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with
**Bruce
Hood**



'Open skies' means lots to you!

If you don't fly, maybe not, (doesn't everyone fly at one time or another?) but for those who do - OPEN SKIES - the reference to the taking off of controls by governments basically of 'who can fly where and what to charge' is a real boost, not without some glitches along the way though, and is changing the travel market fast!

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Merging, buy-ins, partnerships, code sharing, new airlines carriers coming - and going; all make for a very interesting business, with changes daily, and sometimes hourly! The most recent - CAPPING OFF COMMISSIONS to the travel agents in Canada is another step along this path leading into the year 2000. Effect on you the traveller - it is supposed to save the airlines many \$\$\$ - will they pass the savings along to you?

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AMERICAN AIRLINES buying into CANADIAN; then AIR CANADA associated with what seemed like every other carrier for a while, and now the announcement of a WORLDWIDE ALLIANCE between American, Canadian and BRITISH AIRWAYS is another step along this trail. More routes, better connections, better fares - it's all happening!

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Stay tuned, sit back and relax, and enjoy the excitement - as you, the air traveller, benefit. Hey, you can't lose - it's time to travel, so call your travel agent!

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Even RAIL TRAVEL is getting into the act to get more people travelling with them. VIA RAIL has come out with its reward program for frequent rail users called VIA PREFERENCE. Well, why not, it doesn't cost anything to join and you may decide to 'take the train' more often. Many do now. Call 1-888-VIA-PREFER for information, or call your professional travel agency.

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Did you know Dept. - Speaking of open skies and more air service, the number of air carriers serving SOUTH AFRICA has increased from 17 two years ago to 75 now, since their democratic elections! Many more tours going there now too.

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TRAVEL TIP OF THE WEEK: Drive defensively - you don't like to think about the possibility of your vehicle breaking down when you travel, but you should carry items to assist in the event you do. We had this problem recently - thank goodness for our mobile phone!

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Fairy Lake featured by historical society

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK
The Acton Tanner

From a soggy, stinky swamp to an 88-acre lake, the evolution of Acton's Fairy Lake was revealed at a recent meeting of the Esqueving Historical Society.

The night lived up to its billing as a walk down memory lane as numerous Acton residents recounted their stories about the lake and Prospect Park.

Acton resident Jessie Coles outlined the lake's early history, reading from a recent *Acton Tanner* editorial by her nephew, Hartley Coles, that told of a swamp being turned into a mill pond and then a lake after a tributary of Black Creek was blocked.

Mrs. Coles said her first memory of the lake was when Beardmore Tannery superintendent J.M. (Bud) MacDonald threatened to throw her and his daughter Urana into the lake if they didn't go in on their own to learn to swim.

"I also remember coming to the park for picnics and of course the Fall Fairs. There was also fishing and boating on the lake and in the winter there was skating and the McClellan brothers cut ice from the lake for people with ice boxes.

"I also remember the old grandstand when it was over by the Legion," Coles said.

Some of Acton historian Mac Sprowl's strongest

memories of the lake and park are during the war years when he was a high school student.

"I remember that we used to clear the snow off the lake behind where the boathouse is now so we could play hockey games with huge teams," Sprowl said.

"The arena was closed and filled with wool so we couldn't use it. I also remember that Bob Wallace lost a team of horses when they broke through the ice as he was clearing it over by the dam."

When several at the meeting said that they remembered the horrid smells that emanated from the tannery, Acton resident Bob Landsborough, who now lives on the Lake Avenue in the home his grandmother and step-grandfather built in 1891, recounted that during his first year of university his summer job was to put perfume drops into the tannery effluent as part of an experiment to reduce the smell.

Landsborough, who brought numerous old photos and maps of the lake and park to the meeting, said that he found a reference to an area of the lake known as The Breezes in a 1921 newspaper article.

That mention caused a flood of memories from people who recalled the radial railway that crossed the lake and the huge picnic gatherings that took place at The Breezes.

Although several people at the meeting had stories about the wildlife and especially the snapping turtles in Fairy Lake, Park Avenue resident Shirley McKeown's story drew the most laughs.

"When I was a girl we lived in the Beardmore houses on Cameron Street and these great big turtles

would come right up on the shore," McKeown said.

"Some of the big ones were the size of an old aluminum wash tub and we'd run right up and jump on their backs to get a ride. Well, one day my father saw us and he said that those turtles could snap a leg off and he scared me and I never did it again."

Wrapping up the night, Historical Society archivist Mark Rowe said the meeting would help preserve some of Acton's history.

"We captured these stories on tape and we now will have these memories in our archives so the history of Fairy Lake will never be forgotten," Rowe said.

Lake enthusiasts take plunge

To several Actonites, Fairy Lake is much more than just a pretty spot for a picnic or a lovely setting for the Fall Fair.

For some, including Joan and Vic Morris, Fairy Lake is their daily exercise.

The Morris's swim at least once, if not twice a day in the lake and have been doing so ever since the lake was dredged in 1967.

Joan Morris, who grew up swimming in the North Sea, is braver than her husband - she was in the lake on May 17 this year although she usually begins her swims at the end of April.

"I prefer the cold water," explains Joan Morris as she laughs that her husband says she has anti-freeze for blood. "We swim over to the boat-

house and back and it's really quite lovely, and sometimes Wilma Geng also swims."

Morris says she is careful to never swallow the water and doesn't worry about the ducks and geese in the lake because they never bother them.

"It's too bad that more people don't use the lake because it is really nice."

MP Reed looking for input on jobs and small business

Halton-Peel MP Julian Reed has asked for input from constituents, following the creation of the National Caucus Task Force on Jobs and Small Business.

Joe Fontana, chair of the national Liberal caucus and member of parliament for London East established the task force.

"This move shows that the members of national caucus

are determined to take a proactive role in the area of job growth and support to small business," Reed said in a press release. "We all recognize the importance that small businesses play in creating new and lasting jobs for Canadians."

The task force is representative of all regions of Canada since its members were appointed by regional

caucuses and policy committees. Members will meet over the summer months and will report back to the national caucus in mid-October.

Reed intends to play a very active role in reporting to the task force over the next few months.

"Job creation and small business growth is a top priority in Halton-Peel," he said. "I am inviting the residents of the riding to contact me with policy ideas and recommendations in the area of jobs and growth. I will then present them to my caucus colleagues - we want to see some specific policy initiatives come out of this exercise."

Comments can be sent to: Office of Julian Reed MP, Room 208 Wellington Building, House of Commons, Ottawa, ON, K1A 0A6 or via Email at reedj@parl.gc.ca.

Dan C. Dolliver

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- Insure your home and store valuables in a safety deposit box.
- Give your home the "lived-in" look, with automatic timers. Have mail, newspapers, etc., picked up, lawns cut or snow removed when you are away from home.
- Trim all shrubs, trees, etc., so that doors and windows are in clear view.
- Be cautious of con games and consumer frauds. Don't sign contracts without expert opinions.
- Check references of all individuals you employ to work in your home.

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You can choose from the Acton or Georgetown Indoor Pools or the Dick Licata Outdoor Pool. Dick Licata is only available for three sessions.

Evening classes are also available, but are offered at the indoor pools only.

The lottery process is now complete and registrations are being accepted on a first come, first serve basis.

For more information, check your 1996 Spring/Summer Brochure or call the program information hotline at 873-2600, ext. 275.

See YOU at the pool!