

# CAROLINIAN CANADA



Newsletter

APRIL 2000

## A Legacy of Generosity in Nature Protection

*This story is an excerpt from an article which originally appeared in the March 2000 issue of The Wood Duck, the newsletter of the Hamilton Naturalists' Club.*

Generosity is the hallmark of the members of the Hamilton Naturalists' Club. In the last forty years we have collected and donated over \$450,000 towards our goals of preserving, protecting and enhancing the natural environment. A recently compiled a list of Club donations (including the acquisition of our own nature sanctuaries) documents a remarkable record of volunteers making a real difference with their dollars, especially in the preservation of natural areas.

The list begins in 1961 when the Club spent \$4,500 acquiring Spooky Hollow sanctuary, only three years after establishing a "Wildlife Sanctuary Trust Fund". *Wood Duck* issues from that period reflect a growing concern about the rapidly disappearing natural areas and the slim possibilities that governments at any level would spend money on preserving them. Club President Robert Elstone called on members to take matters into their own hands, noting that everything from art galleries to golf clubs to sanatoriums were owned by volunteer organizations, and that even gun clubs were property owners.

With the purchase of Spooky Hollow, the HNC became the first private organization in Ontario history to acquire a nature sanctuary. Others like the Federation of Ontario Naturalists and the Nature Conservancy of Canada have followed in our footsteps, sometimes with the direct financial assistance of the HNC. We acquired our second sanctuary (Short Hills) in 1967 and have subsequently purchased additions to both, altogether spending a little over \$75,000.

In the same period, the HNC has provided over \$200,000 to other organizations to help them acquire and protect significant natural areas. These groups have included the Hamilton Region Conservation Authority, the Long Point Region Conservation Authority, the Halton Region Conservation Authority, the Bruce Trail Association, the Nature Conservancy of Canada, the Federation of Ontario Naturalists and the World Wildlife Fund. Alongside these allocations for land purchase, the Club has raised and donated nearly \$170,000 for a wide variety of projects. Project Paradise – the restoration of Cootes Paradise and Grindstone Creek – has received \$32,300 and another \$21,496 was provided for a wildlife viewing station in the northeast corner of Hamilton Harbour where other HNC monies helped establish three wildlife islands.

A substantial part of these monies were raised in the Nature Walkathon for the Environment which generated slightly over \$150,000 in the five years it was operated by the HNC, and accounts for about one-third of the monies disbursed by the Club since 1961. Walkathon monies were disbursed to dozens of community organizations who partnered with us in the walkathon and who used the funds for a wide variety of environmental projects in the Hamilton area (including some land acquisition. Walkathon monies also went to major projects, such the Dundas Valley Rail Trail and the Natural Areas Inventory.

The Club also provided \$3,657 to the RBG in the mid-1980s for the development of the George W. North Memorial Wildlife Garden, and donated \$5,837 in the late 1980s to the Taquanyah Bald Eagle hacking and release program. Of course, other monies were spent directly on Club projects such as the ongoing Falconwatch program. These expenditures are not included in the \$450,000 figure.

[Original article by Don McLean](#)

"...a remarkable record of volunteers making a real difference with their dollars..."

### It's membership renewal time!

With the exception of a handful of early renewals, all Carolinian Canada memberships expired on March 31. Please send in your renewal promptly to support our continuing activities. See the current list of members on page four.

**To lead a moral life one must do more than is required and less than is allowed – Plenides**

# Save Clear Creek Forest!

Over 3,000 people have signed in support of The Nature Conservancy of Canada's effort to protect Clear Creek Forest, one of Chatham-Kent's few last large forests. This grassroots enthusiasm – coming together in just two and a half months – has helped to give the green light to NCC's year long \$1.5 M campaign. All current supporters will receive an update by mail in early spring. NCC is asking those who have pledged to send in their donations and to continue to encourage others to get involved. The purchase and sale agreement for the core 576 acre property requires payment by October 2000 in order to complete the deal.

Clear Creek Forest is home to some of the largest trees in southern Ontario and nationally imperiled plant and animal species, such as the Southern Flying Squirrel. With forest cover at less than 4% and declining in this municipality, with no tree-cutting regulations, Clear Creek Forest

stands out as one the few last large woodlands. Excellent interior forest and a diversity of other habitat make it a birding paradise with possibility of becoming both a satellite nature reserve to

Rondeau Provincial Park and a birding stop off to Point Pelee. Red-headed and Pileated Woodpeckers, the endangered Acadian Flycatcher and over 20 'Birds of Concern' in the Municipality frequent the site. Bobwhite Quail has been recorded in the past. The site has been nominated and fulfills criteria as an internationally Important Bird Area.

*"Ecologically, it is irreplaceable since it lies in a sea of modern agriculture"*

- Mathis Natvik,  
Naturalist and  
Farmer

"NCC has a strong commitment to Carolinian Canada, the small, warm pocket in southwestern Ontario sustaining immense natural wealth," said John Grant, NCC's Ontario Regional Director. "Given grassroots support, we would like to do more conservation in this area, which is home to some of the most significant natural areas in Canada! Our approach to conservation offers a win-win for landowners, the public and conservationists."



Photo  
James  
Duncan

**" Somebody ought to do something!"**

**How often have you heard this lament? In the case of Clear Creek that somebody is you. Pull out your cheque book now and send a personal contribution to:**

**Clear Creek Campaign  
Nature Conservancy of Canada  
121 Wyndham St. N, Suite 202, Guelph ON N1H 4E9**

**Many Events and Tours are planned for Clear Creek. Contact the NCC the latest details at 1-877-343-3532**

## Natural Heritage Buffers "Best Evidence" Conference

**C**arolinian Canada invites you to attend this one day conference of workshops and plenary sessions on buffers for natural areas. We will discuss the need for buffers and how to implement municipal guidelines for protected natural areas.

**T**he intent of this conference is

- to listen to the best evidence about why management of protected natural areas is essential to maintaining the features and functions of different habitats
- to identify where buffers are required
- to identify the necessary characteristics of buffers
- to discuss how to manage buffer zones
- to discuss buffer guidelines for municipal planning
- to move toward a minimum performance standard for buffers in Carolinian Canada

**May 3, 2000**

**King's College**

( University of Western Ontario)

London, Ontario

Registration Fee of \$85 includes refreshments, luncheon and proceedings.

Registration information available online at:  
[http://www.carolinian.org/buffer\\_conference.htm](http://www.carolinian.org/buffer_conference.htm)  
 Or call (519) 873-4631.

This conference is supported by the City of London, The Urban League of London, King's College and other sponsors.

## Call For Nominations for Year 2000 Awards

**C**arolinian Canada is pleased to invite nominations for its 2000 Conservation Awards. This program is designed to promote efforts in conserving the special natural heritage of the Carolinian Canada zone by recognizing outstanding contributions by individuals, corporations, non-profit organizations and government organizations.

Nominations will be for significant activities or accomplishments that have contributed to increased public awareness of the natural diversity of Ontario's Carolinian zone, or have contributed directly to conservation of natural habitats of Carolinian Canada. These include:

- ◆ Publications
- ◆ Events
- ◆ Educational programs
- ◆ Donation of conservation land or easement
- ◆ Contribution towards purchase of conservation land or easement
- ◆ Restoration projects
- ◆ Natural heritage policy or plan
- ◆ Advocacy for natural heritage protection

**N**omination forms are available by request from Carolinian Canada or at our website. Complete nominations will include:

- ◆ the name and contact information of both the nominee and the nominator;
- ◆ a description of the activity or accomplishment for which the nomination is being made
- ◆ Any attachments, such as résumés, photos, news clippings, letters of endorsement etc.

*Carolinian Canada*



In recognition of an outstanding contribution towards the protection of the natural diversity and natural habitats of Ontario's Carolinian zone

**Please submit the completed nominations by June 30, 2000.**

The final selection will be made by the Carolinian Canada Management Committee, and the awards will be presented at the next Conservation Forum.

For additional information, or assistance in preparing a nomination, please contact Don Gordon at Carolinian Canada (519) 873-4631.

# Members 1999-2000 – Time To Renew!

**C**arolinian Canada has two classes of membership: Individuals, who pay \$20 each year and Organizations, which pay \$50. Charitable contributions in excess of these amount are gratefully accepted and receive an official receipt for income tax purposes.

## **Individuals:**

Olive Ireland  
Marion Réaume  
Donald Bucknell  
Charles West  
Anne Redish  
Janet and Ken Dance  
Mary-Jean Page  
Barry Berghorson  
Peter Banks  
Eric Waldron  
Bohdan Kowalyk  
David Martin  
George Francis  
John Nolan  
Sandy Levin  
Margie Wake  
Douglas Bocking  
Mary Ellen Scanlon  
Betty Learmouth  
Pat McLean  
Alice Casselman  
Ric Symmes  
J.H.Cayford  
Carla Carlson  
Lloyd King  
Lindsay Rodger  
Peter Mitchell  
Robert Demers  
Brian Bannon  
Brigid Payne  
Tom Chatterton  
Robert Laker  
Leslie Adams  
Gordon Nelson  
David McInnis

John Todd  
Edward Kott  
Heather Mackey  
Cecil Morris  
Adele Dobkowski  
John & Dorothy Tiedje  
Brett Groves

Bernie VanDenBelt

## **Organizations:**

Ontario Heritage Foundation  
Halton Region Conservation Authority  
Hamilton Naturalists' Club  
Ducks Unlimited  
Parks Canada  
Hamilton Region Conservation Authority  
McIlwraith Field Naturalists  
Wildlife Habitat Canada  
Ontario Forestry Association  
Upper Thames River Conservation Authority  
Resources Improvement Oxford  
Essex Region Conservation Authority  
Wildlands League  
St. Clair Region Conservation Authority  
Lambton Wildlife Incorporated  
BMB Scientific  
Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources  
Association for Canadian Educational Resources  
City of London  
Essex County Field Naturalists  
Norfolk Field Naturalists  
Credit Valley Conservation Authority  
Regional Municipality of Niagara  
Long Point Region Conservation Authority  
Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority  
Regional Municipality of Haldimand-Norfolk  
Norfolk Land Stewardship Council

Ontario Parks  
Society for Ecological Restoration (Ont)  
Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority  
Ontario Federation of Agriculture  
Federation of Ontario Naturalists  
Ridgetown College – JJ Neilson Arboretum  
Sydenham Field Naturalists  
Grand River Conservation Authority  
Forest Gene Conservation Association  
Nature Conservancy of Canada (Ontario)  
Haldimand Stewardship Council  
Thames Valley Native Plant Society  
Lower Grand River Land Trust  
Toronto & Region Conservation Authority  
County of Middlesex  
Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority  
Ontario Parks (SW)  
Catfish Creek Conservation Authority  
Niagara Parks Commission



**To Become a member of Carolinian  
Canada, or to renew a lapsed  
membership just send a cheque for the  
appropriate fee (\$20 or \$50) to  
Carolinian Canada, 659 Exeter Road,  
London, ON, N6E 1L3.  
Thank-you!**

# Funders 2000-2001

**C**arolinian Canada is in the enviable position of having secured the funding needed to undertake our projects for the coming year due to the generous support of the following organizations:

Ontario Power Generation  
Wildlife Habitat Canada  
EJLB Foundation  
The McLean Foundation  
Mountain Equipment Cooperative  
George Cedric Metcalf Charitable Foundation

Helen McCrae Peacock Foundation  
Parks Canada  
Ontario Heritage Foundation  
Ministry of Natural Resources (Ont)  
Natural Heritage Information Centre  
Nature Conservancy of Canada  
Ontario Trillium Foundation  
Shell Environmental Fund  
Sydenham Field Naturalists  
Hamilton Naturalists' Club  
Lambton Wildlife Inc.

# Fund Raising on the Internet

**T**he Internet is proving to be a boon to small organizations seeking funding for environmental projects. Volunteer led groups seeking grants for local projects can now tap into many of the same resources used by large national charities. The best news is that the grant making community has responded with a number of programs that make available large numbers of relatively modest grants aimed at supporting “grassroots” initiatives. In this article we will focus on just a few of the resources available online that may help you fund your group’s next project.

**P**erhaps your first stop should be [CHARITY VILLAGE](http://www.charityvillage.com/charityvillage/fund.html) ([www.charityvillage.com/charityvillage/fund.html](http://www.charityvillage.com/charityvillage/fund.html)). This is a comprehensive site with all kinds of resources for charitable groups, including an exhaustive section of links to funding organizations across Canada and the United States. Charity Village bills itself as Canada’s supersite for the nonprofit sector and it lives up to that claim with 3,000 pages of news, jobs, information and resources for executives, staffers, donors, and volunteers. If philanthropy and volunteerism are part of your world, this is your place.

## The Ontario Trillium Foundation

([www.trilliumfoundation.org](http://www.trilliumfoundation.org)).

Although this foundation has an impressive record of granting in the social service field it is new on the environmental scene. Trillium has just released its new guidelines for 2000-2001 and these have incorporated changes that should make it easier for community groups to access their resources. With its strong tradition of social service funding, Trillium is particularly well-disposed towards local community-led efforts. And with an annual budget of \$100 million they are a formidable player on Ontario’s charitable scene.

## Canada Trust’s Friends of the Environment Foundation

([www.canadatrust.com](http://www.canadatrust.com))

The purpose of the Friends of the Environment Community Fund is to provide funding support for worthwhile community-based initiatives that make a positive difference to the Canadian environment. Local advisory boards, made up of Canada Trust customers and employees, review the applications and make recommendations for funding support according to the established guidelines. Grants will not generally exceed \$10,000. The local advisory boards keep the Community Fund focussed on local priorities. The Foundation also has a Canada Fund for larger scale projects.

## Shell Environmental Fund

([www.shell.ca/community4.htm#sef](http://www.shell.ca/community4.htm#sef))

Established in 1990, the SEF has granted almost \$6.5 million to local projects across the country. The SEF mandate is to help Canadians improve and protect their environment by turning individual and group ideas into action. Since their maximum grant is \$5,000 you can quickly get an idea of how many projects this Fund has supported.

## A Few Tips

**I**f you think raising money is difficult, you should try giving it away! This is no joke, grant makers are always on the look out for high quality, innovative projects and you may have just what they want.

**T**he most common mistake made in fund raising is failing to ask for help. Most grant makers have staff whose job it is to find worthy projects – speak to these people before you submit a proposal and they can help you to succeed.

**S**hotguns are for ducks not dollars. After you have spoken with a potential funder, tailor your application to fit their guidelines and priorities. For smaller projects, one well written application may be all you need.

**L**ess is more. Imagine a stack of 200 or more proposals and then imagine how eloquent a clear and concise one would appear to the person reviewing it.

**N**o Bull. Whether a donation is for \$20 or \$20,000 you owe your donor the truth. Be realistic in describing your project goals and you can expect to develop a good relationship with your funder that could last for years.



# CAROLINIAN CANADA

659 Exeter Road  
London ON N6E 1L3

Phone: 519-873-4631  
Fax: 519-873-4645  
Email: info@carolinian.org



## Publications

### Caring For Your Land

– a stewardship handbook ..... \$10

**Hike Ontario's Guide to Walks in Carolinian  
Canada** by Brad Cundiff ..... \$16.95

**Plants of Carolinian Canada** ..... \$5

**Forest Birds of Carolinian Canada** ..... \$5

**Carolinian Canada Fact Sheets** (set of 6) \$2

**Dorchester Swamp Management Plan** – \$25

**Carolinian Canada Conservation Strategy** –Free

*We're On The Web!*  
[www.carolinian.org](http://www.carolinian.org)

## Management Committee

Paul Smith – Ministry of the Environment (Chair)  
John Ambrose – Canadian Botanical Association (Vice-Chair)  
Peter Banks – Lambton Wildlife Inc. (Treasurer)  
Mike Cadman – Canadian Wildlife Service  
Alice Casselman – Association for Canadian Educational Resources  
Gary Davidson – Director of Planning, County of Huron  
Brett Groves – Sydenham Field Naturalists  
Stuart Mallany – Ministry of Natural Resources  
Wayne MacMillan – Grand River Conservation Authority  
Jim Oliver – Conservation Ontario  
Jo-Anne Rzakki – Hamilton Harbour Watershed Stewardship  
Mary Ellen Scanlon – Ontario Professional Planners Institute  
Bill Stephenson – Parks Canada  
Nancy Walther – Ontario Federation of Agriculture  
Dolf Wynia – Ontario Forestry Association  
Dawn Burke – Ministry of Natural Resources  
Graham Bryan – Federation of Ontario Naturalists  
Kim Gavine – Ontario Heritage Foundation  
Michelle Kanter – Nature Conservancy of Canada (Ontario)

*“You make a living by what you get,  
but you make a life by what you give.”  
- Winston Churchill*

## In Brief

**I**n February of this year the **Grand River Conservation Authority** officially adopted our Conservation [Strategy for the Carolinian Zone of Canada](#), and the [Recovery Plan for Tallgrass Communities](#), developed by World Wildlife Fund and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources. The motion calls for these documents to be integrated into the Authority's **Grand Strategy**.

**W**e are very encouraged by this development and hope that other Conservation Authorities and municipalities will consider similar motions in the future.

**C**opies of the Conservation Strategy are available from Carolinian Canada and both documents can be viewed online at these addresses:

### Conservation Strategy:

<http://www.carolinian.org/Summary.htm>

### Tallgrass Recovery Plan:

<http://www.tallgrassontario.org/recovery.htm>

**T**he Big Picture map is very nearly completed. Using the best available natural heritage data and a sophisticated modeling technique the map illustrates the Carolinian Zone as it could be – a healthy and sustainable natural heritage network, in which human needs are met, and biodiversity is protected. We hope to make the mapping available on the internet and to our various conservation partners in the near future.

**T**he next phase of The Big Picture project is to share the vision with a broader public audience. In the Fall of this year we plan to publish a wall poster version of the Big Picture, accompanied by a colourful tabloid. With these products we hope to communicate how the map was developed and how the vision can be realized gradually through voluntary private stewardship.

**O**ne of our key audiences will be schoolchildren because it will require their efforts and those of their children to restore a healthy equilibrium to our environment. Every journey begins with a single step and with the Big Picture Vision we hope to point the way to a better future.