughout North America. He said he was worried by studies now being conducted into reducing the Toronto gull colony, which last year had more than 150,000 birds.

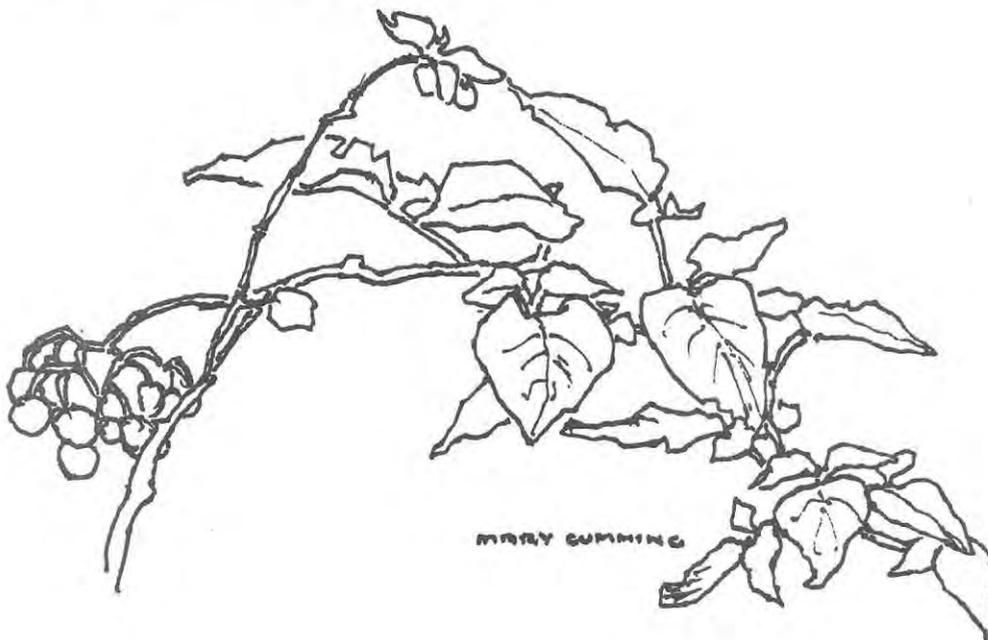
Peterson said the ring-billed gull was once scarce. But good breeding conditions and a lack of predators have allowed the gulls to multiply rapidly, and Toronto gulls are helping to populate the entire Atlantic coast, he said.

Gulls banded in Toronto have been found in the British Isles, and one was recently discovered in Spain. Peterson said the gulls have a beauty of their own, and other birds, such as the Caspian tern tend to settle into areas the gulls call home, adding to the variety of bird life. "They have enlivened the entire Atlantic coast," he said.

(TORONTO STAR, May 14, 1984)

CITY BIRD SOLUTION LESSER OF TWO EVILS, ENGINEER CONCLUDES: City engineer Peter Connell has an idea for getting rid of pesky pigeons and their rancid residue in Halifax. The city is considering buying stuffed or wooden owls so that the look-alikes will scare off the birds, he said. To those who say the plan will work for only a short time because pigeons will get used to the fake owls, Mr. Connell said the only other alternative may be to "shoot the people feeding the pigeons."

THE GLOBE AND MAIL: June 6, 1984



"Climbing
Nightshade"
by Mary Cumming

Jim Baillie
Nature Reserve,
September, 1982

BIRDS OF TOMMY THOMPSON PARK

Three TFN members have sent us lists of bird species which they have observed at "The Spit", that famous headland at the foot of Leslie Street which has recently received the name of "Tommy Thompson Park". There is so much interest in this area that we thought it would be a good idea to make a composite list. Perhaps you too have a list you'd like to submit? Though the lists we have are impressive, no doubt there are still further species which have been encountered at "The Spit". Perhaps there should be a western grebe, an egret or two, a surf scoter, *some* kind of rail, long-billed dowitcher? And since just about everything else turns up at "The Spit", why not an iceland gull? Some land-birds which have been seen on the islands but have not made their way on to the three lists are evening grosbeak, black-billed cuckoo and yellow-breasted chat.

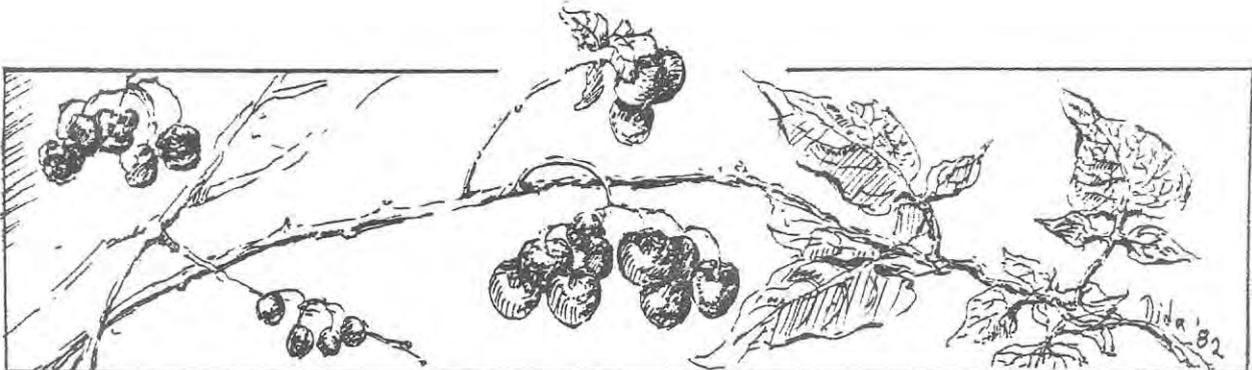
One list of unsubstantiated sightings was submitted; most of the species on this list were confirmed by those of the other two observers - but perhaps *you* can confirm stilt sandpiper, sedge wren, marsh wren, orange-crowned warbler or some of the rarer sparrows which are on this tentative list. Yet these three observers - Howard Battae, Herb Elliott and Malcolm Gilbert - have collectively recorded 216 species which they've observed on (or from) the headland. This is formidable evidence for the value of "The Spit" as a haven for migrants.

One of the lists is annotated. A few entries could be described as "breeding-bird data". Behaviour described and dated can sometimes turn out to be of value for census-taking or atlassing, especially if it reflects the bird's status as a breeding species in that particular area. It's therefore worthwhile to make a note of behaviour of common birds as well as that of the rarer species. Confirmed nesting data are still needed for some of the common birds of Toronto for the Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas; next season (February to August, 1985) will be the fifth and final season for completing atlas data.

Some members may wish to submit observations of other wildlife forms on "The Spit". Any such data would be welcome for our file on Tommy Thompson Park.

DB

Ed. Note - Howard Battae has also sent us his bird-list for Whitchurch Conservation Area as a comparison with the bird life of "The Spit".



"Climbing Nightshade" by Diana Banville, Jim Baillie Nature Reserve, Sept./82



The Vascular Plant Flora of Peel County, Ontario by Jocelyn M. Webber. Botany Press 1984. 96 pages, index, bibliography. Maps. \$10.00.

This annotated checklist of the flora of our neighbouring county will be interesting to us in the Toronto Region. Plants of Peel County which are vouched for by herbarium specimens, but are now extirpated there due to urbanization, are listed among the currently found flora.

The checklist includes notation indicating plants that are introduced or rare in Ontario, synonyms, common names, plant distribution in the five townships, and an abundance code. With the updated scientific names in use it is most helpful to the amateur botanist to have the former names included. (Thank you, Jocelyn,)

Available from Botany Press, 90 Wolfrey Ave., Toronto, M4K 1K8.

EH

Rocks and Minerals Information 1984. ...free booklet, updated annually lists non-technical information on the province's rocks, minerals and ores, as well as a list of mining companies and organizations that have specific information about mining and mineral products. To obtain a copy, write to the Ontario Government Bookstore, 880 Bay Street, Toronto M5S 1Z7.

Mar. 15/84

GLOBE & MAIL

▷ ALSO OF INTEREST

Endangered Species in Ontario -- A poster showing endangered birds, plants, snakes the cougar and a butterfly is available at the Ontario Government Book Store, 880 Bay Street for \$1.00. On the back are brief histories of the species.

Ward 5 Sesquicentennial Map -- This 18" X 26" pictorial map shows every street, park, ravine and public building of interest in Ward 5 (Bloor to St. Clair, Yonge to Ossington). It costs \$3.00 and you can get it by calling the Toronto City Hall and asking for the Ward 5 alderman.

The Canadian Bird Calendar for 1985 is now available from CONSERVATION ENTERPRISES, 58 Edgar Avenue, Thornhill, L4J 1S6 (phone 221-2304) at a price of \$7.95 with considerable discounts for quantities. Add \$2.50 for mailing to Metro address. Also available from Civic Garden Centre gift shop; Cara Gift Shop, Royal York Hotel; Metro Zoo Gift Shop.

TFN LIBRARY.....who to contact...to donate or borrow...

Books and Resource Files.....	Diana Banville	690-1963
Environmental Papers, Toronto Region.....	Helen Juhola	924-5806
Photographic Material.....	Robin Powell	965-3804
Exchange Newsletters.....	Bruce Parker	449-0994
Clippings.....	Margo McCulloch	482-2114
Periodicals.....	Betty Paul	224-0793

For budding botanists...

IT'S ALL LATIN TO ME

Don't you just hate those people who talk Latin in the field? Always spouting something about Solidago or something - and then you find it's only goldenrod they're talking about. But wait a minute. Don't YOU do it sometimes too? So often budding botanists throw up their hands and say, "No, no, I can't learn all that Latin!" while all the time they have already learned some scientific names without being conscious of it at all. Take a look at this list of genus names and see how many are familiar to you:

Anemone	Angelica	Asparagus	Aster	Comandra
Corydalis	Geranium	Gerardia	Hepatica	Iris
Lobelia	Lychnis	Monarda	Pogonia	Polygala
Pyrola	Sassafras	Trillium	Viburnum	Woodsia

One doesn't have to go far to find species of those genera - and we tend to call them by their "Latin" names. Some have alternative English names like "bastard toadflax" (Comandra); "campion" (Lychnis); "bergamot" (Monarda); "milkwort" or "gaywings" (Polygala); "wintergreen" or "shinleaf" (Pyrola); "wakerobin" (Trillium), but the "Latin" names are at least as popular, in some cases more so.

Of course, a favourite joke among field botanists is the case of the wild Clematis vine which is called "virgin's bower" when it is sporting its white flowers but magically turns into "old man's beard" when the styles develop into "plumes":

There are other English names which are so close to the scientific names that they are immediately recognizable -

Agrimonia	Amaranthus	Gentiana	Juniperus	Lilium
Lupinus	Rosa	Sanicula ("sanicle" or "black snakeroot")		
Saxifraga	Viola			

If you've been east you may have run into Arnica; west or north, Dryas; south, Gaillardia, Heliotropium, Ruellia, Yucca, and Magnolia (but why can't we use that name for OUR Magnolia (instead of "cucumber-tree"). And what about Rhododendron? Such a familiar name - and yet we tend to use all sorts of other names for our wild species in North America, such as "azalea", "rosebay", "laurel", "pink", "honeysuckle" - some of which obviously belong to other genera and families of plants. Our Canadian species, found east of here, "rhodora" is also a Rhododendron.

You know, of course, many, many garden plants by scientific names, including some which escape around here such as Alyssum and Coreopsis, and further south, Cosmos and Petunia.

Some old world and Latin American genus names (also used as English names) are applied to similar U.S. and Canadian species which don't, however, belong to these genera, e.g. Ageratum, Aloe, Arum, and Camellia. Acacia in the south is often called "mimosa" (after the sub-family), or some other popular name.

FOR BUDDING BOTANISTS continued...

Syringa is the genus name for lilac; but as an English name it is applied to mock-orange - not even close! (I can recall having a strange conversation about this in a garden in the Auvergne - and my French is strange enough as it is!)

Wouldn't it be helpful if we just called things what they really are? We might feel a bit funny calling that weed purslane "Portulaca"; on the other hand it might make us take a second look at this lowly plant. Is it going too far altogether to start calling a daisy Chrysanthemum?

Diana Banville

Afterthought: Then, of course, there are a few which are called by the "specific" name, the second one in the pair. Do you know the one that starts with Epipactis - maybe that part of the name isn't too familiar to you - but are you getting a bit tired of all this? I know - isn't it a helleborine?

Strange Sightings

About 6 pm on a summer's day suspiciously close to the freezing point, I arrived at Broadbent in the Parry Sound District. In the three hours during which I rambled, for that first exciting look around, great billowing gouts of warm air rushed in from wherever producing a fog that finally rose to thigh level. The sun, which had been a deep and frosty pink, took on an increasingly murky hue until it became an enormous purple globe smothering in a welter of black thunder clouds and shedding an angry red glow. Something of a cosmic variation of satanic mills!

Returning in this dark-room abience, my eyes glued groundwards for fear of missing both my path and any potholes thereon, I stopped dead. "That twig", I thought, "looks just like a lizard!" (To be exact, a salamander). A perfect ruby brooch which sat unmoving in the palm of my hand. A red eft turned deepest crimson by the science fiction twilight. I carried it from the middle to the side of the roadway and had to tickle it to make it leave me. It seemed stunned by the atmospheric change and moved at snail's pace.

Back at the resort I had to fumble my way along the balustraded boardwalk, everything by then being a misted black with no horizon and no stars. From across space came loud moanings. I pondered the visitation of other-worldly creatures in this John Varley universe, though I would even have settled for a homely moose.

Next morning, earthbound in golden air once more, my aliens stood revealed as a herd of cows on an outcrop across a small lake.

I often recall the eerie experience of our world turned dark red and menacingly unfamiliar, and I shall certainly never forget that perfect little brooch. Talk about a price beyond rubies!

Eva Davis

P.S. Now that exquisite little creature would have made a photograph! Though I haven't the slightest idea how anyone would go about capturing it on film. Doubtless, with the necessary know-how and right paraphernalia to deal with all that Celtic twilight, it could have been done.

Nature Holidays by Bus or Train...

SPARROW LAKE

Only a short ride from Toronto is a naturalist's haven called "Grandview Lodge" in which I enjoyed a 4-day midweek holiday in May, 1984.

Sparrow lake is part of the Trent-Severn system with a pre-Cambrian shield landscape; the small rocky islands are similar to the numerous pine-clad islands in Georgian Bay, some close to shore and very picturesque. Grandview Lodge has a long shoreline interestingly curved with rocky points. There is a marsh within walking distance and a beaver lodge with resultant drowned land along the roadside into the Lodge. In a depression the owners have left fallen trees, natural debris and moss-covered stumps; this area is in gorgeous shades of green with wetland plants growing up from the forest floor. The abundance of second-growth oak and maple in the area inspired me to do a bit of dabbling in water-colour - sometimes peering through a screened porch, when it was raining.

There is an abundance of birds and no cats, so the birds have free range. There was singing all day long, regardless of weather; if I had had a tape recorder with me, I'm sure I could have captured some bird songs. One night a loon called. The gorgeous red-headed woodpecker was there too, as well as the familiar crow and several species of blackbird and flycatcher. The singers were northern oriole, American goldfinch, white-throated and song sparrows, among others. Chipmunks and squirrels are almost tame and, with the oak larder, numerous and quite cheeky. One day at lunch-time, near some cabins, we saw a white-tailed deer amble out of the woods; having caused a collection of humans to gather, it flicked its tail disgustedly and disappeared.

There are cottages, motel units (I had one of these and was very comfortable) and lodge rooms. Boats too are available. All at reasonable cost.

The only guests that week were a man from Pittsburgh and myself. Busiest times are week-ends and summer (it is a popular family resort). Quietest times are mid-week during May, early June and September. The Lodge is open mid-May to mid-September; it reopens for Thanksgiving weekend. It can be reached conveniently by bus or train, since transfer to the Lodge from VIA Rail Washago Station or North Bay Bus stop near there can be arranged. If interested, contact Grandview Lodge (owners Bill and Gayla Darker) Nov.-Apr. RR3 Orillia, Ont., L3V 6H3 (705-325-7544); May-Oct. Port Stanton, Ont. POE 1L0 (705-689-5889). The North Bay bus stops at Yorkdale and York Mills Stations; tickets may be obtained at York Mills as well as the downtown terminal. The 1984 schedule is on file in TFN Library (690-1963).

J. McGill

"Fringed Gentian"

sketched at

Jim Baillie Nature Reserve

September,
1982



IN EXCHANGE

REPORT FROM THE OWL REHABILITATION RESEARCH FOUNDATION

In 1982 we took in 111 injured owls and released 59. I should point out that some of the releases were hold-overs from 1981 and some were hatched here at the Owl Rehabilitation Research Foundation at Vineland Station. Also, some of those received in 1982 were held over to be released during 1983. 1982 was quite similar to 1981, but this year we seem to be receiving fewer injured owls. We can only speculate as to the reason; perhaps the cold, wet spring meant smaller hatches in the wild. The peculiar weather certainly seemed to confuse some of our resident breeding pairs.

Last year our construction program consisted of renovation or, in some cases, complete rebuilding and the same pattern continues this year. During this past summer our help consisted of a high-school lad for four days a week. We started renovating the original long-eared cage; however, the prolonged heat and humidity slowed me down and it is not yet completed. Now, as I write, Brian Ratcliff is again with us and one of the large original snowy cages has been torn down and is being replaced by a second short-eared cage and a second pygmy cage while the original barn owl release cage which was always a bit make-shift is being replaced by a new double cage for flammulated owls or species of similar size. We hope to have all these completed before the end of November.

Last year we were elated at the successful breeding of the "threatened" western plains burrowing owl in the new 5-territory World Wildlife Fund breeding compound. The seven young were successfully released this past May at the Douglas Lake Ranch south of Kamloops B.C. under the auspices of the B.C. Fish and Wildlife Department who had provided nine artificial burrows and several temporary covering and holding cages. I delivered them and witnessed their release. This year our breeding pairs have produced eleven young which we intend to send to B.C. in May 1984. As well as the continued breeding of great horned (for foster parenting), snowy, barn, screech, and saw-whet owls, this year the great excitement was the successful hatching of a boreal owl, the culmination of seven years of hopeful anticipation. Of the three eggs laid, only one hatched, but to our knowledge this is the first time injured wild boreals have ever produced young in captivity.

We attempt to breed injured native wild owls not with any real hope or intention of increasing existing populations (except perhaps in the case of the barn owl) but rather as a vital part of an on-going study of owl behaviour, a little studied and hence little understood subject. This and research into internal and external parasites and various blood conditions are natural outcomes of our legal affiliation with the Department of Biological Sciences of Brock University. Nowadays, blood work on incoming owls is almost as routine as x-rays or other diagnostic procedures. We have never bought or sold an owl so the breeding experiments being conducted here are very different from the breeding of raptors, for example, by falconers for private pleasure or personal gain.

Last year a publisher did decide to underwrite the printing of a third edition of Kay's manual. It has now been sold in 18 countries with minimal advertising. This edition includes a comprehensive index, a bibliography, and some additional text. It has been described by a leading authority in the United States (Dr. Murray Fowler of California) as one of the most useful books on owls ever produced.

This year we have given another dozen or so slide lectures, with several more scheduled to be delivered before the year-end. Kay has been much in demand as a speaker in the U.S. She delivered an address at a veterinary symposium in

REPORT FROM THE ORRF continued...

Colorado and was billed, along with Dr. Fowler, as a keynote speaker at a conference of the National Wildlife Rehabilitators Association in Chicago. She delivered the main address at the annual meeting of the Vermont Institute of Natural Science in Woodstock, Vermont, and was asked to produce cage drawings for them.

Kay has also completed on contract the manuscript for another and longer book for older children on owls, of course, while I have just completed the three-year (an hour at a time!) task of writing a book about Kay and her owls and the trials and tribulations I have endured in helping her to build up the ORRF into what it is today. Kay's book will definitely be published, but as for mine, who knows?

Last year we set up the ORRF Endowment Fund, Inc. with the hope that the activities of the ORRF could be continued on into the future. We have not yet conducted any concerted fund-raising campaign as some necessary explanatory material was missing, but steps have been taken to remedy the deficiency. In 1982 we managed to keep our head above water with income and expenses of about \$27000. This year so far has been somewhat more difficult but, again, we hope to break even.

To return to the Endowment Fund, we ourselves are presently enduring the pangs of parting with some of our treasured books and paintings in order to provide the Fund with "seed money".

In conclusion, once again, our very sincere thanks to our supporters. Without your help we just could not carry on.

Kay and Larry McKeever

adapted from the Owl Rehabilitation Research Foundation News, Sept. 1983

Donations to the ORRF may be made to: ORRF, R.R. #1, Vineland Station, Ont. LOR 2E0. Tax-deductible receipts will be issued for all donations over \$5.00.

adapted from the Peninsula Naturalist, No. 132, Nov./Dec. 1983

With one good eye, the injured Great Horned Owl glares out accusingly from his protected environment. At Mountsberg Conservation Area we came across a number of such cages. This is the drawing I did at the time.

Anita Edmunds



Courses of Study

Sheridan College, Oakville

Bird Study I

Part 1 - Wednesdays, commencing Sept. 12, 7.30-10.00 p.m.
12 weeks.

Part 2 - Commencing in January 1985.

Instructor - Rosemary Gaymer

Cost - \$50.00 per semester; \$10.00 for senior citizens.

For further information and registration, contact:

Community Services Division, Sheridan College,
1430 Trafalgar Road, Oakville, Ontario. L6J 2L1
Telephone 842-8800 (Oakville)

Clive and Joy Goodwin

"Birding in Fall" - a four-week, two-field-trip course runs in two locations at 7.00 p.m., starting September 26 at Brentwood Library and September 27 at Deer Park Library. For further information, call 249-9503.

School of Continuing Studies, University of Toronto

Botanical Drawing and Watercolour

Section A - Mondays, Sept. 24-Dec. 10, 7.00-10.00 p.m.

Section B - Wednesdays, Oct. 3-Dec.12, 7.00-10.00 p.m.

Section C - Mondays, Feb. 11-Apr.22, 7.00-10.00 p.m.

Instructor - H. Moelchert

Cost - \$150.00 each section, plus materials.

Introducing Astronomy - Wednesdays, Jan. 16-Mar. 20, 7.00-9.00 p.m.

Instructor - K. Kamper

Cost - \$105.00

For further information, contact:

School of Continuing Studies, University of Toronto,
158 St. George St., Toronto, Ontario. M5S 2V8
Telephone 978-2400

George Brown College, Casa Loma Campus

Herbs and Herbal Remedies - Thursdays, Oct. 4-Dec. 6, 8.00-10.00 p.m.

Cost - \$52.00

For further information contact:

George Brown College of Applied Arts and Technology,
P.O. Box 1015, Station B, Toronto, Ontario. M5T 2T9
Telephone 967-1212

Humber College

Nature Interpretation Program - beginning in January 1985. Program designed to meet the needs of students with a strong biology or natural science background who wish to pursue a career in Interpretation.

Program requires 3 semesters to complete, with the second semester being spent in a field placement.

For further information, call Donna Reid, 675-5009.

COMING EVENTS

COMING EVENTS

Royal Ontario Museum

An exhibition of 76 works on prehistoric life by the noted American muralist, Charles R. Knight, is at the ROM until September 30. For further information, call 978-3692.

McLaughlin Planetarium

At the Planetarium, a show entitled "Invisible Universe: The Eyes of IRAS" is on until September 3. From September 21 to December 9 the Planetarium will present "The Once and Future Moon".

"Star Talks" - Live presentations of the current night sky will be given September 18, 19, 20, at 7.30 p.m. Cost \$2.75.

"Introduction to Astronomy" will be offered Mondays, 7.00-9.00 p.m. September 24 to November 26. \$50.00 for the course.

"Autumn Stargazing", a one-evening workshop for beginners, Mondays, October 29, November 26. 7.00 p.m. Cost \$5.00.

For information about Planetarium events, call 978-8550.

Kortright Centre for Conservation

From August 11 to September 30, 40 Canadian wildlife artists will display paintings or carvings of the birds, animals and plants that are on Canada's list of endangered, threatened, extirpated or rare species. Original works from the show, limited editions and other prints will be offered for sale.

On September 16 an early morning bird watch, from 8.00 to 10.00 a.m., will take place at the Kortright Centre.

Kortright Centre is on Pine Valley Drive, just south of Major Mackenzie Drive, west of Hwy. 400. Telephone 661-6600.

Halton Region Museum

The Halton Region Museum will be sponsoring a hike emphasizing Halton's historic and natural heritage on Sunday, October 14. The hike will be moderately strenuous and will last 5 hours. Limited number of participants.

For further information and advance registration, contact: Mr. M. Sorensen, Halton Region Museum, R.R. 3, Milton. L9T 2X7 Telephone (416) 878-3232.

Clive and Joy Goodwin

Clive and Joy Goodwin are planning the following outings in September. For further information telephone 249-9503.

September 8-9 - Bruce Peninsula Weekend (mainly birds)

September 15-16 - Presqu'ile Park Birding Weekend

Participants provide their own transportation on these weekends. (Maximum 14 persons)

Saturday, September 1 - Toronto Sesquicentennial Tour

Wednesday, September 12 - Dundas Marsh

Sunday, October 7 - Pickering to Whitby

One-day van birding trips, maximum 12 persons, usually 8.00 a.m. - about 5.30 p.m.

COMING EVENTS continued...

Niagara Falls Nature Club

The Niagara Falls Nature Club will host "Nature Niagara '84", a nature workshop, Saturday, November 17, 8.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m., at Beacon Motor Inn, Jordan Station, Vineland. Eight guest speakers will be featured during the day, as well as a special guest speaker in the evening. Cost is \$30.00 per person, including dinner.

For further information and reservation, write to:

Nature Niagara '84, P.O. Box 1681, St. Catharines, Ont. L2R 7K1.

COUNTRY HOST

Naturalists planning to go to Point Pelee or along the Niagara Escarpment as far as Tobermory, will be interested to know that "bed and breakfast" is available through "Country Host", a network of clean, attractive homes offering overnight accommodation in rural areas. Lunches and dinners may also be provided in many cases.

For information about rates and reservations, contact:

Country Host, R.R. #1, Palgrave, Ontario. L0N 1P0

TEL. (519) 941-7633.

WINTER HOLIDAYS

Clive and Joy Goodwin are planning trips to Southern Florida, January 19-27, 1985, and to Southern California, March 2-17, 1985. Further information about these trips may be obtained by calling 249-9503.



The Federation of Ontario Naturalists

DAY AND WEEKEND TRIPS FOR FALL

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| Aug. 24-26 | Rockspring Camping Weekend (near Owen Sound) - \$15 (\$30 per family)
(Cost does not include camping fees or meals). |
| Sept. 8 | Shorebirds at Presqu'ile - \$15 |
| Sept. 8 | Wainfleet Bog (Niagara Peninsula) - \$15 |
| Sept. 8-15 | Long Point Bird Banding - \$220 (includes leadership, workshops, meals, accommodation at the banding station, and boat transport to the tip of Long Point.) |
| Sept. 9 | Knowing Your Fall Wildflowers - \$15 (around Locke House). |
| Sept. 15 | Birding on the Spit - \$15 (fall migrants; led by Eric Nasmith) |
| Sept. 16 | Fall Hawk Spectacular - \$15 (at Hawk Cliff, near St. Thomas). |
| Sept. 21-23 | Red Bay Weekend - \$110 (meals and accommodation included). |
| Sept. 28 | Trees of Norfolk (County) - \$15 (Meet near Walsingham). |
| Sept. 28 | Mono Cliffs Rambles - \$15 (Niagara Escarpment near Orangeville) |
| Oct. 28 | Loons, Gulls and Waves - \$15 (Lake Huron) |
| Oct. 28 | Caving - \$15 (near Milton, caves of the Niagara Escarpment) |
| Nov. 18 | Niagara Gulls - \$15 (Niagara River) |

Prices are quoted from a starting point near the area of the trip. You get yourself there. For more information contact Mr. & Mrs. Martin Parker, P.O. Box 1647, Port Elgin, Ontario N0H 2C0, (519) 832-5928.

TFN MEETINGS



GENERAL MEETINGS

Board of Education Centre, 6th Floor Auditorium
155 College Street, at McCaul

Tuesday, September 4, 1984. 8.15 p.m. (Coffee at 7.30)

Birdfinding in Toronto (also ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING)

- Clive Goodwin, Freelance Naturalist and author of
Birdfinding Guides to Toronto and Ontario.

This slide-illustrated lecture will be about some of the good
places for birding around Toronto throughout the year.

Monday, October 1, 1984. 8.15 p.m.

Geography of the Toronto Watershed

- Alyson Deans, Metropolitan Conservation Authority.

Monday, November 5, 1984. 8.15 p.m.

Ornithology for the Layman

- Dr. A. L. A. Middleton, Biologist, University of Guelph.

Tuesday, December 4, 1984. 8.15 p.m.

Hardwood Swamps

- Arthur Boissonneau, Ministry of Natural Resources.

* * * * *

GROUP MEETINGS

Bird Group

Wed. Sep.19

7.00 p.m.

Location: 6th floor auditorium, Education Centre,
155 College Street, at McCaul

Water Birds
(see page 11)

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Botany Group

Thur. Sep.13

7.30 p.m.

Location: Room 207B, Botany Bldg., Univ. of Toronto,
northwest corner of College and University

Field Workshop - Aquatic Plants
(see page 11)

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Environmental Group

Thur. Sep.27

7.30 p.m.

Location: Huron Public School, 541 Huron Street, 1 block west
of St. George subway station

Environmental Issues
Speaker from Ontario Hydro

: : : : : : : : : : :

Junior Club

Sat. Sep. 8

10.00 a.m.

Location: Planetarium Auditorium, immediately south of
Royal Ontario Museum

Slides by Lothar Jung on last year's outings.
(see also page 12)



TORONTO FIELD NATURALIST

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Members are encouraged to submit notices, reports, articles up to 1500 words in length, and illustrations at least six weeks before the month in which the event is to take place or the material is required to appear.

MEMBERSHIP FEES:	Family (2 adults, same address) - \$20.00
	Single - \$15.00
	Senior Family (2 adults, 65+) - \$15.00
	Senior Single - \$10.00
	Student - \$10.00

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