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# EARLY WEEK SPECIALS

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Wednesday & Saturday  
Now Open  
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8190 Bayview Avenue,  
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Bus driver Chuck Saulnier takes skis from one ski bee early Wednesday morning for a buzz down the Collingwood hills. — Sjoerd Witteveen

## Markham's ski bees swarm to the slopes

By BRUCE ETHERIDGE

Markham's ski bees — their logo a wobbly bee on skis — have been arranging ski outings for local residents for over 14 years.

Founded by former Markham residents Mary Fleming and Betty Jane Hunter, the ski bees were originally created to give mothers a day's outing away from their children.

"It was a morale builder for mothers at home," Mrs. Fleming said. "In our day mothers didn't go out to work so much. They were around their children all the time. This was a way of getting away from their children for a day and also getting some exercise too."

Since those early days, the ski bees have grown in numbers. Bunny Kent, current director of the ski bees and one of the program's first instructors, says the ski bees currently have 92 members and have 15-20 more people on a waiting list.

"We're going to add a third bus next year," Mrs. Kent said.

While originally designed for housewives and mothers, Mrs. Kent said 12 men now belong to the group.

"The men take a day off work as part of their holidays to go skiing with us," Mrs. Kent said.

The program offers seven ski trips during the season.

For six full-day sessions of instruction the cost is \$170. Half-day lessons with free skiing in the afternoon is \$160. For transportation and skiing privileges, only, the cost is \$118. The seventh session is a free ski day without instruction.

Full-time instructors are recruited from local ski resorts on their days off. Skiing is arranged at various resorts in the Collingwood area.

The ski bees take applications in September and by November have the season's ski schedule worked out. Member's ages range between 20 and 70.

The ski bees leave Wednesday mornings at 8 a.m. returning to Markham about 6 p.m.

**CHANGE OF LOCATION**  
**EFFECTIVE MONDAY, JANUARY 26th, 1987**  
**THE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT**  
**AND**  
**THE ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT**  
**OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF MARKHAM**  
**WILL BE LOCATED AT**  
**30 CENTURIAN DRIVE, MARKHAM, ONTARIO**  
**THE TELEPHONE NUMBER AND LOCALS WILL REMAIN UNCHANGED**

# MARKHAM

477-7000