



A GREAT WAY to spend a summer's day! These boys from the Oakville Sports Camp have been overnight camping at the Rockwood Conservation Area. Rafting, swimming, hiking and fishing are activities to be enjoyed in the park.

Conservation area is good spot in heat wave

by Barb Wynneck
The sun is hot and the air sticky. One of the best spots to cool off is the Rockwood Conservation Area—so it has been discovered by many regular campers, travellers passing through and local residents. You do not have to journey outside Rockwood to enjoy the unique beauty familiar in northern Ontario, it surrounds the park.

The swimming is good. There is a raft to jump from. Fish along the shoreline or paddle a rented canoe. Hikes are great, through the wooded trails, down to the caves or around the pot holes, created thousands of years ago by the scouring action of retreating glaciers. Explore around the burned out woolen mill, established in the 1800's. Keep your eyes open for wild birds, flowers and small animals. Bring a camera.

Pack your own picnic or buy lunch at the concession booth. Use a provided barbecue pit. Overnight campers can cook their meals over an open fire, or sit by the fireside for a sing song or a chat. The base ball diamonds are ready for a game of scrub. Enjoy a day, camp overnight or stay for two weeks.

The weather has been hotter and drier this year, but the number of campers using the park is about the same as last year, according to conservation authorities. Thirty-five to 40 cars are counted

using the facilities every day. A staff of 13 keep the 197 acres and 52 camp sites serviced. Most campers are from the Burlington, Hamilton, Toronto area. Group picnics and day camps can make special reservations. Everyone can make the most out of a summer's day.

Many hook-up to village system

Over 20 per cent of Rockwood's population has hooked up to water and sewers within the last two weeks.

Homeowners may lay the drains and complete the plumbing on their own properties.

Septic tanks must be pumped out, removed from the ground or be filled in, ten days after hookup.

The initial plumbing inspection fee is \$20. If the work is not in order \$15 is charged for each additional inspection.

Name Pinkney RWF judge

Dr. R. J. Pinkney of Milton has been named one of five judges for the purebred and market swine classes at the 1978 Royal Winter Fair, to be held Nov. 9 to 18 in Toronto. He will handle the Yorkshires class. Judges from Quebec, Nova Scotia and

Saskatchewan are being brought in for the other breeds.

Royal officials announced several changes in the judging for this year's show. Swine judging takes place Nov. 10 to 13 with the Yorkshires showing on the Sunday.

Salmon at Bronte

The salmon run is on and Bronte Creek is supplying its share. On August 7, 34 boats were checked by conservation officers and 24 Coho Salmon were reported

being brought in for the other breeds.

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LOCAL FISHERWOMEN Karen and Aimee Fralich come every day to catch chub and minnows in the Rockwood Conservation Area mill pond.

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FEEDING THE SWANS. Mr. and Mrs. Bennett enjoy their pond and dam at Scotsdale Farm in Ballinacraig.

Bennett Shorthorns capture awards on three continents

by Jennifer Barr
It isn't often a farmer can boast his livestock have won championships on three continents in one year.

Stewart Bennett of Ballinacraig isn't boasting but he's quietly delighted that Shorthorn bulls of his breeding are champions in Canada, Argentina and Scotland.

Three bulls from Scotsdale Farm, the Bennett operation, were purchased for Argentina several months ago, including Scotsdale Innsbruck, previously champion at the Royal in Toronto, and Scotsdale Kismet, who won champion polled Short horn at the International show in Palermo, Argentina.

Emmerson Clarke, farm manager for Mr. Bennett for 20 years, recommended that Kismet make up the complement of three bulls for the shipment and is pleased with his choice.

Scotsdale Exloit, a bull sent from Ballinacraig to Scotland, has been winning in the Highlands and in England at the Royal Agricultural Fair. Scotsdale Havelock has also been adding to the Scotsdale name with important winnings.

Prior to this, Mr. and Mrs. Bennett have had the pleasure of showing the Supreme Champion at the C.N.E. and the Canadian Royal. In fact, the Bennett trophy room is decorated on four sides with colorful ribbons encompassing the years and including not only wins by cattle but by the beautiful Arabian horses and fine Scottie dogs they used to breed.

Forty years ago, the Scotsdale farm was purchased by the Bennetts. It consisted of a small two room farm house, bare sand yard and rundown barn.

Now, two generations later, the property is one of the most beautiful farms in Ontario, featuring a softly elegant house, rambling with additions to the original rooms, a remodelled barn elongated to produce a Tudor courtyard stable, and the whole surrounded by trees, informal gardens, neat drives and cedar fences flanked by the picturesque house



GRAZING IN PEACE, these Shorthorn cattle enjoy the elegant surroundings of their Ballinacraig home on Scotsdale Farm. Stewart Bennett, owner of the farm, was the first Canadian breeder to send Shorthorn cattle back to Scotland the country of their origin.

belonging to the Clarks.

To drive through the pine bush, part of crown lands of the farm holdings, burst into sunlight and see the farmstead below is to believe you are in a corner of southern England at its best.

To watch Mr. and Mrs. Bennett feeding swans on the shadowy fringed pond, to be part of the relaxed peacefulness of the entire scene, is to realize why the Short horns of Scotsdale Farm are so superior to most cattle.

Anything raised in that affectionate atmosphere has to flourish.

And flourish the Scotsdale Shorthorns have done since the day 40 years ago when Mr. Bennett decided to go into farming. With a background which includes 15 years as president of Beardmore in Acton, it was only natural Mr. Bennett would choose cattle for a hobby. Many of

his friends farmed and raised Shorthorns, a fact which got him interested.

Since then, with a good staff around him at which the Bennetts speak highly, Scotsdale Shorthorns have been bred up to the fine beasts they are today.

Mr. Bennett comments that he's a student of genetics and believes breeding good cattle is a "terrific art."

"Farming is a scientific operation," he says.

Shorthorn breeders followed the practice of breeding beef stock to the larger dairy Shorthorn to increase the size of the beef animal. Mr. and Mrs. Bennett abhor this practice, explaining the resulting offspring are neither one thing or the other. Always sticking to the practice of breeding big beef bulls to big beef cows has paid off in the size, type and class of the Shorthorns now produced.

The Bennetts' approach pays well in other areas too and the results are some of the finest Arabian horses in the world—those from the Lady Wentworth Stud in England. Mr. Bennett is recognized as a foremost importer of Arabian horses, including Seraph, a mare who became dam of a long line of prize-winning horses.

Three Arabians still live at Scotsdale, the 17 year old stallion, Narim, and a pair of elderly sisters.

Always loving animals, Mr. Bennett has been president of the Royal Winter Fair from 1963 to 1964 and is still a director of the fair.

Scotsdale Farm a picture postcard estate, 32 1/2 acres of cultivation and wilderness.



NARIM, elegant and elderly Arabian stallion, receives sugar from his friend Mr. Stewart Bennett of Scotsdale Farms, Ballinacraig.



SUPREME CHAMPION AT the C.N.E. and the Royal, Scotsdale Karnwood, stands quietly with his handler and farm manager, Emmerson Clarke, while owners, Mr. and Mrs. S.G. Bennett of Ballinacraig, look on proudly. The two-and-a-half year old shorthorn bull weighs approximately 1900 pounds - a lot of bull when he's angry.



Ospringe Summer fun and visits

It must be nearly five years since we christened the barn. It's still standing so whatever Mack did with it must have worked.

It was fun planning our own barn, especially after years of making do with converted cattle barns. Mind you, an extra quarter of a million dollars would have enabled me to plan a very glamorous barn—but, under the circumstances, I think we did very well.

Originally the barn had eight horse stalls and a small storage area. Since then, the stalls and partitions have been removed, rebuilt and generally showed around until now we have five horse stalls, a sheep pen, rabbit pens and a combination chick nursery and puzon loft. We also have some very surprised horses.

Four for the price of one

The barn swallows adopted us three years ago and come back to the same nest each year. Early this summer, Mr. and Mrs. Swallow produced four wee babies. By the time they were ready to fly they lay criss-crossed in that tiny nest like sardines. I sat and watched them one afternoon learning to fly, mama and papa flitting in and out of the barn trying to convince the Walt Disney babies that this was fun.

The wee swallows stayed around for a week or so before taking off for greener pastures. Their parents had a brief holiday and are now at it raising young again. But the y must have become tired—this month's offering is a single chick.

Whooops!

The barn is nice and honey now with neat daubed beams and stringy cobwebs. But there was a time when it looked raw and new. In fact there was a time it didn't have a roof.

Mack worked on the barn in his spare time which meant it took most of one summer to complete. We had to rush to finish the stalls in early November so we could get the horses in during a cold wet spell.

One stinking, hot summer day, I took the kids to the park with a friend. Mack had just completed the concrete block walls and wanted to use his free afternoon to try and get the beams up. Feeling he'd do better on his own with a block and tackle than with my dubious help, he waved us goodbye and cheerfully slung his rope over the frame and attached it to his trusty jeep.

Several hours later, we returned to find the jeep gone, a mess of beams lying in a heap and half the barn wall collapsed.

After searching the ruins for Mack and sighing with relief that he wasn't hurt, I then began to worry about him having left home for good.

"Oh, lordy, he's just quit and run away from home," I thought.

There was nothing to do but wait and see. He turned up at dusk in much better shape than I expected.

"I broke the barn," he commented cheerfully—somewhat of an understatement.

The beams eventually were placed after the wall was rebuilt; the roof finished, the stalls completed and the horses in residence.

It's a nice little barn, cosy and bright, and it's always full of bursting, just like a good barn should be.

by Doris Fines
Mr. and Mrs. James Taylor, Leanne and Bob, and Ken Boyes spent two weeks holidays at their cottage at Huntsville. While there they took a tour in their Model A antique car around Port Carling, Port Sandfield and Bracebridge.

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Howes returned home much refreshed from a week's vacation at Park Lodge at Bayfield. Their family all enjoyed a day at the beach with them while they were there.

Deborah and Eric Wynne have completed their Red Cross Safety course in swimming at the Acton pool. Deborah completed her Pre-Junior on Aug. 9, and Eric his Junior on Aug. 10. Congratulations. That is a worthwhile endeavor.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Wynne, Deborah and Eric visited on Sunday at the home of Mrs. Wynne's brother Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Liberty and their family. Steven, Michelle and Nicole, of Agincourt. Her brother James Liberty, and her mother Mrs. Maurice Liberty of Agincourt were also there. They were celebrating the happy occasion of Mrs. Liberty Sr.'s birthday.

Mr. and Mrs. Ward Bruce accompanied by Mrs. Bruce's sister and brother-in-law Mr. and Mrs. Ed Arhildal of Acton, spent a few days at Grundy Lake.

Mr. and Mrs. Garnet Bruce of Mississauga, and Mrs. Bruce's niece Genevieve Cyr, visited on Sunday with Garnet's parents Mr. and Mrs. Ward Bruce.

Mrs. Thomas Fines and Doris enjoyed a visit from Mr. and Mrs. Ed Arhildal of Guelph, on Sunday evening.