TRAIL & Landscape

A PUBLICATION CONCERNED WITH NATURAL HISTORY AND CONSERVATION

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Club Publications: THE CANADIAN FIELD-NATURALIST, a quarterly devoted to reporting research in all fields of natural history pertinent to Canada; TRAIL & LANDSCAPE, providing articles on the natural history of the Ottawa Valley and an annual calendar; the bimonthly newsletter; and THE [illegible] publication by members of the Ottawa Club and available by annual subscription.

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An Update on Alfred Bog

This report will fill you in on Club activities with respect to the Alfred Bog since our last report a year ago (OFNC Natural Areas Subcommittee 1984).

First, a word of reassurance. The bog is still there, despite the rezoning of much of it in 1983 to permit agricultural use. However, we understand that Hardee Farms had a peat inventory done on their land last summer. This explains the freshly-cut survey lines some of us have observed. The exact purpose of the inventory is not known, but it would be a necessary step before investing funds to drain the bog and prepare it for growing crops or for peat extraction. On the other hand, an analysis of the amount and quality of peat would be valuable bargaining information to have if and when the owner wishes to sell the land.

We are not aware of any further negotiations between Hardee Farms and the Nature Conservancy or the Ontario Government. However, the Nature Conservancy (and the Natural Heritage League) still consider the bog a high priority project, and we will keep lobbying them for concrete action.

In December, we learned that a 100 acre lot on the edge of the bog was being offered for sale by public tender. The land had been cleared in the past and although now grown up with shrubs, could not be considered true "bog". However, the land provided an excellent access point to the bog and after careful deliberation, the Club executive decided to submit a bid. When the tenders were opened, it turned out that we had been outbid by a local farmer.

We are still looking for land for sale in the bog and will add to our present holding provided the land can be acquired at fair market value. The Club's Alfred Bog Trust Fund has grown to about $5,200 from $1,700 last year, having been augumented by the proceeds from the raffle at the Soirée last spring and donations over the past year. In addition, there are still pledges from the Federation of Ontario Naturalists and the Ottawa Duck Club in reserve.

In January of this year, the Club submitted a proposal to Wildlife Habitat Canada (WHC) for funding to purchase land in the bog on a cost-sharing basis over a two-year period. Funds obtained from this source during the first year would be used to match the funds we have already raised. We would then have to raise an equivalent amount to use WHC funding for the second year. While our proposal has not yet been reviewed by the WHC

board of directors, we are optimistic about its success. If our proposal is approved, we have the incentive to launch a fund-raising drive later this year. We will keep you informed of the results.

This spring and summer, a number of guided walks into the bog are being organized for various conservation groups. The Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club outing is on August 10th. If you want to visit the bog, we urge you to register for one of these group trips. Most of the bog and all of the surrounding land is privately owned, and we can not condone trespass. If you must go into the bog on your own, please, for the sake of all of us, ask permission of the landowner before crossing his or her property.

When in the bog, please observe the naturalists' golden rule - leave nothing but footprints; take nothing but photographs. And remember, in a bog even footprints last a long, long time.

Literature Cited

OFNC Natural Areas Subcommittee. 1984. To all Alfred Bog supporters. Trail & Landscape 18(3): 108. ¤

Prepared by the Conservation Committee

OFNC Committee Members for 1985

Following is the list of members of The Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club who contribute to the operations of the Club by participating in one or more of the seven standing committees and four other committees. About 90 people are involved, an impressive total. Incidentally, the two Vice-presidents of the Executive also participate in some of the meetings of these committees as liaison.

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Federation of Ontario Naturalists Report

Heather Wilson

The Board of Directors of the Federation of Ontario Naturalists met in Toronto on January 26th. The meeting commenced with an earnest discussion about the logging activities in Rondeau Park. Apparently the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources has informed the FON on a number of occasions that logging in Rondeau Park is restricted to the removal of windfalls or trees that are about to fall. FON members who had recently visited the park reported that the logging appeared to be much more extensive than that described by OMNR. The discussion ended with a general request that naturalists visiting the park should record evidence, by photograph if possible, of any cutting which goes beyond the removal of windfalls and leaning trees. This information should be forwarded to the FON.

While the topic of provincial parks was still on everyone's mind, FON President, Bob Stewart, mentioned that the OMNR proposal for the establishment of 32 new provincial parks was before cabinet. As you are probably aware, the FON and member organizations, including The Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club, played laudable and significant roles in the support expressed for the new parks at public hearings and in briefs submitted to the Ministry.

The next major item on the day's agenda was a presentation by representatives of the Friends of the Wye Marsh. This organization is making a valiant effort to keep the Wye Marsh Wildlife Centre open despite the proposed cuts. The FON is assessing ways in which it can support their efforts. The Wye Marsh presentation included a brief history of Canadian Wildlife Service centres that were created to increase Canadians' awareness of their natural environment. The need for the interpretative program was evident then but is perhaps even more obvious today.

Ironically, the Wye Marsh presentation was followed by a discussion of the FON's budget. Current costs require the Federation to increase its revenues in order to support its environmental program and to keep a full-time environmentalist on staff. Environmental activism is considered to be a key role of the Federation and well worth the expense. Of course, part of the increase in revenue will have to be derived from an increase in membership and in membership fees. Those of you who are not yet FON members are encouraged to join, not only to

support a worthwhile and effective organization, but also for your own enjoyment and benefit.

Other items which were addressed at the meeting ranged from the need to maintain the flow of letters to the federal Minister of the Environment regarding cuts to the Canadian Wildlife Service to the revision of the FON endangered species kit. The Breeding Bird Atlas Committee reported that Ontario's Atlas project was only 12 squares away from complete province-wide coverage. Please note that June 15, 1985, is the North American Breeding Bird Atlas Day - a breeding bird survey extravaganza and a dream come true for the Atlas co-ordinators.

Also, don't forget the FON Annual Conference of May 24-26 to be held at McMaster University, Hamilton. Information on the conference can be obtained from the Federation of Ontario Naturalists, 355 Lesmill Road, Don Mills, Ontario M3B 2W8. ¤

* * *

CANADIAN NATURE FEDERATION CONFERENCE

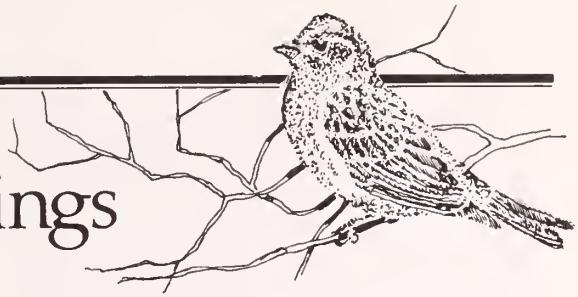
Carleton University
July 4-6, 1985

All members of The Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club are invited to register for the CNF Conference and participate in the many field trips, social events and day-long symposium to be held at Carleton University from July 4-6.

Included in the activities are field trips led by experienced OFNC members to Mer Bleue, Alfred Bog, Chaffeys Locks and The Burnt Lands Alvar; bat-finding with Brock Fenton; a celebrity picnic at Booth Picnic Field in Gatineau Park; a wine and cheese reception and tour at the National Museum of Natural Sciences; a banquet with guest speaker Monte Hummel of the World Wildlife Fund (Canada); and more!

For more information, call the Canadian Nature Federation at 238-6154 or drop into the Nature Canada Bookshop, 75 Albert Street, basement level.

Recent Bird Sightings



Frank H. Bell

As Bernie Ladouceur wrote in the last *Recent Bird Sightings*, these articles usually begin with the weather. This summary is no exception, since the weather was obviously the main factor in a record Christmas Bird Count of 89 species found on the 16th of December compared with a total of only 74 species recorded during the whole month of January 1985. The first two months of 1985, while not record-breaking in minimum temperatures, were steadily cold. This was especially true of January, when the maximum daytime temperatures never got above freezing.

The cold January soon terminated the lingering fall birds, such as Ring-necked Duck, Lesser Scaup, Red-breasted Merganser, and Herring, Iceland, Glaucous and Great Black-backed Gulls. The Carolina Wren in Aylmer also disappeared, but unfortunately probably not by going south. A Bufflehead seen at the end of January and early in February may have been forced south from further north. Anyway, it was our first mid-winter record in several years. On the other hand, there were several species which are uncommon or rare in winter that did make it through. There was a Northern Pintail at Manotick; the now-famous Kanata Common Snipe (apparently the same bird has learned from previous year(s) that it can make it on that little stretch of open "stream" (Di Labio 1985)); the Belted Kingfisher at Manotick, although it was not reported later in February; Northern Flicker - one at Aylmer and two in Embrun; the Rusty Blackbird, again for the second winter on the Fourth Line near Riddell Road; and the Chipping Sparrow on Geneva Street.

The Harris' Sparrow was our rarest bird of the winter and the third record of this bird for the Ottawa District*. It was at a feeder on Varley Street in Kanata from January 12th through the end of February. The other rare bird of the winter was a Red-bellied Woodpecker on Mill Street in Old Chelsea. The feeder watchers there read in Elizabeth Le Geyt's bird column in *The Citizen* about people going to the Pembroke area to see a Red-bellied Woodpecker (as well as a Varied Thrush and a Hawk Owl), so they looked closely at their own strange bird which had been around a week or so and called Mrs. Le Geyt on February 3rd. It was there at least a couple more weeks.

* *within 50 km of the Peace Tower*

As perhaps could have been expected from the mild fall and the good numbers of overwintering summer birds, most of the species Ottawa had become famous for in winter were either missing or very uncommon. There were no Boreal, Hawk (in the District) or Great Gray Owls. Even the Snowy Owl was on the scarce side. We had already begun to give up on the "three-toed woodpeckers" - the (Northern) Three-toed Woodpecker was again missing, and the Black-backed Woodpecker was scarce. Bohemian Waxwings, Boreal Chickadees and Pine Grosbeaks were scarce indeed, and no Gray Jays were seen. The Common Redpoll (but no Hoaries) finally arrived in numbers towards the end of February.

But before the impression is given that it was a completely dull winter, it should be made clear that such was not the case. Almost every feeder must have had the colourful Purple Finches, the first winter they have been numerous since 1976-77. And American Goldfinches and Dark-eyed Juncos, while not everywhere, were around in perhaps record numbers. There was even an Oregon Junco in Aylmer, interesting to see even though it has been treated as a subspecies of the Dark-eyed Junco since 1973. Also exciting were the greatest numbers of White-winged Crossbills seen in many years, although most stayed north of the Ottawa River and west of the Mississippi River. Red Crossbills were relatively rare compared to the White-winged. Pine Siskins were also abundant in the same areas as the White-winged Crossbills.

Finally, there were a few - repeat few - signs of spring in the latter part of February, although the standard harbinger of spring, the Horned Lark, was essentially missing, not counting a normal number of overwintering birds. One or two Ring-billed, Herring and Great Black-backed Gulls appeared briefly in the middle of February, with the first two appearing again in greater numbers during the last week. Two Greater Scaup and one Lesser Scaup on February 22nd were early, as was a Red-necked Grebe on February 26th.

Acknowledgement for part of the above information is given to preliminary data from *The Shrike* for January, and to Bruce Di Labio specifically for February.

Literature Cited

Di Labio, B.M. 1985. The overwintering of a Common Snipe in the Ottawa area. Trail & Landscape 19(1): 16-17. ¤

* * *

A BIRD STATUS TAPE RECORDING IS NOW BEING MAINTAINED.

For the latest news on bird happenings in the Ottawa area, including field trips and lectures, call **(613) 744-4704.**

Code of Conduct for Birders

This code of conduct was established to reflect the need during birding activities for consideration and good manners towards landowners, the general public, the habitat and fauna, and fellow birders. It is anticipated that birders will attempt to follow this code in pursuing their hobby and that they will not bring discredit on the naturalist community. Although the code was written for birders, some of the points made should also be of interest to members participating in other types of field activity.

Landowners and the General Public

- Show respect for privacy. Disturbing people in their homes or during their enjoyment of the outdoors is to be avoided. If access to private property is needed, make contact first. If phoning ahead, place the call during reasonable hours, say 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
- People count as well as birds. Show courtesy. Be reasonable, and don't always expect people to understand either what you are talking about or what you want to do! Don't be impatient.
- Show respect for property. Avoid trespassing, avoid damage to property. Use gates, and close them rather than risk damage to fences (or yourselves!). Take your letter with you.
- Keep noise to a minimum.

Habitat and Fauna

- Show respect for both. Keep disturbance to a minimum consistent with finding birds and reasonable observation. Do not harry birds. Avoid disturbing nesting birds.
- Avoid habitat destruction. Many birding spots have fragile habitats. Leave them as much as possible as you found them. Stay on existing trails and paths.
- Repeated use of tape recorders, particularly during the breed ing season and in heavily birded areas, should be avoided.

Fellow Birders

- Be cooperative and show fair play in dealing with other birders. Follow Kingsley's advice: Do as you would be done by.
- Be generous with information. What you think of as ordinary may be someone else's rarity.
- Be helpful and considerate. Assist others in identification, share your knowledge, and defer to others when in doubt.

Birds Committee, Wright Smith, Secretary.

Activities of the Bird Records Subcommittee in 1984

Mark Gawn

For over a decade the Bird Records Subcommittee and its predecessor, the Rare Birds Committee, has been charged by The Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club with the task of assessing the validity of sightings of rare birds in the Ottawa area. Over the years, more than 300 Rare Bird Reports have been received and evaluated. In 1984, meetings of the subcommittee were held on an *ad hoc* basis; however, in 1985 we will be having regular monthly meetings. The main reason for a more regular schedule is the expected increase in the number of reports submitted. As well, we will be working on an updated checklist of the birds of the Ottawa District*.

Observers are reminded that undocumented reports of rare occurrences are of little value and will not be included in the new checklist. A number of reforms are now being considered that will both limit the number of undocumented reports that get published and improve the functioning of this subcommittee.

In 1985 the Bird Records Subcommittee considered 15 Rare Bird Reports and photographs. Of these submissions, nine were passed, five were rejected, and one was considered as probably being an escapee. These reports are listed in Tables 1 and 2. While the subcommittee invites the submission of details on any rare bird sighted, including out of season reports, we are most interested in those species with only a small number of documented occurrences in our area. A total of eight such occurrences were reported in *The Shrike* and/or in *Recent Bird Sightings* in *Trail & Landscape* for which no details have yet been submitted to the subcommittee. These reports are listed in Table 3. Some reports, especially of controversial decisions, will be published in *The Shrike*. All are available to the public.

A new slate for the Bird Records Subcommittee was selected in December. Roy John is the current chairman, and Gordon Pringle is the secretary. Please feel free to contact either of these two people, or any member of the subcommittee for more information. (See page 124 for the list of members of the subcommittee.)

* *within 50 km of the Peace Tower*

Table 1: Rare Bird Reports Passed in 1984

Arctic Tern	Ray Holland (photo), May 5, 1983. Earliest record for Ontario.
House Finch	Ray Holland (photo), late June, 1984. First documented breeding of this species in the Ottawa District.
King Eider	Mark Gawn, Dec. 18, 1983. First Ottawa-Hull Christmas Bird Count record.
Prothonotary Warbler	Mark Gawn, May 24, 1984. Fourth Record for the District, first spring record.
Black-legged Kittiwake	Robert Bracken, Sept. 3, 1984. First September record for the District.
Forster's Tern	Mike Runtz, Oct. 21, 1984. First record for the Arnprior district.
Pine Warbler	Daniel F. Brunton (photo), Jan. 17, (1984). Second January record for the Ottawa District.
Yellow-breasted Chat	John Sankey, Aug. 18, 1984.
Savannah Sparrow	Mark Gawn, Nov. 21, 1984. Seasonally rare.

Table 2: Rare Bird Reports not accepted in 1984

Curlew Sandpiper	Sept. 10. 1983 (photo)
Swainson's Hawk	April 10, 1984
Western Tanager	May 20, 1984
White Pelican	May 27, 1984
Tree Sparrow	May 27, 1984
Barnacle Goose	April 29, 1984 (photo), identification accepted but status unknown, might have been an escapee.

Table 3: Undocumented Sightings in 1984

The following species were reported to *The Shrike*, but so far no substantiating details have been received. This list includes only those species for which fewer than 10 sightings exist in the District. Please note that reports are requested for any rare bird sighting, including out of season records: Black-legged Kittiwake (two additional sightings), Connecticut Warbler, Willet, Lark Sparrow, Snowy Egret, Pomarine Jaeger, Great Cormorant, Northern Fulmar. ¤

Butterflies of the Ottawa District 1984 Update

Peter W. Hall and Ross A. Layberry

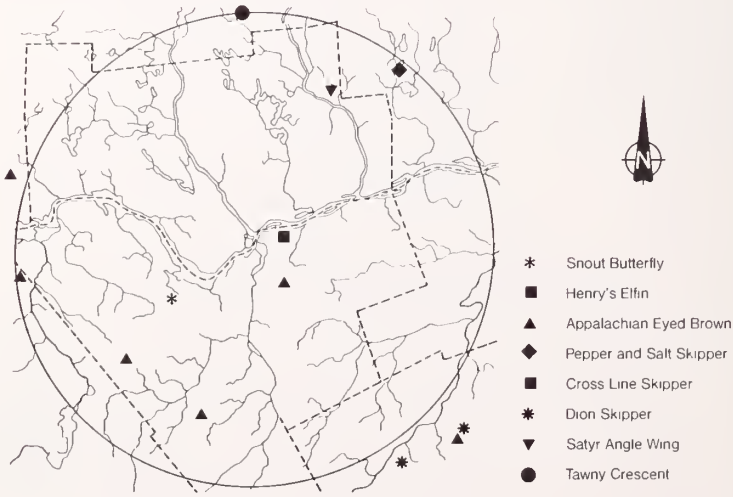
INTRODUCTION

The 1984 butterfly season was highlighted by the appearance of a new species for the Ottawa District - the Snout Butterfly. This unusual-looking species with its long snout belongs to a very small, but worldwide, family of butterflies.

Resident butterfly species were sporadic in their numbers, depending on the weather. There was a very cool, wet May that limited the flight of early butterflies, but a warm and mostly sunny period in June and July brought out good numbers of many species. There was no reoccurrence of the near-drought conditions of 1983. August and September appeared cooler than average which limited the late-season butterflies.

Several new location records were noted for some of the rarer resident species, particularly the skippers. These significant 1984 records are contained in the map below.

Some migratory species were noticeably absent, while others that had been absent in recent years put in an appearance.



Significant 1984 Location Records for the Ottawa District

There were no early records for butterfly species in the District in 1984, nor were there any updates on possible species.

NEW SPECIES

On September 8, RAL encountered a SNOUT BUTTERFLY (*Libytheana bachmanii*) on a wooded road near South March. The SNOUT BUTTERFLY (*drawing right*) is resident as far north as extreme southern Ontario and is a noted migrant some years in the United States. However, it had not been recorded within 350 km of the Ottawa District.

The following is a complete description of RAL's observations:
There were many butterflies mudpuddling on the dirt road, including COMMAS (*Polygonia comma*), GRAY COMMAS (*Polygonia progue*), PEARL CRESCENTS (*Phyciodes tharos*), COMMON SULPHURS (*Colias philodice*) and EUROPEAN CABBAGE BUTTERFLIES (*Artogeia rapae*). At one large puddle was another butterfly, bigger than a PEARL CRESCENT but smaller than a COMMA. Its wings were tightly closed and I could see only the underside of the hindwing, which was a purplish-gray colour, quite like the underside of a HARVESTER (*Feniseca tarquinius*), although it was too big for that species. As I did not have my net with me, I spent about 20 minutes stalking the butterfly around the puddle, several times getting within one-half metre from it. I was unable to see the upperside, but could clearly see an elongated snout, protruding about one-half centimetre beyond the eyes. I felt certain it was a SNOUT BUTTERFLY. I attempted to trap the insect under my shirt, and actually succeeded, but when I tried to remove the shirt, the butterfly escaped and flew away. As it did, I saw the underside of the forewing for the first time and noticed two elongated whitish or cream marks near the costa of the forewing. The next day I visited the Canadian National Collection and examined their specimens of the SNOUT BUTTERFLY, confirming the identification.

Note: Coincidentally, I came driving down the same wooded road near South March about an hour after Ross had seen (and lost) the Snout Butterfly. I had not seen such a dejected-looking human being in many years. His shoulders were slumped and he merely waved me on, not recognizing me in his preoccupation. He was waiting in vain for the Snout to come back. PWH

The Dion Skipper was found at several new locations southeast of the District.

For the first time in several years, numbers of Question Marks showed up in 1984. Both photographs from slides by Peter Hall.

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

New locations were recorded in 1984 for several uncommon to extremely rare butterfly species. PWH found in early May another previously unknown colony for HENRY'S ELFIN (*Incisalia henrici*) in a small woods beside the Carsons Road language school. RAL and Don Lafontaine located another colony off Slack Road.

Also near the language school, but in mid-July, a CROSS LINE SKIPPER (*Polites origenes*) was taken. This rare skipper of damp meadows is usually seen only singly and in scattered locations throughout the District.

RAL encountered several rare species in the northern part of the District in June. He found a small colony of the very local TAWNY CRESCENT (*Phyciodes batesii*) near Lac Campbell, north of Lac Ronde. This is considerably further north than any previously-recorded colony. He also took a PEPPER AND SALT SKIPPER (*Amblyscirtes hegon*) about two kilometres west of Jarnac in Papineau County, and found a road kill of the rare SATYR ANGLE WING (*Polygonia satyrus*) about five kilometres southeast of Notre-Dame-de-la-Salle.

Just southeast of the District, near Grantley, PWH found a colony of the extremely rare DION SKIPPER (*Euphyes dion*). An estimated eight individuals were seen in a large sedgy area during a period of two hours. Also seen in this same sedge patch were numbers of BROAD WINGED SKIPPERS (*Poanes viator*) and a few of the rare MULBERRY WING (*Poanes massasoit*). Both of these species had been recorded near this location previously.

A second new location for the DION SKIPPER was found again just outside the District south of Winchester Springs off Highway 31.

Six new colonies of the extremely local APPALACHIAN EYED BROWN (*Satyrodes appalachia*) were found by RAL and PWH. These colonies, all in wet, wooded areas, were located in the Pine Grove Forest off Davidson Road, the Long Swamp near Manion Corners, cedar swamps north and south of the Phragmites Fen, a swamp two kilometres north of Caldwell, another cedar swamp 10 km northwest of Pakenham, and a swamp close to the Grantley location where the DION SKIPPERS were found.

All contributors noted that migratory species were generally down in numbers again in 1984. RED ADMIRALS (*Vanessa atalanta*) were not uncommon, but very few of the PAINTED LADY (*V. cardui*) and the AMERICAN PAINTED LADY (*V. virginiensis*) were seen. For the first time since 1981, QUESTION MARKS (*Polygonia interrogationis*) were again seen. However, only PWH saw more than one. He recorded six sightings scattered throughout the District.

Several contributors, RAL, PWH and Jack Holliday, recorded an unusually large number of sightings for the uncommon to rare ALFALFA BUTTERFLY (*Colias eurytheme*). It was most often seen in late August and early September.

Both the MONARCH (*Danaus plexippus*) and the COMMON SULPHUR (*Colias philodice*) were seen in normal numbers in late summer.

LATE RECORDS

The SPRING AZURE (*Celastrina ladon*) continued to appear in its recently-noted third generation at several spots in the District. It was found near South March on September 9 and on the Ridge Road at Mer Bleue on September 20. Only single specimens were seen on both occasions.

Several other species were sighted well after their normal flight period. A BOG COPPER (*Epidemia epixanthe*) was seen at Hopkins Hole Bog on August 19, an ACADIAN HAIRSTREAK (*Satyrium acadica*) north of Poltimore on August 26, a BANDED HAIRSTREAK (*S. calanus*) on August 17 near Taylor Lake, and a COMMON SULPHUR was seen by RAL in the City of Ottawa on October 25. Don Lafontaine reported a very fresh WHITE ADMIRAL (*Basilarchia arthemis*) as late as mid-August.

LIFE HISTORY DATA

Eggs of the OLYMPIA (*Euchloe olympia*) were found by RAL at the fire tower above Luskville Falls and at a small sandpit on the Mountain Road in early June on the mustard species, *Arabis divaricarpa*. This is the first record for the OLYMPIA on this foodplant. RAL also found many EUROPEAN SKIPPERS (*Thymelicus lineola*) dead inside flowers of the Showy Lady-slipper orchid and even one of the large HOBOMOK SKIPPER (*Poanes hobomok*) was trapped in a flower at White Lake Fen.

CONTRIBUTORS

Peter Hall	Don Lafontaine	Jack Holliday
Ross Layberry	John Fowler	¤

TRIP TO AUSTRALIA IN 1986?

As many people know, I organized a four-week natural history tour of eastern Australia with a strong birding bias during April and May of 1984. Recently, several Club members have inquired about the possibility of a second similar excursion. If there is enough interest, I would be delighted to organize another Australian tour, preferably in September or October, 1986.

The 1984 tour took place in the Australian autumn. We took advantage of the cooling trend in the weather by starting in Sydney, Canberra and the New South Wales outback in the south and then moving to O'Reilly's Guesthouse in southern Queensland and finally to the tropical city of Cairns in the north.

Since the proposed 1986 tour would take place in the Australian spring, it would make sense to start in the north at Cairns and work south. In my opinion, extended stops of several days at Cairns, the Great Barrier Reef and O'Reilly's Guesthouse are mandatory. Those who attended Glen Threlfo's magnificent film and slide show last November will surely have their appetites whetted for O'Reilly's. Other possible places that could be added to the itinerary are Kakadu National Park near Darwin in the Northern Territory, Carnarvon Gorge in the interior of Queensland, and Sydney or Melbourne in the south. Because of time constraints, only one or two of these places could be included.

The cost of the 1984 trip worked out to be about $4,200 per person including all travel, meals and accomodation. Fluctuating exchange rates, air fares and inflation make cost predictions for the 1986 trip difficult, but a rough estimate for four weeks would be about $5,000 per person.

As in 1984, I shall plan to stop for several days in each location to get a feel for what it is like. Even with this approach, we still compiled a list of 301 bird species in 1984. To get the most out of the trip, participants should have a fairly keen interest in birds and other features of the natural world. Expertise is useful but not important. I would welcome telephone calls at 731-9270 from any Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club members who would be interested in learning more about the trip. In the unlikely event that the trip is oversubscribed, priority will be given to those who first expressed interest.

To get a feeling of what to expect on this trip, I suggest that interested parties could contact one of the 1984 participants, such as Norma Johnston (729-7828) or Fran Goodspeed (820-4601).

Roger Taylor

An Albino American Red Squirrel and a Melanistic Eastern Chipmunk in the Ottawa Area

Bruce M. Di Labio

Albino animals have a genetic inability to produce coloured pigment and thus are all or partly white. Rarity is usually correlated with the amount of white: the more white the less frequently it occurs. Rarest of all are total albinos; they lack pigment even in the eyes, which appear pink.

At the other end of the spectrum are those animals that exhibit melanism, an excess of dark pigment. Melanism, like albinism, can be partial or total. This article reports on the sightings of a melanistic Eastern Chipmunk (*Tamias striatus*) and an albino American Red Squirrel (*Tamiascuirus hudsonicus*) on two islands in the Ottawa River within the city of Ottawa.

In light of the rarity of both melanism and albinism, their occurrence is well worth noting. Published records of melanism and albinism in squirrels and chipmunks are scarce. Smith and Smith (1972a) reviewed the few records of aberrant coloration in the Eastern Chipmunk and described seven other specimens that had not appeared previously in the technical literature. The only Ottawa area specimen they recorded was one from Kingsmere, Gatineau Co., Quebec. It was a melanistic chipmunk with a dark brown pelage, but the dorsal and cheek stripes were a lighter buff. It also had a white throat patch.

Also, Smith and Smith (1971, 1972b) report a sight record of an albino Eastern Chipmunk in Rothwell Heights in the north end of Gloucester. The chipmunk's appearance was almost that of a total albino, but it may have had faint stripes. Wilmot Lloyd (1974) describes a chipmunk which she had observed in Rockcliffe Park Village in 1931. It was white with two dark stripes down the back and black eyes.

I first became aware of the melanistic chipmunk on Bate Island when informed of its presence by Richard Brouillet. While on Bate Island on April 23, 1984, I observed and photographed this unusual animal (opposite). It was entirely black, except for the lateral dorsal stripes, which were dark gray. It exhibited no unusual behaviour apart from being very tame (not unexpected because squirrels and chipmunks on Bate Island are fed regularly by people). The chipmunk was observed again in mid-July, 1984. Some time after my first sighting I learned that as many as three melanistic chipmunks may have been present on the island for as long as five years (A.H. Reddoch pers. comm.)

The albino American Red Squirrel on Lemieux Island, April 23, 1984.

The melanistic Eastern Chipmunk on Bate Island, Sept. 22, 1984
Both photographs from slides by the author.

The albino American Red Squirrel was found on Lemieux Island, two km downstream (east) of Bate Island in the Ottawa River. I first saw it while birding on the island on July 24, 1984. Although less tame than the melanistic chipmunk, it allowed me to get close enough for photographs (see previous page). This animal was a total albino; the pelage was completely white and the eyes were pink. Subsequently to my sighting, I learned that it had probably been in the area for at least a year.

Literature Cited

Lloyd, W. 1974. A white chipmunk. Trail & Landscape 8(3): 62-65.

Smith. L.C. and D.A. Smith. 1971. Chipmunk Neighbours. Trail & Landscape 5(5): 124-129.

Smith, D.A. and L.C. Smith. 1972a. Aberrant coloration in Canadian Eastern Chipmunks, *Tamias striatus*. Canadian Field Naturalist 86(3): 253-257.

Smith. L. and D. 1972b. Postscript to Chipmunk Neighbours. Trail & Landscape 6(1): 3. ¤

The Law Protecting NCC Lands

Among properties owned by the National Capital Commission are many areas that are favourites with naturalists, for example, Stony Swamp, Pinhey Forest, Clyde Woods, Pine Grove Forest, Mer Bleue, Green's Creek, Lower Duck Island, Gatineau Park, and open lands along the Ottawa and Rideau Rivers.

To protect these properties and maintain order, the National Capital Act prohibits harmful activities such as molesting birds and animals, littering, and unauthorized collecting of plants and rocks. The Act restricts other practices, such as camping and having domestic pets, to designated areas.

Note especially these (condensed) sections of the Act:
26. No person shall, without the authority of the Commission, cut, break, injure, deface, defile or remove any rock, tree, shrub, plant, flower or turf on property of the Commission.
27. No person shall disturb or injure any wild animal or any bird, bird's nest or bird's eggs on property of the Commission.
40. Every person who contravenes any of the provisions of these Regulations is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding $500 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months, or to both. ¤

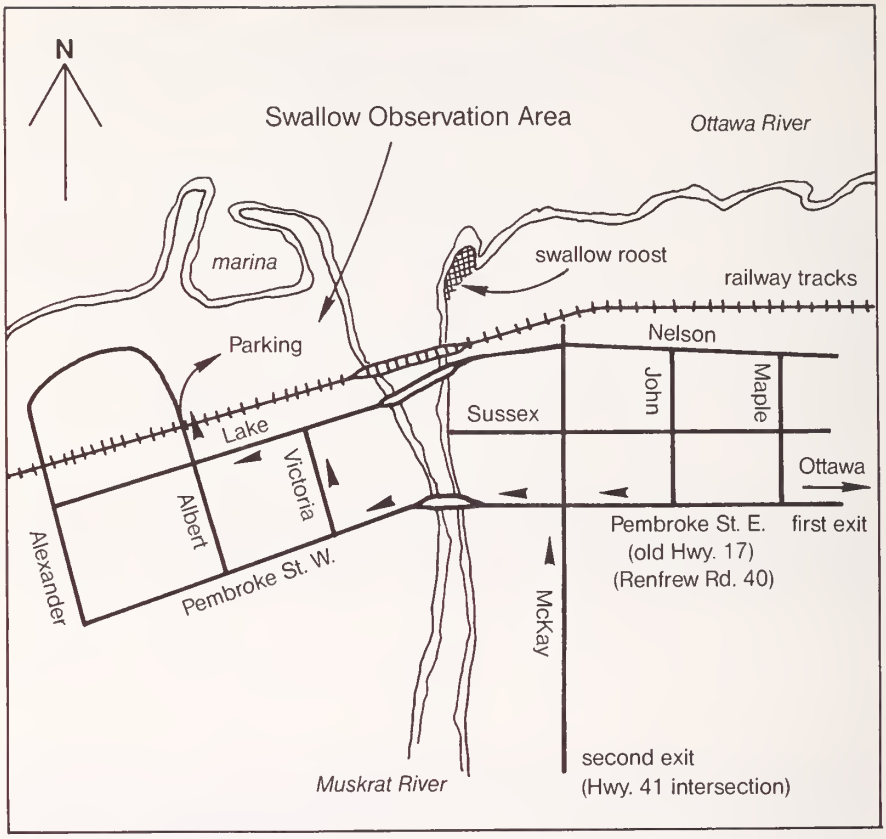
The Pembroke Swallows

Bruce M. Di Labio and Jacques Bouvier

Most people in the Ottawa Valley have heard of the swallows roosting in the city of Pembroke. The small patch of willows on the south bank of the Ottawa River at the mouth of the Muskrat River has received national attention because of the large number of swallows that gather there every summer and early fall (June, July and August). In the summer of 1984, from 500 to 1,000 swallows arrived at roost in early June! On July 12th there were an estimated 9,000; then numbers tripled the next week to about 27,000.

The most abundant species in the roost is the Tree Swallow. Barn Swallows, Bank Swallows and Purple Martins are very common. Cliff and Rough-winged Swallows can also be observed but are often difficult to find. Merlin frequent the roost, occasionally capturing an unwary swallow.

The willows where the swallows roost at the mouth of the Muskrat River in Pembroke. This is the view from the swallow observation area shown on the map. photograph by Bruce Di Labio



WHERE TO WATCH THE SWALLOWS IN PEMBROKE

Look for the yellow "Follow the Swallow" signs at the city entrance and follow these signs one by one along the roads. Do not turn unless there is an arrow on the sign.

Pembroke is located approximately 150 km northwest of Ottawa, about a two-hour drive on Highway 17. In most years the bulk of the birds arrive at the roost in mid-July. Numbers grow until about the second week in August when over 100,000 birds may be present. The best time to see the huge flock is in the evening, about 15 minutes before sunset, earlier if it is overcast.

The spectacular nature of the roost and its proximity to Ottawa make it an ideal outing for those interested in nature. ¤

Ottawa's Own Gathering of Purple Martins

J.W. (Jack) Holliday

In the last few years there have been articles in the newspapers about a great congregation of swallows in the Pembroke area. Ottawa too has a "roost", although on a smaller scale, this one for Purple Martins, and I am surprised so few people know of it.

The City of Ottawa's first water filtration plant was built on Lemieux Island in the Ottawa River in 1930 to 1932. The island is reached from the mainland by a bridge which is just off the Ottawa River Parkway at the north end of Bayview Road. Just before the bridge, alongside the river, is a charming stone house that until recently went with the position of Commissioner of Waterworks. Alongside the house is a grove of trees not much more than a hectare in size. It is in this grove that the birds roost. My diaries indicate 3,000 Purple Martins there on August 21, 1981; 1,000 on August 9, 1982; thousands on August 29, 1983; and 3,000 on August 9, 1984.

The Purple Martins start to return to the roost about an hour before sunset and circle and wheel high in the air, harvesting the flies that have emerged from the river and climbed high on their "nuptial" flight. From time to time several hundreds or thousands of birds will alight on the hydro and telephone wires alongside the bridge for a rest, then suddenly they fly off as one and career over the river again. After sunset, small groups will dive swiftly into the copse of trees. More will congregate from all directions and after circling high will dive in turn into the trees. This roost is also used by robins, grackles and starlings.

You'll see by my records that mid- to late August seems to be the time they gather here. I can recommend this site as one where Purple Martins can be seen by the thousands, and incidently Lemieux Island is a lovely place for a picnic. On warm summer evenings the island is a cool retreat right in the middle of the city, with large lawns, lovely gardens (maintained by the filtration plant staff), and picnic tables. There is a fine stand of mature Black Walnut trees on the island too.

In May and June, thousands of Ring-billed Gulls nest on two small islands between Lemieux Island and the Quebec shore. American Black Ducks and Mallards nest on the three islands upstream of Lemieux. ¤

Gray Partridge near Mooney's Bay

Edith Dahlschen

My Chickens. That's how I call them. For years I have been watching some Gray Partridges around my house and in the fields with great delight and anxiety (see Trail & Landscape 17(2): 51 (1983)). Finding leftovers and feathers while skiing has always been a sad discovery that my regular fox had found a meal again, thereby deflating my "chicken flock". The birds started coming to my feeder regularly about five years ago, and I have been watching them carefully ever since.

There usually would be about five or six left out of a family of 12 to 16 by early spring. Later there was always only one resident pair around. Last spring there were two resident pairs until they both disappeared for breeding. I waited anxiously, wondering whether I would ever see them again. There are many people walking their dogs loose in the fields posing a threat to ground-nesting birds.

But lo and behold. On July 19th one proud and alert pair with 13 very young chicks walked out of the tall grass onto my lawn towards my bird feeder. (I am feeding all year around.) What a delight to see and watch. At the slightest move or noise the whole covey, including the parents, ducked to the ground, making themselves almost invisible in the grass. That flock came regularly like clockwork every day, unless some drama happened when they stayed away for a couple of days, only to come back with one bird missing.

Today, on February 25th, there are seven of the original covey left. But - and that is the interesting story this year - a second family group turned up last December 28th. I could not believe my eyes as I watched the birds chasing each other and calling all over the place. A pretty picture on the white snow. I counted 20 in all at the time. I am certain the newcomers are the family of the pair which disappeared in the spring. They knew the feeder. Well, now what?

I had to dig up another feeding place. Now each flock has established its own feeding place - never going to the other. My original smaller covey was decidedly in better condition and the birds were slightly larger than the new guests. But they had to settle for the new feeding place because they were constantly harrassed and driven away from the old one by the greater number of birds of the other family. Now, after ten weeks of "fights and feeds", all is established even if the fighting has not altogether ceased. Family No. 1 (seven birds) comes twice a day at dawn and dusk to feed at the new feeding place. Family

No. 2 (nine birds) comes at dusk only. One could set the clock by their coming. Times are getting later and earlier every day according to the daylight.

I wonder when they are going to separate and where they are going to go. I will not be surprised to see two or more pairs staying here this year. What about inbreeding in these birds?

Among other observed dramas where I did not see the ending was the following little story. One evening a dog chased the birds away from the feeder. One bird, having missed the sudden departure, ducked into the snow and stayed there all night. It did go out and feed in broad daylight, very anxiously. For a whole week the bird missed the regular feeding times when it would have found its flock. Finally, one day it ran up towards a flock, only to be chased away again because it did not belong. After hiding in the shrubs a little longer, it luckily joined its own family again. Was I ever relieved!

These birds as well as other regulars at my feeder are virtually part of my family. My "lonely" Mourning Dove, which lost its partner four years ago to a falcon, has always stayed over winter. This year one other pair had two sets of two young each. All the doves stayed, although except for the lonely one they disappeared for a while in mid-winter. Now one pair is back again. A Ringed Turtle Dove had joined the doves in October and disappeared with them in late December after the Christmas Bird Count. I have not seen it since.

Apart from black squirrels, red squirrels and rabbits, I have 12 species at my feeder at the moment (late February). Included is a male Cardinal. But where is his wife? He sings every day. Can someone spare a lady for him? Please! ¤

Does Your Last Issue Have Defective Pagination?

Does your March-April issue of *Trail & Landscape* have all of its pages? If some pages are missing (and others are there twice), telephone the Club number (722-3050) to arrange getting a good copy.

Growing Strawberries at the Cottage

J.W. (Jack) Holliday

I love strawberries. Once I'd cleared a little patch free from stones, stumps and roots at the cottage, nothing would have it but I must have a strawberry patch. The instructions which came with the package of plants directed that the first year one must remove the flowers. That, of course, means no crop for a year but is supposed to ensure a bounteous crop each year after, for ever and ever.

Reluctantly then I carefully pinched each stem of snowy flowers as it appeared. I kept the patch weeded and mulched with leaves, and I guided the runners into fresh areas and carefully set them. Autumn saw a healthy, vigorous patch of plants ready for next year. I could hardly wait.

After our usual cold, snowstorm-filled, long, long winter, the first trip to the cottage in early May confirmed that the plants were healthy and seemingly just as green and alive as when the snows covered them seven months before. In June, the flowers came - hundreds of them. Plenty of bees for pollination. Honey bees, bumble bees, and several types of small, solitary bees "buzzed" each flower, gathering nectar and stuffing their "baskets" with pollen. Almost instantly the first berries were there; lift any stem and in among the flowers the embryo berries were revealed. We were going to have a feast.

One of the greatest problems with a cottage garden is that one is away so much. The garden gets attention only on weekends. If a couple of weeks are missed, the garden shows the neglect sadly.

On each trip to the cottage, I jumped from the car and, with trepidation, looked over the garden to see what disaster had happened since last week. Did a Porcupine climb the fence and eat all the buds off the raspberry plants again? Did the cutworms eat four of every five bean plants? Or, worst of all, did a Groundhog get in through some chink in the fence and sample the assorted goodies? One small Groundhog can leave a garden looking like someone had taken a lawnmower over it - nothing but stubs of stems sticking up from the earth.

But nothing bothered the little strawberries; they grew big and lush. The last week of June would be strawberry time. Strawberry shortcake, strawberries and cream, strawberry jam, perhaps a few litres to pass on to those unfortunates without a strawberry patch. One can be magnanimous with a wealth of berries.

Joyful trip to the cottage. Casual look over the garden - all is well. No Groundhog damage; no Porcupine destruction; nothing but an Eastern Chipmunk sitting on a stone in the berry patch busily chomping on some wild goody. Cute little creature. Nothing nicer than a chipmunk sitting up so comically, holding a seed or nut and busily eating it, while keeping a wary eye out for a false move by anyone.

Closer examination of the patch reveals the chipmunk is eating a strawberry. Not even ripe yet. Eating a berry in the white colour stage. Little pest! Well, I suppose he can have a share. After all, how many berries can a chipmunk eat? Perhaps four, or maybe six? Must watch him. There, he has a berry. Sits on a stone eating a berry. How rapidly he chews. Chucks the berry over his shoulder; dashes off again. Back in a jiffy with another berry. What goes on here? Close examination reveals two or three litres of berries discarded, each with a small piece chewed from one side, all in the white, half-ripe stage.

Now, a chipmunk is an industrious animal. It soon became obvious that it was going to devastate the whole crop. Something had to be done. Reluctantly then, the .22 was packed into the trunk next weekend. With sadness, I quickly dispatched the chipmunk and buried it. End of the problem. Now the berries could ripen unmolested.

Next day a commotion in the berry patch soon revealed a free-for-all among *eight* chipmunks, each struggling to "own" the patch. Disposing of the one chipmunk had opened the territory for all the neighbors. The "king" was dead and all the pretenders to the "throne" moved in to take over.

Obviously, if one shot all eight, a number of others would move in from surrounding territories. There was no end to it. The more that were dispatched, the more would appear. Sadly, then, I put the .22 away and gathered the pitiful few berries - hardly a handful. The chipmunks had a feast (in between battles). The strawberry patch was abandoned to grass and weeds.

The next year the chipmunks had a small crop to enjoy. And the year after, only a few plants remained, hybrids of the garden variety and wild plants. Sometimes a one-centimetre berry can be found, but the chipmunks are usually there first and often there is only half a berry.

If one wants to have a strawberry patch, don't try the Valdes-Monts area. Too many chipmunks think they own the country. Perhaps they do. ¤

Milkweed Broccoli

gourmet greens from an open air market

Ross Anderson

When we shop for greens in the fields around Ottawa, as we do each spring, there is never a crowd and the produce is always garden fresh. The price is good too. In fact, we come home a little richer than when we went out. Furthermore, the selection is excellent, depending on the season. Our list of "purchases", now quite long, includes leafy greens (dandelion), root stalks (cattail), mushrooms (eight or ten different varieties), vegetable shoots (wild asparagus), fruit (strawberries), beverage (sumac) and now, early each summer, broccoli, from the buds of a wildflower remembered mostly for the downy parachutes it releases over the field on windy days in autumn and the sticky milk it releases on your hands when picked - the milkweed.

Experts list many ways the Common Milkweed may be used for table. Shoots, new leaves, flower buds, flowers and young pods are all edible. The flower buds resemble broccoli and taste just as good!

Taste the "milk" of the milkweed which appears as you break the leaf or stem and you will find it bitter. The bitter element appears throughout the plant including the flower buds. It can be removed in cooking, but you must go about it in the right way. Immerse the tight fresh clusters in rapidly-boiling water and return to the boil for one or two minutes. Discard the water and repeat the process. Starting with the buds in cold water and then bring it to the boil will have the opposite effect and the bitter taste will remain. With the third change of water, continue boiling for about ten minutes and your milkweed broccoli is ready to serve.

Add butter, a squeeze of lemon and presto, another gourmet delight! I understand that the flowers are good when dipped in batter and fried. We hope to try that recipe this summer.

Gourmet Preferences

Peterson, L.A. 1977. A field guide to edible wild plants. Houghton Mifflin, Boston. One of the Peterson Field Guide Series, this is the "bird book" for anyone hunting edible wild plants.

Gibbons, E. 1962. Stalking the wild asparagus. David McKay Co., New York. An inspiring introduction to the joys of collecting wild food for talk or table.

Common Milkweed, Asclepias syriaca

When you shop for wild greens in the fields around Ottawa do not overlook the milkweed. Experts list several ways it can be used for food. ¤

Seasonal Woodland Flowering in Carson Grove

Ilona Zgierska

While walking many times along the hardwood east of Bathgate Drive close to Ogilvie Road, I noticed a few plants growing at its edge. My curiosity led me further into the wood, where I found many interesting plants that are characteristic for this stand. I also noticed that the area was rich in birdlife.

I started to observe and make notes of changes going on in a square of 100 m x 100 m of this damp wood during the growing season. Its soil layer is thin with rocks protruding from beneath it in many places. The drainage is poor so that there are many wet places during the spring and early summer. They dry out later in the summer, but the soil remains moist throughout the entire vegetative period.

The thing that strikes one immediately on entering the wood is the varied appearance of the vegetation, which displays different growth layers. The multilayer plant formation makes various conditions for different species of plants that live in the same region of the wood. Four layers of vegetation are clearly recognizable; these are the tree cover, the shrub layer, the herb layer, and the forest floor.

The tree cover is composed of Red Maple, Trembling Aspen and Paper Birch. Other species, such as White Ash and White Elm, are also significant components of the tree cover. Besides these species, Sugar Maple, White Cedar, Gray Birch and Balsam Poplar occur in small numbers. Other species, such as American Basswood and Yellow Birch, are very rare.

The shrub layer is composed predominantly of Black Buckthorn and Choke Cherry. Meadowsweet and species of currant and gooseberry also occur frequently. Other species, such as Canada Serviceberry, Wild Grape, Speckled Alder and willows, grow along the southern edge of this wood.

The herb layer comprises about 60 species of flowering plants and 13 species of nonflowering plants; the latter are listed below.

Shining Clubmoss (*Lycopodium lucidulum*)
Ground Cedar (*L. complanatum*)
Wood Horsetail (*Equisetum sylvaticum*)
Variegated Horsetail (*E. variegatum*)
Daisyleaf Grape Fern (*Botrychium matricariaefolium*)

Sensitive Fern (*Onoclea sensibilis*)
Cinnamon Fern (*Osmunda cinnamomea*)
Interrupted Fern (*O. claytonia*)
Royal Fern (*O. regalis*)
Bracken Fern (*Pteridium aquilinum*)
Ostrich Fern (*Matteucia struthiopteris*)
Evergreen Wood Fern (*Dryopteris intermedia*)
Lady Fern (*Athyrium filix-femina*)

Sensitive Fern covers almost 40% of this area. Ostrich Fern and Lady Fern grow in numerous dense clumps. The rarest of all the ferns growing in this wood is the Daisyleaf Grape Fern, of which I found only a few specimens.

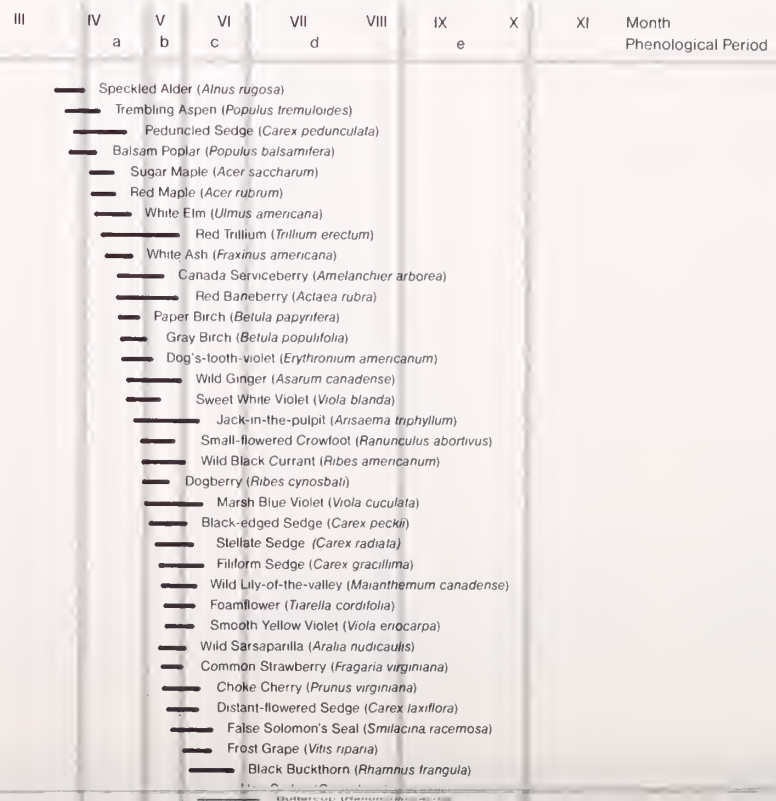
The fourth layer, which is the forest floor, is poorly represented by a few species of mosses such as *Plagiomnium cuspidatum*, which grows on rotten logs and stumps; *Brachythecium salebrosum*, which covers the bases of trees and rocks; and *Atrichium altecristatum*, which occurs in small wet niches of this wood.

In highly organized communities like this, one often notices that the maximum growth periods of various species tend to fall into different seasons. This is very easy to observe in the herb layer of a deciduous wood, with its colourful spring aspect which is quite different from the summer one (see Table). This difference in growth weakens the competition between different species and allows for a large production of plant material. We can distinguish five phenological periods in this hardwood community. (In the Table on the following pages, a: early spring; b: spring; c: early summer; d: summer; and e: autumn.)

The period of greatest development of the herb layer falls in early spring when warm sunlight reaches down through the yet leafless branches of the trees. In that period of time we can see solid carpets of Dog's-tooth-violet, and small patches of Wild Ginger mixed with Red Trillium and violets. Later, with the coming of the leaves, this profusion of bloom gives way to ferns which thrive in the encroaching shadow. By early June most of these spring flowers have waned, thus ending their development cycle. Dog's-tooth-violet disappears completely from view, and we can see only its white offshots protruding from the ground. In many wet places there are clusters of sedges, and only a few other flowering plants can compete in this period of summer. At the end of August some of the late-flowering plants appear in the wood and they last until the fall. This displacement of maximum growth periods of different species allows the best utilization of the available living space and nutrients. It allows for a peaceful coexistence of the maximum number of species.

The following Table shows the seasonal rhythm of blooming

Seasonal Woodland Flowering in Carson Grove 1984



Buttercup (*Ranunculus acris*)
Slender Sedge (*Carex tenera*)
Common Fleabane (*Erigeron philadelphicus*)
Awl-fruited Sedge (*Carex stipata*)
Yellow Wood-sorrel (*Oxalis stricta*)
Marsh Bedstraw (*Galium palustre*)
Red Raspberry (*Rubus strigosus*)
Shinleaf (*Pyrola elliptica*)
Fragrant Bedstraw (*Galium triflorum*)
Fox Sedge (*Carex vulpinoides*)
Common Speedwell (*Veronica officinalis*)
Partridge-berry (*Mitchella repens*)
Fringed Sedge (*Carex crinita*)
Enchanter's Nightshade (*Circaea lutetiana*)
Meadowsweet (*Spiraea alba*)
Bittersweet (*Solanum dulcamara*)
Dogbane (*Apocynum androsaefolium*)
Hooked Agrimony (*Agrimonia gryposepala*)
Swamp Willow-herb (*Epilobium palustre*)
Heal-all (*Prunella vulgaris*)
Ditch-stonecrop (*Penthorum sedoides*)
Indian Tobacco (*Lobelia inflata*)
Mad Dog Skullcap (*Scutelaria lateriflora*)
Monkey-flower (*Mimulus ringens*)
Helleborine (*Epipactis helleborine*)
Evening-primrose (*Oenothera biennis*)
Blue Vervain (*Verbena hastata*)
Wild Mint (*Mentha canadensis*)
Northern Bugleweed (*Lycopus uniflorum*)
Boneset (*Eupatorium perfoliatum*)
White-snakeroot (*Eupatorium rugosum*)
Flat-topped White Aster (*Aster umbellatus*)
Touch-me-not (*Impatiens capensis*)
White Avens (*Geum canadense*)
Large-leaved Beggarticks (*Bidens frondosa*)
Turtlehead (*Chelone glabra*)
New England Aster (*Aster novae-angliae*)
Tall White-lettuce (*Prenanthes altissima*)
Panicled Aster (*Aster simplex*)
Canada Goldenrod (*Solidago canadensis*)

of the flowering plants found in this hardwood. Horizontal black lines before the name of each species indicate the maximum growth periods.

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Gillett, J.M. and D.J. White. 1978. Checklist of vascular plants of the Ottawa-Hull Region, Canada. National Museum of Natural Sciences, Ottawa.

Scoggan, H.J. 1978. The flora of Canada. National Museum of Natural Sciences, Ottawa. 4 vol.

Soper, J.H. and M.L. Heimburger. 1982. Shrubs of Ontario. Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto. ¤

Publications from the Royal Botanical Gardens

The Royal Botanical Gardens in Hamilton publishes a number of bulletins describing aspects of the botany of southern Ontario. Of special interest to Ottawa naturalists are the following:

No. 2 The Common *Aster* Species of Southern Ontario by J.S. Pringle. Revised Edition, 1981. 15 p. $0.50

No. 3 The Common *Solidago* Species (Goldenrods) of Southern Ontario by J.S. Pringle. Revised Edition, 1982. 10 p. $0.75

No. 5 The Trilliums of Ontario by J.S. Pringle. Third Edition, 1984. 27 p. $2.40

No. 10 An Introduction to Wetland Classification in the Great Lakes Region by J.S. Pringle. 1980. 11 p. $0.50.

To obtain these informative and useful bulletins, send a cheque or money order for the correct amount to the Royal Botanical Gardens, P.O. Box 399, Hamilton, Ontario L8N 3H8.

Recent Significant Plant Records from the Ottawa District

Part III. Wood-sorrel Family to Composite Family

Daniel F. Brunton
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This is the third of a three-part series describing the significant vascular plant records in the Ottawa District that I have been able to discover since the publication of Gillett and White's (1978) *Checklist of Vascular Plants of the Ottawa-Hull Region, Canada*. In Parts I and II (Brunton 1985a, 1985b), I point out that only species noted as Sparse (12 or fewer collections) or rarer on the Checklist are discussed. The scientific name of each species is followed by the common name and by the status statement for it in that reference. (That statement may be for only half of the District if only the Ontario or Quebec status is being considered.) After a brief discussion of the species status and/or history in the District (and in a wider context in some cases), I note the locations from which my collections have been made, followed by a listing of the herbaria in which these collections are preserved. A statement of revised status concludes the treatment, where appropriate. In some cases I have departed from the status criterion used by Gillett and White (i.e. determined solely by the number of specimens in the DAO and CAN herbaria) when a number of the collections predate 1930. Thus, a species supported by eight collections of which six predate 1930 would be revised to Rare from Sparse. This situation is indicated by "old records" being appended to the status statement.

If the scientific name of the species differs from that used in the Checklist, I have indicated the Checklist name in brackets following the more appropriate name. The taxonomic authorities are included in the scientific names in these cases and when a new taxon is listed.

OXALIDACEAE WOOD-SORREL FAMILY

Oxalis dillenii (Yellow Wood-sorrel) Sparse
- a taxonomically confusing species (Crins 1983) that is non-native in the District and known from few specimens; it may actually be fairly common in the urban areas of the District. Specimens: Britannia (CAN, DAO, DFB); Green's Creek (CAN); Mer Bleue (CAN); Church Hill, Gatineau Park (DAO).

Revised Status: Rare Quebec, Uncommon Ontario.

POLYGALACEAE MILKWORT FAMILY

Polygala sanguinea (Field Milkwort) Sparse, Ontario only
- a southern species of the Mississippi Valley in central North America that is at the northern limit of its range in open, acid sands east of the Rideau River in the District (Brunton 1984). Specimens: Mer Bleue (CAN, DFB); north of Casselman (DAO, DFB).

Polygala verticillata (Whorled Milkwort) Rare, Burritt's Rapids area
- a southern species of dry prairies and open fields that is at the northern limit of its range and is known otherwise in the District from a small station in the Regional Forest (C. Frankton, pers. comm.). Specimens: Manotick Station, Gloucester (CAN).
Revised Status: Rare, Ontario only.

EUPHORBIACEAE SPURGE FAMILY

Euphorbia glyptosperma (Spurge) Sparse
- a weedy native species of open sandy sites across Canada that is locally distributed in the District, mostly near rivers (Brunton 1984); probably only uncommon but undercollected. Specimens: Blackburn Siding, Gloucester (CAN, DFB).

Euphorbia helioscopia (Sun Spurge) Sparse
- a widely distributed weed across southern Ontario that is known in the District from a number of old collections and from Lac Phillippe in Gatineau Park (Brunton 1983); it apears to have declined in recent years. Specimens: Green's Creek (CAN, DFB); Mer Bleue (DAO).
Revised Status: Rare (old records).

Euphorbia maculata L. (= E. supina) (Spurge) Rare, Carleton and Gatineau Counties
- a native weedy species of open, sandy, disturbed ground in southern Ontario (Mulligan and Lindsay 1978), it is at the northern limit of its range in the District; long known here from a collection by C. and E. Frankton in Stony Swamp, Nepean (Brunton 1982), it seems to be rapidly increasing its population locally (see also Gummer 1984). Specimens: Val Tétreau (DAO, DFB); Carlsbad Springs, Gloucester (DAO, DFB); Britannia Conservation Area (DAO, DFB).
Revised Status: Rare Quebec, Sparse Ontario.

ANACARDIACEAE CASHEW FAMILY

Rhus radicans var. negundo (Greene) Mulligan (Climbing Poison Ivy)

New to List
- the tree-climbing variety of Poison Ivy (as many people have discovered the hard way!) that is at the northern limit of its Ontario range here (Mulligan and Junkins 1977). It is found in rich, riparian hardwoods (e.g. Silver Maple swamps) along the Ottawa and Rideau Rivers. Specimen: Green's Creek (DFB).
Status: Sparse, Ontario only.

ACERACEAE MAPLE FAMILY

Acer nigrum (Black Maple) Sparse
- a southern tree of limestone soils that hybridizes with Sugar Maple in many areas and that is localized in areas where southern calcicolous species seem to be concentrated; rarely found in large numbers, but observed regularly; it is rare in the province of Quebec (Bouchard *et al.* 1983). One large stand near Pakenham is a candidate provincial nature reserve. Specimens: Shirleys Bay, Nepean (DFB); Pakenham (CAN, DFB); Stony Swamp (CAN); Green's Creek (CAN); Manotick (CAN); Harwood Plains (DAO); west of Antrim (DAO).
Revised Status: Rare Quebec, Uncommon Ontario.

VITACEAE GRAPE FAMILY

Parthenocissus quinquefolia (L.) Planch (Woodbine)
New to List
- a southern shrubby vine that is native (and also introduced) in Ontario and is known otherwise in the District from a few sites along the Ottawa and Rideau Rivers; easily confused with P. vitacea but usually separated by the distinct disks at the ends of the climbing tendrils and the densely pubescent, lax foliage. Specimens: Carp Hills, Kanata (DAO, DFB); Harwood Plains (DFB); Lower Duck Island (DFB).
Status: Sparse, Ontario only.

MALVACEAE MALLOW FAMILY

Abutilon theophrasti (Velvet-leaf) Sparse
- a common weed of southwestern Ontario that is uncommon elsewhere in the province (Montgomery 1957); known elsewhere in the District as a weed from Frank Bell's garden in Alta Vista (Gummer and Bell 1983) and from extirpated garden-weed collections and old records. It has been reported recently as a weed in soybean fields in the District and may be becoming more common than the specimen record indicates. Specimens: Centre Town, Ottawa (CAN, DFB).

Revised Status: Rare, Ontario only (old records).

HYPERICACEAE ST. JOHN'S-WORT FAMILY

Hypericum mutilum ssp. boreale (Britton) Gillett (= H. mutilum, in part) (Dwarf St. John's-wort) Sparse
- a widespread species of mucky, acidic shores across Ontario and absent from the limestone areas of the province (Gillett and Robson 1981); scattered across the Quebec side of the District. Specimens: Ramsay Lake, Gatineau Park (CAN, DFB); Champlain Bridge, Aylmer (CAN).
Revised Status: Sparse, Quebec only.

VIOLACEAE VIOLET FAMILY

Viola nephrophylla (Northern Bog Violet) Sparse
- a common spring species of wet fens and limestone shores across northern Canada but local in the District (in fen and alvar habitat) and abundant where found (Reddoch 1979, Brunton 1980). Specimens: Innis Point, Kanata (CAN, DFB).
Revised Status: Sparse (locally abundant), Ontario only.

Viola renifolia (Kidney-leaved Violet) Sparse
- a transcontinental species of wet, boggy forest, it is found regularly across the Gatineau Hills and in scattered sites on the Ontario side of the District along the Ottawa River and in Stony Swamp (Brunton 1982). Specimen: Cambrian Road, Nepean (DFB).
Revised Status: Uncommon Quebec, Sparse Ontario.

ONAGRACEAE EVENING-PRIMROSE FAMILY

Epilobium leptophyllum (Narrow-leaved Willow-herb) Sparse
- a common transcontinental species of open fens and found in the District in this habitat (Reddoch 1979) and along river shores (Brunton 1984); locally abundant here. Specimens: Stony Swamp (CAN, DFB).
Revised Status: Rare Quebec, Uncommon Ontario.

HALORAGIDACEAE WATER-MILFOIL FAMILY

Myriophyllum tenellum (Slender Water-milfoil) Rare, McGregor Lake
- a locally abundant aquatic/emergent species of slightly acidic shores across the boreal regions of eastern Canada, but absent or rare in calcareous areas; known elsewhere in the District only from Constance Bay and McGregor Lake (Aiken 1984). Specimens: Champlain Bridge, Aylmer (CAN, DAO, DFB).
Revised Status: Rare.

ARALIACEAE GINSENG FAMILY

Panax quinquefolium (Ginseng) Sparse
- a rare species throughout its Canadian range (Argus and White 1984), this plant is found in rich, calcareous hardwoods in southern Ontario and Quebec. Its population has been reduced by harvesting of its roots for their supposed medicinal values. A number of small sites are known across the Gatineau Hills, but in Ottawa-Carleton it is known otherwise only from a small stand in the Regional Forest and another near South Gloucester. Specimens: Harwood Plains (CAN, DAO, DFB).
Revised Status: Sparse Quebec, Rare Ontario.

UMBELLIFERAE PARSLEY FAMILY

Sanicula trifoliata (Large-fruited Snakeroot) Rare (in Ontario)
- a species of rich southern hardwoods in circumneutral soil that is found fairly commonly on the Quebec side of the District but is known otherwise in Ottawa-Carleton only from pre-1910 collections. Specimens: Blackburn (CAN, DFB); Harwood Plains (DAO, DFB).

PYROLACEAE WINTERGREEN FAMILY

Monotropa hypopithys (Pinesap) Sparse (in Ontario)
- a transcontinental species of dry upland forests that is parasitic on hardwoods (usually oak) and uncommon throughout; flowering plants do not appear at a given stand each year; scattered across the District and perhaps only uncommon in Ottawa-Carleton but undercollected. Specimens: Moodie Drive, Nepean (CAN, DFB); Manotick (CAN, DFB).

Orthilia secunda (One-sided Pyrola) Sparse (in Ontario)
- a common transcontinental species of dry woods; common across the Quebec side of the District and locally common in acidic substrates in Ottawa-Carleton. Specimens: Stony Swamp (CAN); Blackburn (CAN); Mer Bleue (CAN); Carlsbad Springs (DFB).
Revised Status: Uncommon (in Ontario).

Pterospora andromedea (Pinedrops) Rare, Quebec only
- a saprophytic species of pine forests in the mountains of western Canada, it is rare in Ontario (Haber and Keddy 1984) and Quebec (Bouchard *et al.* 1983); known in the District from a stand near Low since the early 1970s (Gillett 1972) and from a single plant found near Baskins Beach, Torbolton Ward, West Carleton Tp. by P.M. Catling in 1981 (P.M. Catling pers. comm., Brunton 1983). The Green's Creek stand is smaller than the Low stand. Specimens: Low (CAN, DFB); Green's Creek (CAN, DFB).
Revised Status: Rare.

Pyrola chlorantha (Greenish Flowered Pyrola) Rare (in Ontario)
- a northern species of sandy, cool, coniferous woods across Canada and found regularly across the Gatineau Hills, but known elsewhere in Ottawa-Carleton only at Stony Swamp (Brunton 1982). Specimen: Harwood Plains (DAO).

PRIMULACEAE PRIMROSE FAMILY

Lysimachia nummularia (Moneywort) Sparse along [rivers]
- a widespread introduction in Ontario that is common along calcareous rivershores (Brunton 1980, Darbyshire 1982) but which is rare inland (Brunton 1984). Savile (1951) describes (from his studies at Britannia) how this species successfully colonizes after flooding has reduced competition. Specimens: Shirleys Bay, Kanata (CAN, DFB).
Revised Status: Common along rivers (rare inland).

APOCYNACEAE DOGBANE FAMILY

Apocynum cannabinum var. glaberrimum DC (= A. cannabinum) (Indian Hemp) Sparse
- a southern species of rocky limestone shores in the Ottawa Valley and (locally) in extreme southwestern Ontario (Boivin 1966); quite common along the Ottawa River shore (Darbyshire 1982) where it colonizes newly-created habitat (e.g. the Shirleys Bay dyke) in as little as two years. Specimens: Shirleys Bay, Nepean (CAN, DFB).
Revised Status: Uncommon (locally abundant along rivers).

Apocynum cannabinum var. hypericifolium (Ait.) Gray (= A. sibiricum) (Indian Hemp) Sparse
- a widespread species of open shores across Canada (Boivin 1966) that occurs in large numbers along the Ottawa River. Specimens: Ottawa River, Kanata (CAN, DFB).
Revised Status: Uncommon (locally abundant along rivers).

Vinca minor (Periwinkle) Sparse escape from cultivation
- a well-known garden species that escapes (spreading almost totally by vegetative means) at sites across eastern Canada (Boivin 1966); a few widely-scattered records are known from the District. Specimen: South March Highlands, Kanata (DFB).

BORAGINACEAE BORAGE FAMILY

Hackelia americana (American Stickseed) Sparse
- a transcontinental boreal species of dry hardwoods found in the District in a few scattered sites in the Gatineau Hills and from along the Ottawa River (Brunton 1982). Specimen: Harwood Plains (DFB).

Hackelia virginiana (Virginian Stickseed) Sparse
- a southern species of rich calcareous hardwoods, found in scattered sites across Ottawa-Carleton and from mostly old records on the Quebec side. The records of Mertensia paniculata reported from the District (see below) actually represent this species. Specimens: Harwood Plains (DAO, DFB).
Revised Status: Sparse Quebec, Uncommon Ontario.

Mertensia paniculata (Tall Lungwort) Rare, Gatineau Park escarpment
- a boreal/subarctic calcicole that was reported in the District from relict cliff sites in Gatineau Park (Brunton and Lafontaine 1974); these records are actually based on misidentified sterile rosettes of Hackelia virginiana.
Revised Status: delete from Checklist.

Myosotis arvensis (Forget-me-not) Rare, Ottawa
- a locally-common escape from cultivation across southern Ontario (Montgomery 1957); known elsewhere in the District from several old records. Specimen: Britannia Conservation Area (DFB).

Myosotis micrantha (Scorpion-grass) Rare, Britannia
- a rare introduction in southern Canada, it has been known in the District since at least 1920 when it was collected at Britannia; it remains common there on open limestone flats but has not spread beyond this area. Specimen: Britannia Conservation Area (DFB).

LABIATAE MINT FAMILY

Physostegia virginiana (False Dragon-head) Sparse, Ontario only
- an uncommon introduction that is known elsewhere in the District from a few (extirpated) stations by old settlement sites; declining here. Specimens: Bridlewood, Kanata (CAN, DFB).
Revised Status: Rare, Ontario only (old records).

Pycnanthemum virginianum (Mountain-mint) Sparse
- a southern species of open calcareous fields and shores in southwestern Ontario; approaching the eastern limit of its range in the District; it is rare in Quebec (Bouchard *et al.* 1983); known elsewhere in the District only from the Regional Forest, Morris Island, and old records on the Quebec side. Specimens: Shirleys Bay, Kanata (CAN, DFB); north of Burritts Rapids (DFB).
Revised Status: Rare Quebec, Sparse Ontario (old records).

Scutellaria parvula (Small Skullcap) Sparse
- a southern species that is found commonly on the calcareous shores of the Great Lakes and on alvars along former post-glacial drainage routes (such as the Ottawa Valley); its pres-

ence in the upper Ottawa Valley is taken as evidence of a former linkage between eastern Ontario and Georgian Bay (Catling *et al.* 1975). In the District it is found along the Ottawa River (where it is a successful colonizer of recent earthfill) and from a few alvar/limestone plain sites inland west of the Rideau River. Specimens: Shirleys Bay, Nepean (CAN, DFB).
Revised Status: Sparse Quebec, Uncommon (locally abundant) Ontario.

Thymus serpyllum (Wild Thyme) Sparse
- a locally abundant escape from cultivation across southern Ontario and Quebec; known here from a few old settlement sites (Brunton 1982). Specimens: Church Hill, Gatineau Park (CAN); Val Têtreau (DFB).

SCROPHULARIACEAE FIGWORT FAMILY

Chaenorrhinum minus (Dwarf Snapdragon) Sparse
- a locally common weed of open disturbed sites; especially abundant along railway tracks in the District. Specimens: Shirleys Bay, Nepean (CAN, DFB); Shirleys Bay, Kanata (CAN); Eaglesons Corners (CAN); Low (CAN); Green's Creek (CAN); Mer Bleue (CAN).
Revised Status: Sparse Quebec, Uncommon Ontario.

Euphrasia stricta (Stiff Eyebright) Sparse
- an uncommon introduction across Ontario that is known from a number of recent collections in the western side of Ottawa-Carleton and in Gatineau Park (Brunton 1982); spreading very rapidly across Ontario. Specimens: Bridlewood, Kanata (CAN, DFB); Stony Swamp (CAN).
Revised Status: Sparse Quebec, Uncommon (and spreading) Ontario.

Gerardia tenuifolia (Slender Gerardia) Sparse
- a widespread species of open calcareous sites across southern Ontario and nearing the northern limit of its range here; found quite commonly in the District (Darbyshire 1982); it is the dominant species in some sites. Specimens: Manotick (CAN, DFB); Shirleys Bay, Kanata (CAN, DFB); Shirleys Bay, Nepean (CAN, DFB).
Revised Status: Sparse Quebec, Common Ontario.

Melampyrum lineare (Cow-wheat) Sparse (in Ontario)
- a common species of acidic, rocky sites (especially under oaks) on the Canadian Shield; it is known elsewhere in Ottawa-Carleton at Constance Bay, The Burnt Lands and Stony Swamp (Brunton 1982). Specimen: Marchhurst, Carp Hills (DFB).

Pedicularis canadensis (Wood-betony) Sparse (in Ontario)
- a southern species of dry, young forests in usually basic sand that is found in Ottawa-Carleton in scattered sites on limestone

bedrock along the Rideau and Ottawa Rivers (Brunton 1980). Specimens: Shirleys Bay, Kanata (CAN, DFB).

Scrophularia lanceolata (Figwort) Sparse
- an uncommon species of open, usually moist meadows across southern Canada in acidic, sandy soil (Brunton 1984); known in the District (mostly in Ottawa-Carleton) from scattered sites, many of which are old; population declining. Specimens; Mer Bleue (CAN, DAO).

Veronica arvensis (Field Speedwell) Sparse
- a fairly common weed of open, calcareous sites in southern Ontario (Montgomery 1957); found sporadically on limestone plains and in urban areas in the District (Brunton 1982). Specimens: Stony Swamp (CAN, DFB); South March Highlands, Kanata (DAO, DFB).

Veronica longifolia (Long-leaved Speedwell) Rare, Ottawa
- an occasional escape from cultivation across southern Ontario (Montgomery 1957); known elsewhere in the District only from Stony Swamp and downtown Ottawa (Brunton 1982) and two old Quebec-side collections. Specimens: Britannia Conservation Area (CAN, DFB).
Revised Status: Rare, Ontario only (old records).

Veronica peregrina var. peregrina (Purslane Speedwell) Sparse
- a southern and western plant of open, calcareous ground (especially rock flats); this taxon, the typical variety, is introduced into the District and is regularly observed in "weedy" situations (Brunton 1984). Specimens: Green's Creek (CAN, DFB); Mer Bleue (CAN); Val Tétreau (CAN).
Revised Status: Sparse Quebec, Uncommon Ontario.

Veronica peregrina var. xalapensis (HBK) Pennell (Purslane Speedwell)
New to List
- the western variety of this species (see above) appears to be much less common than the typical taxon in Ontario; it is found in more natural situations (limestone flats and alvars, etc. - Catling *et al.* 1975) and may be native; found in the District in scattered sites in this habitat. Specimens: Stony Swamp (CAN, DAO, DFB).
Status: Sparse, Ontario only.

LENTIBULARIACEAE BLADDERWORT FAMILY

Utricularia geminiscapa (Twin-scaped Bladderwort) Rare, Mer Bleue
- an insectivorous aquatic that is typically found in the Atlantic coastal plain and which is rare in Ontario and Quebec (Haber 1979, 1984, Bouchard *et al.* 1983); it is known in the District only from the Mer Bleue, where it is locally common, and from a

large population at the Gatineau Park site. Specimens: Gatineau Park (CAN, DAO, MICH, DFB).
Revised Status: Rare.

Utricularia resupinata (Resupinate Bladderwort) Rare, Quebec only
- an eastern coastal plain species that is at the western limit of its range in Ontario; it is rare in Quebec (Bouchard *et al.* 1983); found in the District on slightly acid, emergent mud in ponds and bogs in the Gatineau Hills and is abundant at these sites. Specimens: Ramsay Lake, Gatineau Park (DAO, DFB).

RUBIACEAE MADDER FAMILY

Galium aparine (Cleavers) Sparse
- a transcontinental species of moist, rich hardwoods in eastern Canada and British Columbia and a local weed of agricultural areas in the prairies (Moore 1975); found locally in the District in rich, southern hardwoods (locally abundant). Specimens: South March Highlands, Kanata (CAN, DFB); Cambrian Road, Nepean (DAO).

Galium circaezans (White Wild Licorice) Sparse
- a southern species of rich hardwoods in Ontario; approaching the northern limit of its range in the District, where it is found locally in scattered Ottawa-Carleton sites (Brunton 1984); it appears to be a calcicole and is largely replaced on the Quebec side of the District by the similar G. lanceolatum; it is considered to be rare in Quebec (Bouchard *et al.* 1983). Specimens: Shirleys Bay, Kanata (CAN, DFB); Harwood Plains (DAO, TRT, DFB); Eaglesons Corners, Stony Swamp (CAN, DFB); Log Farm, Stony Swamp (CAN, DFB).
Revised Status: Rare Quebec, Sparse Ontario.

Galium labradoricum (Bog Bedstraw) Rare, old record, Ottawa
- a species of open, calcareous fens across northern Ontario, it is restricted and rare in such sites in southern Ontario and Quebec; erroneously reported for the District on the basis of an old specimen that was mislabelled (Brunton 1981b). Dugal (1982) identified valid records from misidentified specimens from three fens in the District. (See also G. obtusum below.) Specimens: north of Burritts Rapids (DAO, TRT, DFB).
Revised Status: Rare, Ontario only.

Galium mollugo (White Bedstraw) Rare
- a common weed in southwestern Ontario that is rare elsewhere in the province (Montgomery 1957); long known in the District only from the collection by C. and E. Frankton in Stony Swamp (Brunton 1982), but recently found in a number of new sites, some of which are very large; clearly expanding rapidly in the District. Specimens: Green's Creek (CAN, DFB); Queensway at Montreal Road, Gloucester (CAN, DFB); Mer Bleue (CAN); Carlsbad

Springs (DAO); Britannia Conservation Area (CAN); Val Tétreau (DAO, DFB); Woodroffe Avenue, Nepean (DAO); Manotick (DAO); Jockvale, Nepean (DAO).
Revised Status: Sparse Quebec, Uncommon Ontario (increasing)

Galium obtusum (Wild Madder) Sparse
- a southern species of open, calcareous shores that is approaching the northern limit of its range in the District; restricted to rivershores (Brunton 1981b - as G. labradoricum (Dugal 1982)).
Specimens: Innis Point, Kanata (CAN, DFB).

Galium tinctorium (Dyer's Bedstraw) Rare (in Ontario)
- a widespread species of wet, acidic shores and thickets in central Ontario but less common off the Canadian Shield in southern Ontario; status in Ottawa-Carleton not entirely clear (cf. Dugal 1982) but probably not particularly scarce. Specimens: Shirleys Bay, Kanata (CAN, DFB); Blackburn Hamlet (CAN).
Revised Status: Sparse in Ontario.

Galium verum (Yellow Bedstraw) Sparse
- a common escape from cultivation in southern Ontario (Montgomery 1957); otherwise known in the District from a few scattered sites about Ottawa and from a massive population in the Fitzroy Harbour - Morris Island area, where it covers several hundred hectares. Specimens: The Burnt Lands (CAN, DFB); Val Tétreau (DAO, DFB).
Revised Status: Rare in Quebec, Sparse in Ontario (abundant at Morris Island).

CAPRIFOLIACEAE HONEYSUCKLE FAMILY

Linnaea borealis (Twinflower) Sparse (in Ontario)
- a common species of cool, acidic soils in mixed and coniferous forests across the Canadian Shield of Ontario and Quebec; found commonly on the Shield on the Quebec side of the District but known elsewhere in Ottawa-Carleton from scattered stands (Brunton 1984). Specimens: Green's Creek (CAN); Mer Bleue (DFB).

Symphoricarpos albus (Snowberry) Sparse
- a common southern species of open limestone plains and shores that is very common in the District in such sites (e.g. alvars) along the Ottawa River and in scattered limestone outcrops inland. Specimen: Blackburn Hamlet (CAN).
Revised Status: Sparse Quebec, Locally common Ontario.

Triosteum perfoliatum (Horse-gentian) Sparse
- a widely distributed southern calcicole of rich hardwoods; found in small numbers in scattered groups across the District, usually with other southern species. Specimens: Stony Swamp, Nepean (CAN, DFB); Harwood Plains (DAO, DFB).

Viburnum alnifolium (Hobblebush) Sparse (in Ontario)
- a common species of acidic soil in hardwood forests on the Canadian Shield but largely absent from limestone-based areas in Ontario (Soper and Heimberger 1982); in the District it is found commonly in the Gatineau Hills but only sporadically in Ottawa-Carleton, in scattered woodlots. Specimens: Pinhey Forest, Nepean (CAN, DFB); Blackburn Hamlet (CAN).

Viburnum cassinoides (Northern Wild Raisin) Sparse (in Ontario)
- a common species of low, wet, shrubby areas across the acidic Canadian Shield of southern and central Ontario and Quebec (Soper and Heimberger 1982); found locally on moist, acidic, sandy sites across Ottawa-Carleton, being particularly common around the Mer Bleue. Specimens: Stony Swamp (CAN); Mer Bleue (CAN); Carlsbad Springs (CAN).
Revised Status: Uncommon in Ontario.

Viburnum opulus var. opulus (European Cranberry) Sparse escape from cultiviation
- an occasional escape from cultivation in much of southern Ontario (Montgomery 1957); otherwise known in the District from Stony Swamp (Brunton 1982). Specimens: Blair Road, Gloucester (CAN, DFB).
Revised Status: Rare escape, Ontario only.

VALERIANACEAE VALERIAN FAMILY

Valeriana officinalis (Valerian) Sparse escape from cultivation
- an occasional escape from cultivation across southern Ontario (Montgomery 1957); found in scattered sites across the District. Specimens: Wakefield (DAO, DFB).

CUCURBITACEAE GOURD FAMILY

Thladiantha dubia (Wild Potato) Rare escape from cultivation
- the first Ontario specimen for this species was from Ottawa (in 1909), yet it remains rare here and prospers only in southwestern Ontario (Montgomery 1957); known in the District largely from old specimens and from a recent record in Ottawa South. It developed spontaneously in the garden of C. and E. Frankton some years ago and continues to flourish there. Specimen: Whitehaven, Ottawa (DFB).
Revised Status: Rare escape, Ontario only (old records).

CAMPANULACEAE HAREBELL FAMILY

Campanula persicifolia L. (Peach-leaved Bellflower)
New to List

- a sporadically-escaping garden plant across southern Ontario (Montgomery 1957), it is found in a young deciduous woods here, far from existing habitations; these plants are the albino variety alba Hort. Specimens: Stony Swamp (DAO, DFB).
Status: Rare escape, Ontario only.

COMPOSITAE COMPOSITE FAMILY

Achillea ptarmica (Sneezeweed Yarrow) Rare escape from cultivation
- an uncommon escape throughout Ontario (Montgomery 1957); known elsewhere in the District only from two extirpated stations in Ottawa (Brunton 1984). Specimens: Mer Bleue (CAN, DFB).
Revised Status: Rare escape, Ontario only.

Arctium lappa (Great Burdock) Sparse
- an uncommon weed in southern Ontario beyond the southwest of the province (Montgomery 1957); known otherwise in the District from Britannia, Buckingham, Richmond and some old stations; formerly the most common burdock in Ontario (Moore and Frankton 1974) but now apparently declining. The Britannia station has certainly declined since its discovery by C. and E. Frankton in 1981. Specimens: Val Tétreau (CAN, DFB); Champlain Bridge, Aylmer (DAO).
Revised Status: Rare (old records).

Artemisia ludoviciana (Western Sage) Sparse
- a common western species that is uncommon in the upper Great Lakes region as an introduction, usually at pioneer farm sites that have been long abandoned (Brunton 1984); known from only old collections across the District. Specimens: Mer Bleue (CAN, DFB).
Revised Status: Rare (old records).

Aster acuminatus (Whorled Wood Aster) Rare (in Ontario)
- a common Appalachian species of rich hardwoods and mixed forest in acid soil that is at the natural western limit of its range in eastern Ontario (Brouillet and Simon 1981); formerly considered rare in Ontario (Argus and White 1977) but now considered to be too widespread for that designation (Argus and White 1983); found elsewhere in Ottawa-Carleton in Stony Swamp (Brunton 1982) and at Mer Bleue (Brunton 1984). Specimens: Innis Point, Kanata (CAN, DFB); Blackburn Hamlet (CAN, DFB).
Revised Status: Sparse (in Ontario).

Aster laurentianus Fern. (= A. brachyactis) (Short-rayed Aster) Sparse, Ontario only
- a common species of open, saline shores of prairie sloughs that is an uncommon introduction at saline sites in southern Ontario (Catling and McKay 1980); found in the District along roadsides, at snow dumps and salt springs; locally abundant and apparently becoming more common. Specimens: Borthwick Springs,

Gloucester (CAN, DFB); Carlsbad Springs (CAN, DFB); Champlain Bridge, Aylmer (CAN); Queensway at Blair Road, Gloucester (CAN); Stillwater Park, Nepean (CAN), Russell Road at Leitrim Road, Gloucester (CAN).
Revised Status: Rare Quebec, Uncommon Ontario.

Aster nemoralis (Bog Aster) Rare; old record, Cascades
- a common species of bog margins in the Canadian Shield of Ontaro and Quebec (Brouillet and Simon 1981); known in the District from a pre-1900 collection and the Gatineau Park station discovered recently (Brunton 1981a). Specimens: Ramsay Lake, Gatineau Park (CAN, DFB).
Revised Status: Rare, Quebec only.

Aster umbellatus (Flat-topped White Aster) Sparse (in Ontario)
- common in open, damp, acidic sandy ground across Ontario; abundant in such sites (locally) in Ottawa-Carleton, especially around Mer Bleue (Brunton 1984). Specimens: Green's Creek, Gloucester (CAN, DFB); Mer Bleue (WAT); Lower Duck Island (CAN); Rockcliffe Airbase (CAN); Harwood Plains (DFB).
Revised Status: Uncommon (locally common) (in Ontario).

Centaurea jacea (Brown Knapweed) Sparse, chiefly Ottawa
- a common weed in southwestern Ontario but rare elsewhere in the province (Moore and Frankton 1974); known from a few large stands in the District (all in Ottawa-Carleton) where it can form the dominant species (Brunton 1984). Specimens: Carlington (CAN, DFB); Orleans (CAN, DFB); Mer Bleue (CAN); City View, Nepean (DAO).
Revised Status: Sparse, Ontario only.

Centaurea X pratensis Thuill. (hybrid Knapweed)
New to List
- an uncommon hybrid between C. jacea and C. nigra that is found occasionally in eastern Canada (Moore and Frankton 1974); apparently spread by seed, since it can be found growing only with one parent (e.g. there is no C. nigra known for the District); found growing here with C. jacea. Specimens: City View, Nepean (DAO, DFB).
Status: Rare, Ontario only.

Crepis tectorum (Hawk's-beard) Rare, Ottawa
- a rare weed in Ontario that is known elsewhere in the District from old stations at Hartwell Locks and Wentworth Avenue, and from recent collections at Britannia and Victoria Island. Specimen: Whitehaven (DFB).
Revised Status: Rare, Ontario only (old records).

Gaillardia aristata (Great-flowered Gaillardia)
New to List
- a widespread prairie species that is introduced as a garden plant in eastern Canada; known otherwise in the District from a 1949 collection at North Gower (Scoggan 1979 - as G. pulchella);

spreading rapidly from an abandoned garden at the Quebec site.
Specimens: Low (DAO, DFB).
Status: Rare escape.

Gnaphalium obtusifolium (Sweet Everlasting) Sparse
- an abundant species of weedy, disturbed, sandy sites in open ground in the Appalachians and along the Atlantic coastal plain and locally westward to southern Ontario; known from several old collections in the District as well as being locally common in parts of Stony Swamp (Brunton 1982) and around the Mer Bleue (Brunton 1984). Specimens: Trail 4, Stony Swamp (CAN, DFB); Mer Bleue (CAN, DFB); Carlsbad Springs (CAN, DFB); Log Farm, Stony Swamp (CAN, DFB).
Revised Status: Rare Quebec, Sparse Ontario (old records).

Gnaphalium viscosum (Clammy Everlasting) Uncommon
- a widespread boreal species of open, calcareous and/or sterile ground that is an uncommon early-successional species south of the Canadian Shield; known in the District from a number of old records; all previous Ottawa-Carleton records predate 1912 (Brunton 1984). Specimens: Mer Bleue (CAN, DFB).
Revised Status: Uncommon Quebec, Rare Ontario (old records).

Helianthus laetiflorus (Showy Sunflower) Sparse
- an uncommon introduction in Ontario that is known otherwise in the District from old and apparently extirpated sites. Specimens: Mer Bleue (CAN, DFB).
Revised Status: Rare, Ontario only (old records).

Helianthus maximiliani (Maximilian's Sunflower) Rare, Carleton County
- an uncommon escape from cultivation that is found sparingly about old settlement sites in the District; on the Ontario side only. Specimens: Shirleys Bay, Nepean (CAN, DFB).
Revised Status: Rare, Ontario only (old records).

Helianthus tuberosus (Jerusalem Artichoke) Sparse, chiefly Ottawa
- known across Ontario as an escape at old settlement sites and elsewhere in the District from mostly old collections, as well as from Stony Swamp and Billings Bridge. Specimens: Alta Vista (CAN); Blair Road, Gloucester (CAN, DFB); Ramsay Creek, Gloucester (DAO, DFB).

Heliopsis helianthoides (Ox-eye) Sparse
- a southern species of dry, open sites in southern Ontario that is at least partly introduced in the District (about old settlement sites); known elsewhere in the District from along the Ottawa River and from scattered inland sites. Specimens: Stony Swamp (CAN, DFB); Val Tétreau (DAO, DFB); Antrim, West Carleton (DAO).

Hieracium caespitosum Dum. (= H. pratense) (Field Hawkweed)
Sparse, Carleton County
- widely distributed but uncommon weed in southern Ontario (Montgomery 1957); known elsewhere in the District only from old records. Specimens: Carlsbad Springs (CAN, DFB); Blackburn (CAN, DFB).
Revised Status: Rare, Ontario only (old records).

Hieracium pilosella (Mouse-ear Hawkweed) Sparse
- locally common weed in southern Ontario (Montgomery 1957); locally scattered across the District, usually as a lawn weed. Specimens: Manotick (CAN, DFB); South March, Kanata (CAN, DFB); Wakefield (DAO, DFB).

Hieracium scabriusculum Schwein. (Flat-topped Hawkweed)
New to List
- a common species (including H. umbellatum) of open, dry, acidic sand in the boreal and subarctic regions in Ontario, occurring rarely in southern Ontario (in Killarney and Algonquin Parks); found in 1983 in the District on a sand ridge with other northern species (Brunton 1984). Specimens: Mer Bleue (CAN, DAO, DFB).
Status: Rare, Ontario only.

Hieracium scabrum (Rough Hawkweed) Rare (in Ontario)
- a common species of open, dry, acidic ground across the Canadian Shield of Ontario and Quebec and fairly common in the Gatineau Hills in this habitat; known elsewhere in Ottawa-Carleton only from two old collections (Brunton 1982). Specimens: Stony Swamp (CAN, DFB).

Lapsana communis (Nipplewort) Sparse; chiefly Ottawa
- a common weed of calcareous ground in southwestern Ontario and uncommon and local elsewhere in the province (Montgomery 1957); known elsewhere in the District from scattered collections along the Ottawa River; abundance varies from year to year. (It was common in 1984 in the Britannia area.) Specimens: Britannia (CAN, DAO, DFB).
Revised Status: Sparse (locally abundant) along the Ottawa River, Ontario only.

Matricaria inodora L. (= M. maritima) (Scentless Chamomile)
Rare; Ottawa only
- a common weed of the prairie provinces and the maritimes in Canada (possibly two taxa) that is a rare introduction into Ontario (Frankton and Mulligan 1970); otherwise known in the District only from the Whitehaven area. Specimens: Britannia Conservation Area (DFB); Bells Corners, Nepean (CAN, DFB).
Revised Status: Rare, Ontario only.

Rudbeckia laciniata (Green-headed Coneflower) Sparse
- a southern species that is both native and introduced in the District; the ornamental variety (var. hortensis Bailey,

"Golden-glow") is found occasionally about old settlement sites, as is the typical variety (Brunton 1984). Specimens: Mer Bleue (CAN, DFB).
Revised Status: Sparse escape, Rare native.

Senecio vulgaris (Common Groundsel) Sparse, Ottawa
- fairly common introduction that grows in rich, heavy soil across southern Ontario (Frankton and Mulligan 1970); known from recently disturbed, weedy sites in urban areas of the District. Specimens: Centre Town, Ottawa (CAN); Green's Creek (CAN, DFB); Dow's Lake (DAO).
Revised Status: Sparse, Ontario only.

Solidago ptarmicoides (Nees) Boivin (= Aster ptarmicoides) (Upland White Goldenrod) Sparse
- a western calcicole of open limestone plains, alvars and rocky shores that is rare across southern Ontario (Semple and Ringius 1983; Catling *et al.* 1975); rare in Quebec (Bouchard *et al.* 1983); found sparingly in the District, being locally common at Innis Point, The Burnt Lands and in parts of the Regional Forest. Specimens: Shirleys Bay, Kanata (CAN, DFB).
Revised Status: Rare Quebec, Sparse Ontario.

Taraxacum palustre (Lyons) DC. (Marsh Dandelion)
New to List
- apparently a newly recorded, introduced weed for Ontario (and North America?) that is found in wet, open, saline sites in southeastern Ontario; keys out to the microspecies T. turfosum of central Europe (A.J. Richards pers. comm.) found in the District in roadside ditches, wet areas in alvars, and along shorelines. Specimens: Shirleys Bay, Nepean (CAN, DFB); The Burnt Lands (BM, MICH, DFB); Kars (BM, DAO, DFB); Carp (CAN, DFB).
Status: Sparse, Ontario only.

Tussilago farfara (Coltsfoot) Sparse
- a common species of damp, open, calcareous sites in disturbed ground across southern Ontario; locally abundant in the District near Chelsea and in Eardley Tp., and scattered elsewhere in small numbers across Ottawa-Carleton; apparently increasing. Specimens: Stony Swamp (CAN, DFB); Shirleys Bay, Nepean (DAO, TRT, DFB).
Revised Status: Uncommon (locally abundant).

Acknowledgements

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A special vote of appreciation is due Clarie Frankton, who critically reviewed portions of the article, examined specimens for me, tipped me off to botanical possibilities, offered expert field accompaniment, and who has been a generous and constructive source of encouragement and challenge for years. He shares largely in the credit of whatever contribution this article has to offer.

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Natural History Workshop at Carleton University

The Department of Biology at Carleton, in co-operation with the School of Continuing Education, has launched a series of workshops in natural history for interested members of the Ottawa area. Based in the new Natural History Centre in the Tory Building, the series consists of modules designed to reflect the changing seasons. The modules will present the significance and relationships of the living world around us through discussions and outdoor workshops. Enrolment is limited to 15 participants per workshop. Transportation will be provided for the field trips. Co-ordinator of this series is I.L. Bayly of Carleton's Department of Biology.

SRING BIRD MIGRATION

Designed for the period encompassing the arrival of warblers and sparrows, this three-day event will take you to widely differing habitats in the Ottawa and Gatineau Valleys. Dress for outdoor activity. Bring binoculars and bird identification books, if you have them. Films, slides and specimens from the University collections will supplement and complement the field trips.
Leaders: V.E.F. Solman and A.G. Loughrey.
Dates: May 15, 16 and 17
Fee: $70 (or $25 per day - preference will be given to those registering for the entire session).
For further information, call the School of Continuing Education, Carleton University, at 231-6660.

Guidelines for Participants on Field Trips

The following notes were prepared by the Excursions and Lectures Committee. They are intended to reflect common sense and the experience of many years, and will, it is hoped, make our field trips more enjoyable for all.

1. READ the excursion announcement in *Trail & Landscape*; know where you are going and be on time. Your trip leader's telephone number is provided should you require more information or encouragement.

2. BE PREPARED. If the excursion calls for binoculars, boots, compass, insect repellent, lunch, and so on, bring them. Do not be deceived by the lack of biting insects in your, perhaps sprayed, urban neighbourhood. Come prepared with protection against insects, especially in May and June. Gloves, long sleeves, a turned-up collar, and a hat or kerchief are armour enough for some people. If you depend on insect repellent for protection, the most effective brands contain an ingredient called N, N-diethyl-*m*-toluamide (4% to 95%). For especially sensitive individuals, a headnet has been known to preserve sanity. PROTECTION AGAINST INSECTS IS ESSENTIAL IF YOU WISH TO ENJOY THE OUTINGS.

3. DRESS APPROPRIATELY. Always dress for solid comfort. Traditional sources of discomfort for beginners are unsuitable footwear and good clothing that may become mud-spattered, snagged or grass-stained. Comfortable bush wear is best for nature rambles. Comfortable hiking shoes are essential. For cold-weather spring and fall outings, wear wool socks (with a spare dry pair) and hiking boots or waterproof winter boots. Only an addict can continue to enjoy a nature hike when feet become soggy wet and cold. Rubber boots for wading in cold water need the insulation of heavy insoles and wool socks. For summer exploration of wetlands, wear canvas running shoes and don't worry about getting your feet wet. Bring a change of footwear for the trip home.

4. PLEASE COOPERATE with your leader(s). Stay behind the leader and give place to him/her. Do not expect special treatment for yourself or your children; the leader is not a babysitter. INFORM THE LEADER if you want to leave the group for any reason.

5. DON'T TRAMPLE VEGETATION; it may not recover until the following season, if then. In some areas your leader may require you to follow in single file along the trail.

6. AVOID COLLECTING, PICKING AND DIGGING. Removing natural objects from along the trail leaves the trail poorer for others. If there is no objection to acquiring specimens, it still is best not be take them from the trail side. On private land get permission before you pick, dig or collect specimens. Collecting on any National Capital Commission property, including Gatineau Park and the Greenbelt, is illegal unless you have been issued a permit.

7. STOW YOUR TRASH (tissues, wrappers, butts, flashcubes, etc.) and dispose of it later. Orange peels and apple cores may be biodegradable but will also mar the trail.

8. BE A RESPONSIBLE PHOTOGRAPHER. Photography is not always a harmless activity. Be aware of the damage caused by removing a branch that hides or shades a nest or by beating a trail to the hidden den of a wild creature. The Editor of *Trail & Landscape* appreciates receiving black and white photographs (record shots of Club outings and good nature shots) but not at the expense of wild creatures and wild habitat.

9. DON'T BROADCAST the location of rare or vulnerable flora or fauna.

10. RESPECT ACCESS to private property; it may have been arranged especially for this trip. Don't assume that you have a right to go back without permission.

11. DON'T BRING PETS; they are neither appropriate nor welcome on excursions.

12. DOUBLE UP IN CARS on auto excursions to conserve fuel. Allow other traffic to pass, park so that other traffic is not impeded, and don't abandon your car in the right-of-way. Use discretion in parking so as not to block laneways or damage early spring grass.

13. USE COMMON SENSE. The outing could be spoiled for everyone if you get lost, injured or drive into a ditch.

14. IS THIS OUTING REALLY FOR YOU? Don't go if you have any doubts about your physical capacity to undertake the hike. (It's an unfair burden to others.) HANDICAPPED PEOPLE must bring a responsible companion where required. Please make the leader aware of your limitations before the outing commences.

15. ANY CANCELLATION must be made not later than three days prior to the event. Refunds after this time will be made only in exceptional circumstances. ¤

Coming Events

arranged by the Excursions and Lectures Committee
Philip Martin (729-3218), Chairman

Times stated for excursions are departure times. Please arrive earlier; leaders start promptly. If you need a ride, don't hesitate to ask the leader. Restricted trips will be open to non-members only after the indicated deadlines.

* If you register for an event and subsequently decide not to *
* go, please cancel your registration because there may be a *
* waiting list. On many occasions we have had to turn down *
* would-be participants only to have the bus leave with sev- *
* eral empty seats. *

BIRD WALKS FOR BEGINNERS

The following series of walks (of three to four hours duration) is offered for novice birders. Binoculars are essential, and waterproof footwear is advisable.

Saturday	Time	Place	Leader
4 May	8:30 a.m.	Britannia*	George McGee (733-1739)
11 May	8:00 a.m.	Vincent Massey Park**	Jeff Harrison (230-5968)
25 May	7:30 a.m.	Britannia*	Ray Holland (225-9655)

* Entrance to Filtration Plant; Bus #51 stops here.
** Northwest corner of parking lot near Heron Road Bridge.

MAY EVENING STROLLS

These four informal walks are offered to expand members' general knowledge of local natural history. Insect repellent may be useful; wear waterproof footwear.

Wednesday SOUTH MARCH HIGHLANDS
1 May Leader: Ellaine Dickson (722-3050)
6:30 p.m. Meet: Lincoln Fields Shopping Centre, northeast corner by the garden centre, Richmond Road and Assaly Road.

Tuesday VINCENT MASSEY PARK
7 May Leader: Marc Bosc (225-3873)
6:30 p.m. Meet: Vincent Massey Park, parking lot near the Heron Road Bridge.

Tuesday 14 May 6:30 p.m.

OTTAWA-CARLETON CONSERVATION CENTRE AREA
Leader: Fran Goodspeed (820-4601)
Meet: Lincoln Fields Shopping Centre, northeast corner by the garden centre, Richmond Road and Assaly Road.

Thursday 23 May 6:30 p.m.

NEW YORK CENTRAL RIGHT-OF-WAY
Leader: Bill Arthurs (225-6941)
Meet: Elmvale Shopping Centre, northeast corner of the parking lot.

Date and time to be decided

NIGHT-FLYING MOTHS IN MAY
Leader: Don Lafontaine (225-1841)
This field trip will take place from 9:00 p.m. until midnight on an evening in late May when the weather appears favourable. If you are interested in participating, leave your name and phone number with the leader and he will contact you when a date and meeting place have been set. Don will attract a variety of moths to a sheet with a light and these will be identified with the aid of the new Peterson Field Guide, *A Field Guide to the Moths of Eastern North America*.

Thursday 9 May 8:00 a.m.

GENERAL INTEREST HIKE
Leader: Ellaine Dickson (722-3050)
Meet: Lincoln Fields Shopping Centre, northeast corner by the garden centre, Richmond Road and Assaly Road.
This will be a general interest walk, especially for senior citizens, in the Stony Swamp area. Bring a lunch, insect repellent, waterproof footwear and binoculars on this half-day outing.

Saturday 11 May 9:00 a.m.

TREES IN SPRING
Leaders: Aileen Mason (722-2279) and Ellaine Dickson (722-3050)
Meet: Neatby Building, Central Experimental Farm, one block west of the Irving Place - Maple Drive stoplight on Carling Avenue. Use the parking lot west of the Neatby Building and south of the greenhouses.
This trip, focusing on trees in bloom, will complement recent summer, autumn, and winter excursions on the identification and location of native trees of the Ottawa area. An excellent opportunity to see a Black Maple. Bring a lunch, insect repellent, and suitable footwear.

Saturday & Sunday 11 & 12 May

SPRING WEEKEND IN THE WILD
Leaders: Harry and Sheila Thomson (234-0845)
A weekend tent-out on Mount St. Patrick to hear the sounds of nature at dawn. Contact the leaders by May 8 for directions and briefings or to arrange the loan of a tent. (Motel information is available for non-campers.)

Tuesday 14 May 8:00 p.m.

OFNC MONTHLY MEETING
ALLADIN'S GARDEN
Speaker: Ian Lambie
Meet: Auditorium, National Museum of Natural Sciences, Metcalfe and McLeod Streets
Ian Lambie is a long-time active member of the Trinidad and Tobago Field Naturalists Club. As president of the Asa Wright Nature Centre, he met several OFNC members in February of 1982 and welcomed them to Trinidad and Tobago. His lecture will include the film *Alladin's Garden* featuring the beautiful hummingbirds of the tropics. It is hoped that Ian will have time to show some of his slides of oil birds and marine turtles, extraordinary creatures native to Trinidad. This will be a unique opportunity to learn about some of the fascinating fauna familiar to the members of our "twin" club in Trinidad and Tobago. Don't miss it!

Wednesday 22 May 8:00 a.m.

BIRDING WITH GEORGE
Leader: George McGee (733-1739)
Meet: Britannia Drive-In Theatre, Carling Avenue.
Midweek birding for the retired but not-so-tired. (Those playing hookey will not be turned away.) Bring a lunch for this half-day outing. Binoculars, insect repellent, and suitable footwear are recommended.

Saturday 25 May 9:30 a.m.

CONSTANCE BAY: PLANTS AND BUTTERFLIES
Leaders: David White and Peter Hall (733-0698)
Meet: Neatby Building, Central Experimental Farm, one block west of the Irving Place - Maple Drive stoplight on Carling Avenue. Use the parking lot west of the Neatby Building and south of the greenhouses.
The Sand Hills of Constance Bay were formed after the melting of the glaciers and retreat of the Champlain Sea. They are home to many plant species that are found nowhere else in the Ottawa District. In late May several uncommon butterfly species for the District, particularly the elfins, are on the wing at Constance Bay. Come and explore this unique dry

land. Bring a lunch. (See articles in *Trail & Landscape* by David White (13(4): 126-131 (1979)) and by Ross Layberry, Don Lafontaine and Peter Hall (16(1): 3-59 (1982)).

Sunday
26 May
7:00 a.m.

BIRDING IN THE ANDERSON ROAD AREA
Leader: Bob Bracken (728-3495)
Meet: Elmvale Shopping Centre, St. Laurent Blvd. and Smyth Road, in front of Woolworths.
This will be a half-day trip to see and hear marsh birds in Ramsayville Marsh and song birds in the surrounding woods and fields.

Sunday
26 May
9:00 a.m.

SPRING WILDFLOWER FIELD TRIP
Leader: Erich Haber (722-5523)
Meet: National Museum of Natural Sciences, Metcalfe and McLeod Streets, front entrance.
This half-day trip will complement Erich's presentation at the February Monthly Meeting in which he showed how to use *Newcomb's Wildflower Guide* to identify wildflowers rapidly. Insect repellent and suitable footwear are recommended.

Sunday
2 June
5:30 a.m.

GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLERS
Leader: Bruce Di Labio (729-6267)
Meet: Parking lot of Health and Welfare Building, Tunney's Pasture.
Besides Golden-winged Warblers, participats are likely to see Yellow-billed Cuckoos, Yellow-throated Vireos, Common Ravens, Turkey Vultures, Red-shouldered Hawks and Northern Goshawks. Bring a snack for this half-day outing to the Lac Philippe area. A good deal of walking will be involved. Binoculars, good hiking boots, and insect repellent are essential.

Thursday
6 June
9:00 a.m.

MIDWEEK TRIP TO MARY STUART'S FARM
Leader: Mary Stuart (820-5220)
Meet: Loblaws, Carlingwood Shopping Centre, Carling Avenue at Woodroffe Avenue.
This is another outing that has become a tradition. The route to Mary's farm near Pakenham leads past rock outcrops of limestone, marble and granite. At the farm, wildflowers await those free to ramble on this summer Thursday. Bring a picnic lunch, waterproof footwear, binoculars and insect repellent. Telephone Mary the day before for any last-minute instructions.

Saturday
8 June
3:30 a.m.

DAWN CHORUS IN THE RICHMOND FEN
Leader: Monty Brigham
Meet: Loblaws, Carlingwood Shopping Centre, Carling Avenue at Woodroffe Avenue.

The Richmond Fen is famous for its Yellow Rails and Sedge Wrens and for other species such as Least Bittern, American Bittern, Black-billed Cuckoo, Whip-poor-will, Marsh Wren, Winter Wren and several warblers. Monty is an expert on bird songs and their recording and has produced three records. The mosquitos are fierce, so insect repellent and/or head nets and gloves are essential. Be prepared for a long walk.

Tuesday
11 June
8:00 p.m.

OFNC MONTHLY MEETING
REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS OF THE OTTAWA AREA
Speaker: Francis Cook
Meet: Auditorium, National Museum of Natural Sciences, Metcalfe and McLeod Streets.

Francis Cook, Curator of Herpetology at the National Museum of Natural Sciences, will discuss the identification of local species of reptiles and amphibians by pattern, colour and calls, as well as their life histories including breeding sites and sequence. His talk will be illustrated with colour slides. (See his article in the March-April 1981 issue of *Trail & Landscape* (15(2): 75-109).)

Sunday
16 June
7:30 a.m.

BUS TRIP TO THE ST. LAWRENCE ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK
Meet: National Museum of Natural Sciences, Metcalfe and McLeod Streets, front entrance.
Cost: $5.00

Come out and celebrate the centennial of Canada's national parks system on this general interest outing. The group will be met at Mallorytown Landing by a Parks Canada staff interpreter who will introduce us to the park with a short slide presentation. We will then proceed by bus to Hill Island to look for the Black Rat Snake and Wild Turkey among magnificent stands of Pitch Pine. A three-hour boat tour after lunch, with scheduled stops, will permit a closer examination of the unique micro-climates and "tension zone ecology" found among these islands. Other anticipated highlights include various water-birds, unusual plants such as Rue Anemone and Deer-berry (Canada's rarest shrub). The Museum's Dinobus will be provided free of charge and should return to Ottawa by 6:30 p.m. The cost of $5.00 is to cover the boat tour fee. Bring a lunch and binoculars. Please register <u>at least ten days in advance</u> by sending a cheque or money order (payable to The

Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club) to Ellaine Dickson, 2037 Honeywell Ave., Ottawa K2A 0P7. Include your name, address, telephone number and the name of the trip.

Sunday
23 June
7:30 a.m.

BUS TRIP TO THE BONNECHERE CAVES
Leader: Janette Dean
Meet: National Museum of Natural Sciences, Metcalfe and McLeod Streets, front entrance.
Cost: There will be a charge of several dollars for entrance to the caves.

This outing offers several points of interest: marine fossils of the Ordovician Period, limestone weathering features in the caves, Karst topography, and a scenic waterfall. The caves are always cool so bring a sweater no matter how warm the day. Low-heeled shoes are recommended. Since this is an all-day outing, returning to Ottawa around 6 p.m., bring a hearty picnic lunch. The excursion is limited to the first 20 to register. Do so by telephoning the Club number (722-3050) at least ten days before the trip.

Wednesday
10 July
9:30 a.m.
to
3:00 p.m.

MORE ABOUT INSECTS
Leader: Fenja Brodo
Meet: Lincoln Fields Shopping Centre, rear of building at its northeast corner.

Join Fenja for a leisurely look at the insect life of the Mer Bleue Bog. Bring a lunch, waterproof footwear, and insect repellent (not too much!).

Friday to
Sunday
19, 20, 21
July

WEEKEND OUTING AT THE HAVEN ON LAC LAPECHE
Leader: NCC interpreter and an OFNC member yet to be decided
Cost: $30.00 per person

Participants will arrive early Friday evening and depart on Sunday afternoon. Overnight accomodation on Friday and Saturday nights will be in cabins, each with two bunks. (Extra bunks can be arranged.) Cooking facilities will be available. An NCC interpreter will be on hand to provide information about local points of interest and the various hiking trails. There will be opportunities for swimming and canoeing as well as hiking. The weekend will be limited to 15 adults. Anyone wishing to go should register by sending their cheque or money order so that it arrives at least ten days in advance (payable to The Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club) to Ellaine Dickson, 2037 Honeywell Ave., Ottawa K2A 0P7. Include your name, address, telephone number and the name of the excursion.

Date and time to be decided

NIGHT-FLYING MOTHS IN AUGUST
Leader: Don Lafontaine (225-1841)
See instructions for the companion field trip held in May and described on page 179.

Sunday
11 August
8:00 a.m.

BUS TRIP TO CHAFFEY'S LOCKS
Leader: Peter Hall
Meet: National Museum of Natural Sciences, Metcalfe and McLeod Streets, front entrance.
Cost: $10.00
The Chaffey's Locks excursion, one of the most popular Club outings, this year will again feature a visit to the Queen's Biology Station and the hiking trails of the Skycroft area. Highlights could include cuckoos, rare ferns, Black Rat Snakes, and fritillary butterflies. The price of $10.00 will cover the cost of the steak cookout provided courtesy of the Biology Station. The Dinobus, which is provided free of charge by the National Museum of Natural Sciences, should return to Ottawa by 8 p.m. Those wishing to go should register at least ten days in advance by sending their cheques or money orders (payable to The Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club) to Ellaine Dickson, 2037 Honeywell Ave., Ottawa K2A 0P7. Include your name, address, telephone number and the name of the trip. Anyone who wishes to go by private car must still register for the meal. Bring a lunch and insect repellent. Those wishing to swim should bring bathing suits.

Wednesday
28 August
8:00 a.m.

MORE BIRDING WITH GEORGE
Leader: George McGee (733-1739)
Meet: Britannia Drive-In Theatre, Carling Avenue.
Midweek birding for senior citizens or anyone with the morning free. The emphasis will be on early fall migrants including shorebirds if the river is not too high. Bring binoculars, a lunch, insect repellent, and waterproof footwear for this half-day outing.

Saturday
31 August
7:00 a.m.

BIRDING IN THE WEST END
Leader: to be decided
Meet: Britannia Drive-In Theatre, Carling Avenue.
The emphasis will be on early fall migrants including shorebirds if the level of the Ottawa River is not too high. For this three- or four-hour outing, binoculars are essential and waterproof footwear is advisable.

Tuesday [illegible] Sept. [illegible] p.m.

OFNC MONTHLY MEETING
MEMBERS' SLIDE NIGHT
Meet: Salon, National Museum of Natural Sciences,
Metcalfe and McLeod Streets.
Admission: At least one natural history slide or a 50¢ donation to the Alfred Bog Fund.

This popular event will be an excellent opportunity to share your favourite natural history slides and [illegible] of past trips, both local and far [illegible] with fellow members. Any number of slides up to a maximum of 15 will be welcome, and up to 15 minutes will be allotted for each slide presentation. Those bringing [illegible] slides need not speak if they do not wish to [illegible]. Those bringing more than [illegible], please contact [illegible] Leavens (82[illegible]) to prearrange your presentation.

P.S. Last year we collected [illegible] for the Alfred Bog Fund.

[illegible] 21 Sept. [illegible] a.m.

[illegible] TO [illegible]

[illegible] the September-October issue of Trail & Landscape is very late in coming, details of this outing can be obtained by telephoning the Club number (722-[illegible]).

AN INVITATION FROM THE OTTAWA BANDING GROUP

The Ottawa Banding Group extends an open invitation to those interested in learning about their operation or simply [illegible] some of our native bird species in the hand. Arrangements can be made to visit the banding station [illegible] Parliament Hill on the Ottawa River [illegible] weekends by writing to Ottawa Banding Group, P.O. Box 3013, Postal Station C, Ottawa, Ontario K1Y 4J3.

FIELD TRIP TO ALBERTA'S DINOSAUR BADLANDS

[illegible] inclusive, Leader: [illegible]

This trip will be a splendid opportunity to see dinosaur [illegible] and to the newly opened Tyrrell Museum. For further information, see [illegible]. [illegible]

[illegible] for the September-October issue [illegible] in the Editor's [illegible] issue.

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