

Huronion Soaring Association proves that

## Soaring isn't just for the birds

by Shirley Whittington  
Soaring is not entirely for the birds — not according to the members of the Huronia Soaring Association. Once a week they meet in a cleared field near Coldwater to pursue their graceful, elegant sport. They fly with, and like, the birds. Soaring is accomplished in a sail plane which is mostly wings. The narrow fuselage accommodates one or two people and stays aloft like a paper airplane — the air going over and under the wing creates a lift. The soaring pilot circles within a column of warm air and a good one can stay aloft for hours. He never runs out of fuel if the weather is right.

How do soaring pilots find their sustaining thermals? They watch the birds, for one thing, because birds use the same theory for their flight — which is why you see them circling lazily and unflappably in a summer sky.

Pilots also look for small puffy cumulus cloud which are often an indication of thermal activity. What's on the ground beneath them can also be an indication of where to expect thermals. The air heats up over sand and gravel pits, and large chunks of tarmac.

Soaring or gliding is not a dangerous sport. Speeds are about 50 air miles an hour, and pilots have complete control over their craft which are equipped with the same controls and dials as power planes — except that there's no fuel gauge and no motor to worry about. The plane has an ingenious set of flaps and spoilers, which can change its altitude and direction. Deployment of these systems keeps the glider pilot's hands and feet busy.

There are three ways to get the sail planes airborne. The Huronia Association uses a tow plane, and they have three qualified tow pilots — Mark Badior, Gerhard

Emke and Al Macmenemy.

Other clubs use a tow plane, or a winched catapult. The glider pilot gives the signal and the sail plane is released. It hovers for a precious minute, and then the pilot begins his maneuvering. Gliders don't fall down, and this is a feature that may reassure those who are timid about venturing heavenward in a motorless craft. "It is natural for a glider to fly," says Clay Young, president of the Huronia Soaring Association, "and when it comes down, it comes down gently."

He calls soaring "a different kind of thrill. It's a challenge to take the plane and be part of it. It's a feeling of being one with nature."

And it is easy to feel like a bird up there, with no sound but the rushing of the wind across the wings.

"There's no pressure in soaring," says Young, "although you gotta keep sharp to perfect a landing that isn't sloppy." Not sloppy means travelling down the runway with the craft neatly balanced on one wheel until momentum is lost, when the plane tips gently over onto the skid at wing tip.

"The big concern when you come down," says Young, "is 'Did you find a thermal?' and 'Were you smooth in your landing?' If not, it's no big deal." Young has such confidence in the safety of the sport that he often takes his six-year-old son aloft with him. "He loves it."

Other more highly competitive clubs concentrate on how high and how far glider pilots go, and some clubs sponsor cross country events.

The Huronia Soaring Association began in 1973 with a couple of dozen enthusiasts who chipped in \$150 each with which they bought their first glider. They now have two crafts — a Schweizer 2-22 two place trainer, and a Schweizer 1-23 high performance single seater. Both are frequently inspected and carry certificates of air worthiness.

The craft are designed to be disassembled. The wings can be taken off so that the sail planes can be loaded on to a trailer for transport.

Full membership in the Huronia Soaring Association costs \$575 and this includes voting rights and an equipment fee. This equipment fee is 80 per cent refundable if the member has to leave.

Associate membership fees are \$105 annually, and they pay for flying time. Young estimates that this costs between \$15 and \$20 a weekend. Young insists that soaring as a sport is no more expensive than power boating.

Once you become a member, you can start flying immediately providing you pass a Ministry of Transport approved physical examination. After some time with an experienced pilot (about 35 dual flights on the average) and instruction on safety procedures, basic soaring

and the theory of flight, the student will probably be ready for his first thrilling solo. After a number of successful solo flights, he'll apply for his Glider pilot's license which involves a recommendation from the chief instructor and a written examination.

The Huronia Soaring Association is Simcoe County's only club. They soar Sundays and holidays, and hope to soon

include Saturday in their schedule. They welcome interested visitors, and a phone call to Clay Young at 526-9946 will provide directions on how to find the field the group rents for take-off and landing.

Soaring is not a dare-devil sport. It's thrilling, in a quiet self-fulfilling way. Gentle, quiet, exhilarating — it's the closest thing to feeling as free as a bird.

## Bowling league ends season

The 1976 season for the Nursing Home Bowlers came to an end last Friday.

The league formed in November of this year and was funded by a Local Initiative Program grant. The grant has now run out and the league is looking for an alternative way of funding their program.

The bowling league is open to the residents of Huronia Nursing Home in Penetanguishene, the Villa Nursing Home in Midland and Jav-Haro in

Coldwater. The bowlers, who range in age from 75-80, have been bowling every Friday throughout the winter at the Knights of Columbus Centre in Penetanguishene.

The time and equipment used by the Nursing Home Bowlers was rented free of charge by Sid Brodeur of the centre.

A band concert will be held in June in Little Park to raise money for the continuation of the program.



If your vegetables and fruit bushes are getting bugged...

Get Green Cross Deritox

—the effective general-purpose insecticide. Kills most types of sucking and chewing insects that attack vegetable crops or fruit bushes.

• Contains Rotenone—poisons insects on contact, leaves no residue.  
• Keeps fruit and vegetables safe for human consumption.



**GREEN CROSS**  
The lawn and garden problem solvers.

NEW HOLLAND  
Farm  
Equipment  
BEATTY  
Pump and  
Water  
Systems  
DORITY  
FARM  
SERVICE  
428-2346  
Main St.W. Stayner

## Homemakers complete one year of operation

The end of May will complete one year of operation for the Homemakers' Service of the Huronia Branch of the

Red Cross Society. The program was instituted with five homemakers and there are now 17 homemakers

in the service of this program with an average of 10 women working regularly in the Huronia area. Home making

service has been extended to include homes from Highland Point in the north to Fergusonvale in the South and from the Tiny Beaches area in the West to Waubashene in the East.

The Homemakers' Committee report that 34 new cases have been served in 1976 to the end of April.

Transportation costs have been reduced and the program enters its

second year of operation running smoothly.

Anyone requiring the services of a homemaker in their home is urged to contact the program supervisor, Mrs. Isabel Jones, R.R. No. 1, Midland, or 526-7210.

The Homemaker Service is one of many programs instituted by the Huronia Branch of the Red Cross Society since its inception February, 1975.

## Drama at Alliance Church

"No Time for Tombstones" will be dramatized on stage by the Portrait Players of Canadian Bible College Canadian Theological College from Regina, Saskatchewan at the Alliance Church, in Midland Thursday, May 20th at 8:00 p.m., First and Elizabeth Streets.

"No Time for Tombstones" was adapted for stage by Clyde Walker, from the book by James and Marti Hefley of the same title. It tells of the life and death struggle of Mike Bengé and missionaries Betty Olsen and Hank Blood during the 1968 Tet offensive of the Viet Nam war. The play is movingly presented and accompanied by an excellent original musical score composed by Mel Bowker.

The Portrait Players are on a tour which will

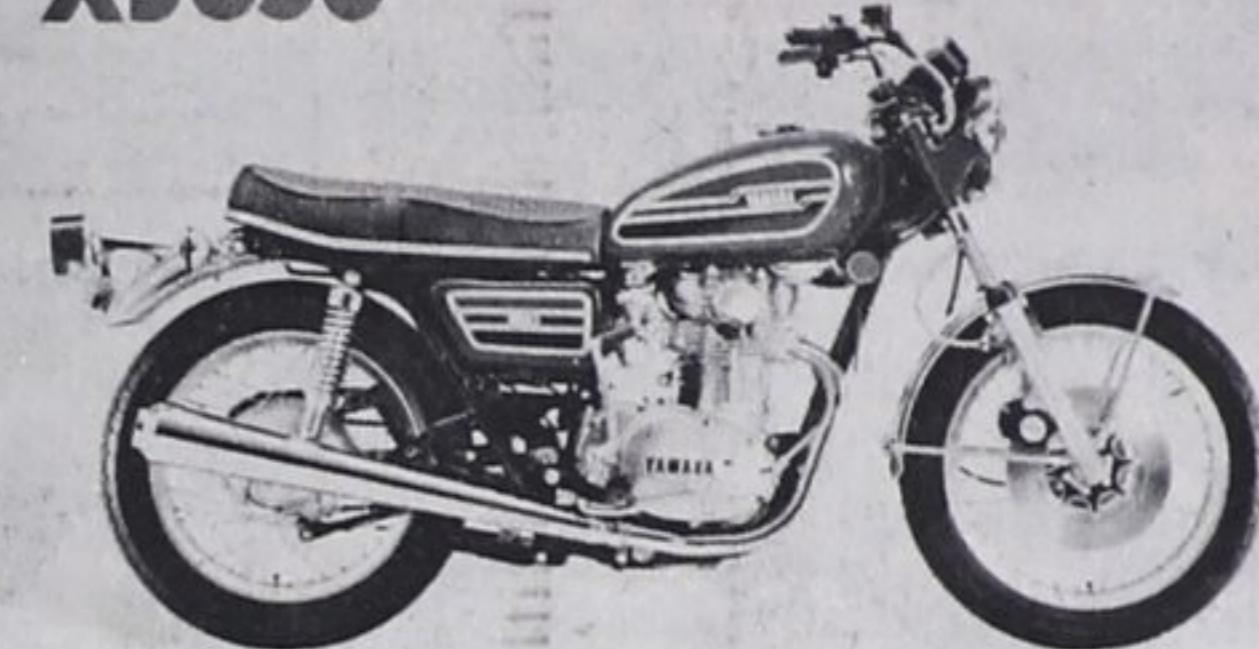
include churches of the Christian and Missionary Alliance in Eastern Canada and parts of the United States.

The pastor of the church, Rev. J. Frost extends a cordial invitation to the public to attend.

## MOVING OUT SALE

— All Stock to Move at Really Low Prices! —

XS650



YAMAHA XS 650 \$1850.00

DT 250 \$1150.00

DT 100 \$795.00

FINAL WEEK!

TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THESE LOW PRICES.

The **SMALL ENGINE SHOP**  
In Downtown Waverley  
**WAVERLEY 322-1960**

HELMETS  
\$15.95

Bay Lift Jack  
\$800.00

Coca Cooler  
\$125.00

Wheel Balancer  
\$125.00

Office  
Desk & Chair  
\$100.00

THE POOL SHOPPE BAYFIELD ST. THE POOL SHOPPE BAYFIELD ST. THE POOL SHOPPE BAYFIELD ST. THE POOL SHOPPE BAYFIELD ST. THE POOL SHOPPE BAYFIELD ST.

## "Where Summer Begins"

DIVE INTO A NEW WORLD OF FAMILY FUN

Children naturally take to water — and a pool for your children is the finest gift you can imagine. You'll watch them develop firm bodies and an alert outlook on group play. They'll grow up in a home that puts wholesome, healthy activity above all else.

For dad, there's nothing better than a refreshing swim after work, to clear the mind and perk up a good appetite for dinner. And, mom will look years younger with a pool to keep her trim and tanned.

Your friends and business associates can now be entertained in a prestige atmosphere that's unequalled for parties, bridge games and barbecues.

**16 X 32 DELUXE INGROUND KIT**  
42" 14 ga. C/B Galv. Steel Walls  
16 or 20 Braces & Posts  
30 mill Winterized Liner  
Jacuzzi Sand Filter 208T2  
Inwall Skimmer  
2 Return Fittings & Eye Balls  
Main Drain  
Hydrostatic Relief Valve  
Separation Tube  
2 Step Ladder  
2 Wedge Anchors  
Deluxe Vacuum Head  
16" Telescopic Vacuum Pole  
35', 40' or 45' Vacuum Hose  
Instruction Book  
6" PVC Coping  
4 Contour Corners  
Expansion Caps  
Patio Stone Ledge  
Chlorine  
Maintenance Kit

**\$2495.00**  
PLUS ONTARIO SALES TAX

- Installation quotations on request.
- Also special prices on above ground pools to suit your own back yard.
- Come in and browse around in our outdoor pool court — our friendly pool consultants will assist you

with any information regarding pool maintenance or installation.  
• We carry a complete line of JACUZZI, COLECO and SWAN parts and chemicals to ensure your family the most pleasure from your new pool.

FREE Delivery on orders of \$25.00 or more

# The Pool Shoppe

BAYFIELD ST., BARRIE, ONTARIO  
(Right behind MacDonalds)

12 YEARS EXPERIENCE IN INSTALLATION AND SERVICE  
726-3741 726-3741

THE POOL SHOPPE BAYFIELD ST. THE POOL SHOPPE BAYFIELD ST. THE POOL SHOPPE BAYFIELD ST. THE POOL SHOPPE BAYFIELD ST.

Brooklea Golf & Country Club  
Hwy. 27 Midland — 526-9872

'TRY THE COURSE'

... one week unlimited golf \$10.00

inquire about unlimited play

★ Mon-Fri. ★

★ Seasonal Membership ★

★ Smorgasbord ★

... Open to the Public

each Sunday commencing

May 23 5:30 to 7:30

★ \$4.75 ★

— Children 11 and under—\$3.00

★ Reservations ★