

Field trip reveals park vital asset

By Carol Grant
On Tuesday, May 21, 17 grade 10 geography students and their teacher, Stefan Gnyas, went to the Rockwood Conservation Area. The field trip was organized:

- (1) to study the geology of the park
- (2) to observe how resources and the watershed itself are managed.
- (3) to get some idea of tourist impact on the area, and the resulting implications
- (4) to understand the importance of Conservation areas in general.

The following report contains one person's findings and impressions of the area as they relate to the above four points.

Inland sea
In Silurian times, 430 million years ago, a shallow, warm inland sea covered southern Ontario. In these Silurian seas the optimum conditions for the growth of coral reefs were prevalent and were found close to the water surface. As the climate changed, the reefs died and other organisms took their place.

During the Wisconsin Ice Age (13,000 to 16,000 years ago), glacial meltwater action on the reefs and adjoining rock created tall rock pinnacles and cylindrical depressions or potholes.

Unique
Today, Rockwood Park is 197 acres of coniferous forest on a foundation of limestone. The area is very unique, as it has over 200 potholes, and the

caves there are fair examples of Karst Topography.

The park offers several facilities to the public: hiking, swimming, canoeing, camping, picnicking, baseball diamonds, a large pavilion and special historical sites can all be found or done at Rockwood.

I feel that Conservation Authority Parks, such as Rockwood, are one of the most important assets to people of Southern Ontario today.

Slow pace
In such parks, people can get away from the hustle and bustle of city and even small town life. After a while, a constantly quick pace can begin to toll on mind and body. These parks provide a place to just sit and relax, think about who you are and slow down your pace.

Relaxation is a hard thing to get in a city or small town. While outside, swimming, boating, hiking, etc., people get a chance to slow down and enjoy life. Too many people today forget that there is such a thing as relaxation, if you take the time.

New side
Getting away for a while also provides a different aspect of life. You just can't be as formal and dressy when you're camping as you can at home. Your friends and family act more freely and honestly, it seems, when they're outside and free from tension. It shows a completely new side of a person's character.

In these modern ages, we tend to forget sometimes that rough, rocky paths can be walked on as well as sidewalks. Sure, cars can't drive down a foot wide path, and they don't lead to the corner store, but they are often very scenic routes.

We also forget that chlorine pools aren't the only places to swim in. How many times have you complained about sore eyes, bathing caps and restricted hours while swimming in a public pool? At public beaches, it is often as crowded as public pools and there are rules to be observed, but at least the chlorine and bathing caps are absent!

Trees, flowers
Trees, believe it or not, don't just grow in straight lines along the road. There really are large areas of heavily wooded land left. There are also many beautiful wild flowers, not just the ones that grow in your garden.

Conservation Areas also present to the public examples of watershed management, wildlife conservation and preservation of historical sites. In this age where open spaces and untouched forests seem to be scarce, it's nice to be able to get back to nature for a time, and to know that something is being done to conserve many of our natural resources, and preserve our historical heritage.



ACTON HIGH SCHOOL'S student council, elect, for next year is Yvette Leroy, president, Steve Buchanan, vice-president, Shirley Mason, secretary and Ron Moore for treasurer (get MOORE for your money?). These newly elected officers are aiming for a more efficient student council and they want to try to build up school spirit at Acton high.

Free Press Youth page

P. Arbic chosen N.S. trip

Peter Arbic along with 21 other students from all parts of Ontario were among 500 who went on a trip to Halifax sponsored by the Canadian Studies Forum. The trip involved only grade 11 and 12 students.

Once in Nova Scotia, the students were billeted in homes of people around their own age. Peter felt the trip's purpose was to make students more aware of events in Canada.

They had a series of

demonstrations, guests and lectures including political economies, foreign ownership with guest speaker Mel Herzig and one day devoted to the arts with a sculptor, concert pianist, and a Canadian movie producer.

The students spent two days sight-seeing and enjoyed coffee houses, dances and other entertainment in which the students from different parts of Canada were able to meet each other.



PETER ARBIC was one out of 22 students in Ontario chosen to go to Halifax. The trip was sponsored by the Canadian Studies Forum.

"Munchkins" visit school

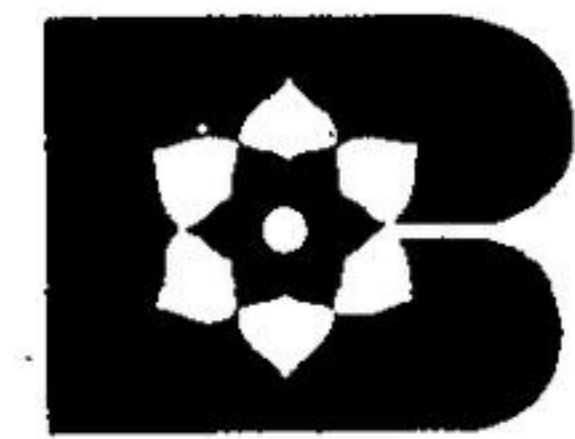
By Brenda McDonald and Jeanette Hodgkinson
In the past three weeks the future "munchkins" of Acton High have been visiting their future school. They came from Stewarttown senior public school, Brookville public school, and Robert Little public school. This week the M. Z. Bennett will visit.

The idea behind the orientation program is to show the grade eights that they are welcome next year and to give them an idea of what high school is really like.

This year the program was

changed slightly. Instead of using the buddy system the grade eights went around in groups having various classes and meeting various teachers.

Proud
When asked how they liked the school the overall opinion was that they were really looking forward to coming next year. The students from Robert Little said that they were going to be proud to be called munchkins. Some said that the school was big and that they would get lost.



Outers' club members go to B.C., Colorado

The outers' club at the Acton High School has about 40 to 50 active members. From these members three participants have applied to attend Outward Bound schools in Colorado and British Columbia.

The Outward Bound program began at first in Britain because of the number of young seamen who were drowning and in effect, did not realize their physical

abilities. From this start in Britain, the Outward Bound program has grown with schools all over the world.

Bruce Swift, grade 13 student has applied to go to Keremeos, British Columbia. This is an Outward Bound mountain school and it is the only school in Canada.

To Colorado
Peter Arbic, grade 12 student, and Wally Rowley, one of the originators of the outers club in Acton High

School, will be going to the Colorado Outward Bound School.

The courses that Bruce and Peter will be taking are both mountain-based courses and will last for 23 days, in August.

Mr. Rowley's course (also mountain based) will run for 25 days in July. His program involves a three day discussion where Outward Bound concepts are applied to the classroom.

Tests passed

Miss Linda Sawden successfully completed both her Preliminary Figure and Dance Tests at the Silverthorn Skating School in Guelph. She is a Grade 5 student at Robert Little School, and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. Sawden of Acton.

In figure skating, she is a pupil of Mrs. Linda Coe, C.F.S.A. Gold Medalist, and professional with the Guelph Figure Skating Club.

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Notes from Acton High

By Janice Gibson
This week is busy, with quite a number of field trips planned. On Monday, Mrs. June Levy accompanied 35 grade nine art students to Kleinburg. The group spent the whole day viewing the McMichael art gallery. The trip was also taken last semester with Mrs. Levy's former art students.

Friday, they will spend the long weekend in Quebec City accompanied by Keith Black. The trip has been planned for many months but became indefinite for a while. Luck was with them and the trip is still on.

Milton court was the destination today for a number of students. Ian McGillivray took 50 Law 400 students so they might see a real court in session. The group spent from 9.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. observing courtroom procedure.

Toronto trip
On Thursday, another large group will be out. Mrs. Joan Morgan and Jim May are taking 60 grade nine geography students to Toronto. The students will spend the day on tour which will include visiting a temple and a synagogue.

The grade 12 geography students leave for Quebec this

Calvinettes take first at rally

Twenty-five Acton girls and their leaders spent a day in Drayton recently when Calvinettes of Guelph district council held their annual rally.

It was a day of socializing and activity for the girls. The rally was held on Sat., April 27, and ran through the day from 10 a.m. until 5 o'clock. Representatives from Listowel, Cambridge, Guelph, Drayton and Stratford were all present as well as the Acton group.

Basing his talk on the rally theme Growing Beautiful, a campus minister from London was the speaker who told his youthful audience that beauty from the religious point of view, means to grow within.

Poster mentioned
After the talk it was lunch followed by a program of skits, plays, and sing songs. During the afternoon a

display of crafts was shown, as contributed by the various groups attending.

Acton's entry took a first for their particular craft consisting of a number of items including crepe paper and raffia flowers, paper mache dolls, and a Christmas center piece. According to the leaders, a poster contribution from one of the Acton girls received special mention. Ann Van der Laan was the artist who designed the poster which, reportedly, was partly responsible for the day's win.

Attending the Drayton rally with the Acton group was head counsellor, Nellie Harbers, and leaders, Lynda Ensing, Corry Vos, Marjorie Bulma, Dorothy Carvers and Mary Duiker, a junior counsellor.

Approximately 250 girls ranging in age from ten to 15 years had attended the event. Work on crafts had been the

project of the Acton group since the beginning of January '74.

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