

the painted box

by Wendy Thomson

This summer has been a fascinating one as far as animals are concerned. I was eye to eye (more or less) with all kinds of things from bats to bears, starting the night in June when Gord left to go to the mountains.

I had barely got to sleep when there was an odd swooshing sound in the room. Half-forgotten childhood memories of an old ice-house instantly identified it as a bat. It must have come in the front door and followed the draft through to the bedroom.

Once the noise was labelled, I decided against getting up to try to shoot it out the window, figuring it would find its own way.

With the blankets pulled over my head (just in case) I dozed off, only to be widely awakened by the darn thing perching on my hip!

I gave such a "bump" that I practically fell off the bed! The bat shot out the window as if it was catapulted and that was the last I heard of it.

Bears

The bears were not far from the trail ride camp, when I got down there the end of August. That wasn't all, of course—we spotted two coyotes taking home dinner, many many elk, bighorn sheep, mountain goats, and quite a few golden eagles. And one red vote.

One day we rode high on a mountain so the camera bugs could sneak up on four elk

that were just over a little rise. I stayed with the horses to get shots of the camp and valley, and turned around to see a bighorn sheep watching me from up the slope.

When the "sneakers" returned, they strolled up the sheep's way, sat down in the grass and started up a conversation. Instead of the usual flurry to put telephoto lenses on, the riders were busy taking them off, as this silly sheep started nosing around so close that the telephoto lenses were useless.

They got some good close-up shots, but I was content to stay further away with camera at the ready in case the sheep rolled somebody down the hill. No such luck, though.

My big moment came with the bears. We had been riding partway up the slope of a mountain somewhere in Flint's Park and looking across the valley we saw two silvertip grizzlies, a mother and cub, moving along parallel to us. There was a mild uproar (a quiet one) as cameras and lenses were hauled out of saddle bags, and much fumbling in excitement.

We kept an eye on them for about three miles then lost



AN ADDITION to the trail ride scene this year was a "camp baby." Annie, daughter of artist/outfitter Malcolm MacKenzie travelled the trails tucked inside mother's slicker.

Photo by W. Thomson

them at lunchtime. We found later that they passed a few hundred yards back of where we picnicked—and only four yards from the boulder I had picked as my mountainside "powder room."

The guide took us in a different direction after lunch, and we just mosed along in the sun, looking for elk, for we could hear the bulls bugling high up on the ridges. Spotting some, the men left the horses and set off with binoculars (and cameras, of course) to find a better view point.

Again I stayed at the bottom of the slope, and therefore got an excellent view of them following a gully up, while on the other side of it, the bears (who had also decided to change direction) made their way down—and on a collision course with the men!

But mama-bear smelt something, climbed up on a fallen tree with baby at her feet, and stood up to have a look around. That's when I got all excited at the sight of this massive bear peering down a natural cut-line at me, but finally calmed down enough to take a few pictures.

Then they took off across the shale slope, their fur ripp-

Free Press Personals

Several from here attended the official opening of the new Halton Hills Pentecostal Assembly church on Highway 7 on Sunday.

Members of the Y's Men's club are already making contacts, preparing for the Santa Claus parade. Schools and groups have been asked about providing floats.

The tennis club dance drew a mixture of ages to the music centre Friday. Awards for the season were presented; there was dancing and a bountiful lunch.

Several new families in town were welcomed by Hi Neighbour Welcome Service hostess Marlene Steckly last month.

Coming from a distance are Mr. and Mrs. Martin Smith and son Sammy from Germany and Mr. and Mrs. Lou Obrigavitch and daughters Debbie and Sheri from Pitmeadows, British Columbia.

From Mississauga come Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Cooper and family Leslie, Tony and Chris, and Mr. and Mrs. Dan Stafford and family Vanessa and Johnny.

Two newlywed couples have chosen Acton as their first home, Mr. and Mrs. Dave Elliott from Georgetown and Toronto and Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Apollinaro from Downsview.

Another Downsview couple, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Davis and family Angela and Colin have made their home here.

Mr. and Mrs. David Butler and daughters Christie Ann and Amy from Bramalea, Mr. and Mrs. Maurice

Prudhomme and family Christopher and Melanie from Brampton, and Mr. and Mrs. Hans Brinkmann and son Gregory from Kitchener are also among the welcomed.

Mr. and Mrs. Derek Westaway and son Paul from Milton, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Fabel and sons Christian and Brian from Georgetown, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Wruck and family Richard, Allen and Michelle from Willowdale and Mr. and Mrs. Rene Linaber and sons Adrian, Ralph, Lloyd, Edwin and Jack from Fergus were also given the official welcome to Acton from Mrs. Steckly.

No vote for hydro

There is no election for Acton hydro commissioners this year. Their positions have been "frozen" since regional government.



Volare Station Wagon \$14900

Equipped with: the economical 318/V8 engine. Automatic, power steering and brakes, electric rear window defroster, R.C. mirror, dual horns, 3/ speed window wipers, front and rear bumper gds., light pkgs., radio, white wall tires, carpeted cargo area, air deflector, roof rack, cargo area floor mats.



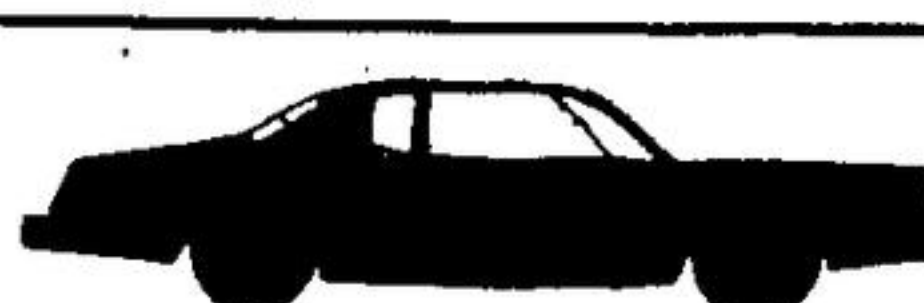
Chrysler Cordoba \$17500

Equipped with: 360/V8 engine. Automatic, power steering and brakes, vinyl roof, R.C. mirror, air conditioning, tinted glass, electric rear window defroster, radio with rear speaker, speed control, power windows, radial white wall tires, wheel covrs., floor mats.



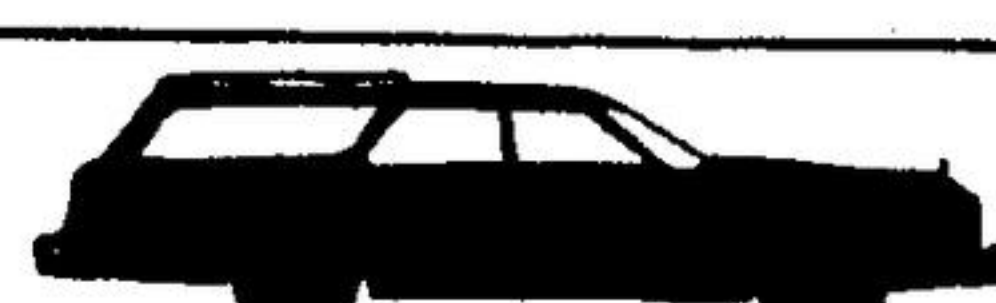
Olds "98" Regency \$23000

403 V8 engine, power steering, power brakes, power windows, power seat, power radio aerial, AM/ FM stereo radio, automatic air conditioning, tinted glass, radial white wall tires. Full vinyl roof cover, remote control mirror, door edge guards, floor mats, automatic trunk release, electric defroster and automatic transmission.



Olds Delta Royale \$18200

350 V8 engine, power steering, power brakes, radio, remote control mirror, tinted glass, air conditioning, floor mats, door edge guards, radial white wall tires, electric defroster, and automatic transmission.



Pontiac Catalina Wagon \$16700

V-8 engine, automatic transmission, power steering, power brakes, six passenger, AM radio, wheel discs, whitewall radial tires, woodgrain sides, roof luggage carrier, floor mats, power tailgate, electric rear window defroster.



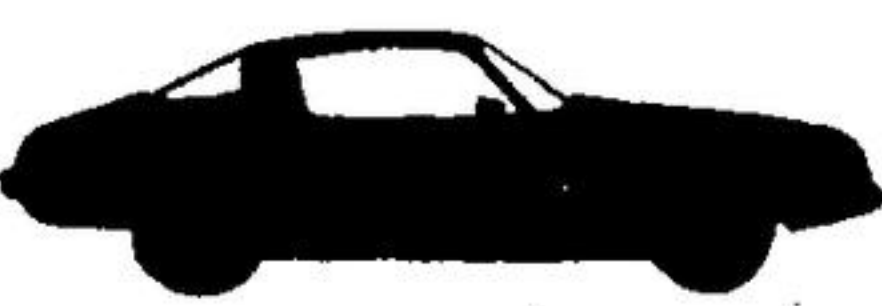
Pontiac Firebird \$14900

Pontiac Firebird Esprit Coupe, 301 V8 Engine, automatic transmission, sports console, power steering, power brakes, floor mats, door edge guards, body side mouldings, AM radio, rally wheels, electric defroster, custom interior with bucket seats, white wall radial tires, and remote control mirror.



Nova \$13700

Chevrolet Nova or Pontiac Ventura Coupe: 6 Cyl. engine, automatic transmission, power steering, bodyside mouldings, floor mats, AM radio, wheel discs, rear window defogger, whitewall tires.



Camaro \$14500

Chevrolet Camaro V-8 Engine, automatic transmission, power brakes, power steering, floor mats, side mouldings, AM radio, rally wheels, electric defroster, floor console, custom interior with bucket seats, whitewall radial tires.



Chevelle \$13900

Chevrolet Chevelle or Pontiac LeMans: 6 cyl. engine, automatic transmission, power steering, power brakes, AM radio, wheel discs, floor mats, side mouldings, rear window defogger, whitewall radial tires.



Impala \$16900

Chevrolet Impala, 305 V-8 engine, Automatic Transmission, power steering, power brakes, AM radio, white wall tires, floor mats, bodyside mouldings, wheel discs.



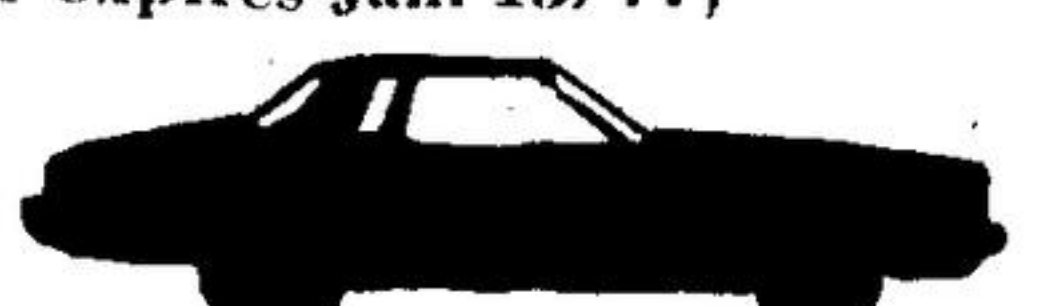
Pontiac Parisienne \$17900 4 Door Sedan

Pontiac Parisienne 4 door Sedan, 305 V8 engine, power steering, power brakes, automatic transmission, air conditioning, tinted glass, AM radio, rear speaker, wheel covers, floor mats, door edge guards, radial white wall tires, and remote control side mirror.



Pontiac Laurentian \$16300 4 Door Sedan

Pontiac Laurentian 4 Door Sedan - 305 V-8 engine, power steering, power brakes, radio, automatic transmission, radial white wall tires, side view mirror, body side mouldings, full wheel covers and floor mats.



Monte Carlo "S" \$14900

Chevrolet Monte Carlo "S" V-8 engine, automatic transmission, power steering, power brakes, bumper strips, floor mats, body side mouldings, AM radio, wheel discs, white wall radial tires, electric defroster, sport mirrors.



GMC Vandura \$15700

G.M.C. 1/2 ton Vandura: V-8 engine, automatic transmission, power brakes, rear door glass, Jr. west coast mirrors, passenger seat, heavy duty shocks, heavy duty springs. Other truck prices by request.



Thunderbird \$17500

Thunderbird, 302 V8 engine, automatic transmission, power steering, power brakes, AM radio, tinted glass, air conditioning, body side mouldings, remote side mirror, electric rear defroster, white wall radial tires, wheel covers, floor mats, and bumper guards.

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Olds Cutlass \$14900

Buick Century: V-8 engine, automatic transmission, power steering, power brakes, AM radio, wheel discs, white wall radial tires, floor mats, body side mouldings, rear window defogger.



Grand Prix "LJ" \$18500

Pontiac Grand Prix "LJ": V-8 engine, automatic transmission, power steering, power brakes, bucket seats, console, power windows, air conditioning, electric defroster, tinted glass, floor mats, sport mirrors, body side mouldings, AM radio, rally wheels, white wall radial tires.



Coupe DeVille \$27900

Cadillac Coupe DeVille: V-8 engine, automatic transmission, power steering, power brakes, power windows, power door locks, power seat, power trunk, power antenna, AM/ FM stereo radio, electric defroster, right and left hand remote control mirrors, floor mats, tilt and telescopic steering wheel, vinyl roof, white wall radial tires.



Cadillac Sedan DeVille \$27900

425 V8 engine, automatic transmission, power steering, power brakes, power windows, 6 way power seats, power trunk release, power radio antenna, AM/ FM stereo radio, tinted glass, automatic air conditioner, electric defroster, full vinyl roof cover, radial white wall tires, (2) remote control mirrors, door edge guards, licence plate frames, floor mats, tilt and telescopic steering wheel.