



PROFILES

with Jennifer Barr

The world of photography, amateur or professional, usually attracts men in their twenties. Iva Knechtel is neither male nor twenty but she is one of the finest nature photographers this part of the country has ever seen.

Anyone who has sat enthralled through her beautifully choreographed slide shows will appreciate the sensitivity, patience, and care that goes into every one of Iva's photographs.

After the kids, a camera
Yet she wasn't born with a 400 mm lens screwed in her eye socket. In fact she didn't have a chance to take up photography till eleven years ago when she was looking forward to retirement. She says she always yearned to take up the hobby but couldn't afford the time or investment until her two boys were grown.

At a time when most women are taking up pottery or going back to college, Iva started crawling around her garden on her hands and knees with her first single lens reflex trying to get a bug to sit still long enough to have his picture taken.

When she first bought her camera Iva did something very few people do—she read her instruction manual. She's a firm believer in teaching herself and learned by trial and error initially.

However she did join the Humber Valley Camera Club. She lived in Toronto at the time, and eventually found herself president of the club.

She feels a camera club can be invaluable help for someone willing to learn after they have learned the basics of camera operation.

Iva says she progressed very rapidly because she has a competitive nature and wanted to produce good pictures in the shortest possible time.

"If you want to do something badly enough you'll work at it."

She found that it wasn't necessary to have a natural creative flair, this can be learned. An artistic eye can be acquired she says and feels a camera club teaches the art of composition well.

"Instruction with experts in a camera club can help you find out the best way to approach a subject and do it justice."

Very few women become serious about camera club, Iva adds, commenting most of the women in her club were content to "tag along and carry their husbands' bags."

Travel inspiring
Since "retiring" (she and husband Ross are busier than ever) to live in Acton six years ago, Iva

has had time to travel and indulge her love of nature photography all over the country.

The Knechtels have travelled Canada from "north to south, east to west". They have visited the Arctic, the Territories, Maritimes, Vancouver and all places between.

Favorite spots for Iva are Newfoundland and the Bay of Fundy as well as the west coast of Vancouver Island.

Pictures from these trips form the basis of a delightful slide show entitled "Only in Canada". Professionally narrated by Iva with music and artistic titles, the show pictures the best of our country's variety.

Another slide show, "The Best Things in Life", features some of Iva's favorite nature photography accompanied by whimsical music.

These popular shows have been seen by clubs, churches and organizations over southern Ontario.

Iva hopes to compile another show from seascape photography she plans to take in New England this fall while attending a photographic convention in Connecticut.

Seagulls and snakes
As advice for any new photographer afraid of the complications of a "fancy" camera, Iva says to read the manual and go out and take pictures.

"Keep at it—it takes perseverance and practice."

As for nature photography Iva says you have to be a bit of a naturalist and know something about nature. She also adds you must be willing to forfeit your dignity. She often wonders what her neighbors think of her crawling around in the dew!

Iva is depreciating about her photography talent but anyone who has been moved by her sunsets, seagulls, and emerald snakes knows Iva Knechtel has a very special camera-eye view of God's world.



IVA KNECHTEL



XI DELTA BETA Sorority is the first group to donate funds for Halton Women's Place. The sorority gave \$129 to help with the fund raising campaign. Sorority service chairman Bev Wheatcroft, left, is with Women's Place board member Ann Burlison, Women's Place board chairman Terry Grubbe and sorority president Lynda Tyrrell. Women's Place is setting up a hostel for abused women and their dependants in Halton.

Nancy Patterson to attend camp

Nancy Patterson has been selected to attend the Ontario Music Leadership Camp this June on Lake Couchiching. Nancy, a grade 11 student at Acton High School, will join selected music students from all

over Ontario for the ten day leadership course. Students trained at this camp return to their schools equipped to lead small ensembles, organize musical productions and generally assist the music teacher in all aspects of the performance program.

Nancy, the daughter of Hugh and Marion Patterson, studied flute with Dr. George Elliott in the Acton Citizens' Band before starting high school. She began learning bassoon while at Acton High School and has become a skilled performer on both instruments. She plays with the high school band, the Acton Citizens' Band, the Guelph Concert Band and the Guelph Youth Symphony. She will also be attending the Inter-Provincial Music Camp at Manitowabing this August.

Voters turn out at advance polls

Voter turnout at advance polls for Tuesday's federal election was described as "good compared to other years" by Joe Anderson, returning officer for Halton riding.

Mr. Anderson said he did not have exact numbers of those who voted because they were not available at press time. Polls closed last night.

There are 64,755 eligible voters in Halton said Mr. Anderson.

The results of the polls will not be tabulated until 9 p.m. Tuesday, an hour after polls close on election night.

Mr. Anderson said by that time, the election day polls should have all reported to the returning office at the Oak-Queen Mall in Oakville.

From there, he said, the results would be flashed to the parties' individual campaign headquarters.

Nurses accept increase

Halton's registered nurses will receive \$13,860 a year and those with eight years' experience \$16,180 following contract ratification in Toronto.

The new contract raises the salaries of public health nurses to \$15,090 while those with eight years' experience will receive \$17,390 a year.

before going to conciliation.

The one year contract represents a six per cent increase.

The 52-member Local One of the Ontario Nurses Association accepted the offer a week ago Monday after a conciliation meeting.

Local president Patricia Couchman said, "We weren't extremely happy with the contract, but we felt it was the best we were going to get."

She said the aim had been parity with hospital nurses.

The contract has only minimal effect on benefits.

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In town

Bus service study costs jump

The cost of operating a bus service through town has risen dramatically since the transit study conducted in 1976, John Schaal of the Ministry of Transportation told Halton Hills general committee, Monday night. He showed the cost of the same service had risen from \$90,000 to \$113,300 a year, and projected a deficit of \$71,500 a year.

This bus service would not include Moore Park area. To add a service to Moore Park, according to the MTC updated study, would cost an additional \$75,000 since one more

vehicle would be needed. The report added that if the service travelled only to Moore Park plaza the costs would be cut considerably and might be offset by anticipated revenue.

A fare of 30 cents was projected in all cases. An industrial service, operating only four hours a day at peak times, would cost another \$20,000 with an anticipated deficit of \$18,500 and the town's share of the deficit at \$13,500. A service within the Acton area is estimated at \$72,000 up from \$46,800 in the

1976 study, with an expected deficit of \$61,300 and the town's share of the deficit at \$43,300.

An hourly bus service, for 12 hours a day, six days a week between Acton and Georgetown would cost \$81,000, and according to Schaal there would be no subsidy since GO transit already provides a service.

Councillor Mike Armstrong contended the costs were too high and said he could see no way it could be done. He suggested the report be "buried" right then and there.

He said it is obvious the costs have risen

drastically but the population has not increased at all since the last study. "So now there are the same number of people to pay the higher costs."

Councillor Roy Booth felt it deserved at least consideration.

Mayor Pete Pomeroy said some interest had been shown in the private sector, so the opportunity should be given to see the figures.

The transit study was referred to staff for a report.

A man for all seats?

A Nassagaweya resident woke up Sunday morning to a surprise on his front lawn.

Forty election signs advertising Progressive Conservative, Liberal and NDP candidates decorated the entire lawn and both sides of the driveway of R.A. Coates, Second Line, Nassagaweya.

According to Halton Regional Police, the "practical joke" is believed to have been carried out during the early morning hours of that day.

Police said numerous campaign signs have been reported stolen from Campbellville, Oakville and Burlington areas recently.

PC campaign representative Roy Wood of Campbellville reported \$200 worth of "Elect Otto Jelinek" signs stolen from a trailer sometime Saturday.

The thefts are not a first time incident, said police, but occur in almost every election.

All signs planted in Mr. Coates' lawn were returned to the respective parties.

Voting begins at 9 a.m.

The polls will open at 9 a.m. Tuesday, May 22nd, for some 15 million Canadians who are eligible to vote in the 31st Federal General Election.

Voting in the country's 292 electoral districts will end at 8 p.m. local time.

If you live in an urban area, your name must be on the list of voters in order to cast a ballot. But if you are a rural voter, you may vote (even if your name is not on the list) provided you are vouched for by another elector whose name is on the voters' list of your polling division.

The electoral districts of Canada are divided into some 60,000 polling divisions, each with a

polling station or place to vote.

The Returning Officer of each district appoints a deputy and a polling clerk for each polling station.

If you have never voted before, here's what to expect when you enter your polling station:

—You will give your name to the deputy returning officer who will check to see that your name is on the official voters' list. If so, you will receive a ballot for marking in a polling booth nearby.

—On the ballot paper you will find the names of the candidates listed alphabetically, and the political affiliation (if any) of each candidate printed under his name.

You will vote for one candidate by marking an "X" in the circle beside his name. Any ballot marked in any other way will be invalid. No ballot will be accepted which contains any mark that will identify the voter.

—You will then refold the ballot and give it to

the deputy returning officer. He will deposit it into the ballot box.

After the closing of the poll, the ballot box will be opened in the presence of agents of the candidates and each candidate may be represented at the poll by no more than two agents.

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