VIEW FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK



s the publisher and editor of Niagara Escarpment Views, I have great privilege. When something about the Escarpment intrigues me, I can often do research, find an expert, and get a feature article developed. That's how it was with our Crows and Ravens cover story. Some years ago I began noticing that the Crows seemed to be bigger than ever, and were making unusual sounds. I spoke to some naturalists and learned that the Crows were actually Ravens. I was fascinated because I had only ever before seen Ravens up north and on Vancouver Island. They are big birds, vocal and extremely clever. Now they were living in my forest.

Asking some people for recommendations about who knows about Crows and Ravens led me to Bruce Mackenzie, formerly with Hamilton Conservation Authority. I was able to ask him all my questions about these birds, and he crafted an article that is full of good information.

As for photographs, I was fortunate to source eye-opening, jaw-dropping work from Ann Brokelman, Barry Cherriere, Lee Ann Fitzgibbon and Bonnie P. Kinder as well as Bruce Mackenzie. They brought wonderful, educational "views" of Crows and Ravens to this issue. All have my deep appreciation.

Escarpment continues with our other features this season. Through the research of Isobel Harry, a Manitoulin Island writer and photographer, we learn that all of the island is part of the Niagara Escarpment, not just its impressive high points. Her feature on some of the trails on the island gives you information to explore this part of the Escarpment more fully.

Our feature on rock climbing in Beaver Valley, specifically at the Beaver Valley Climbing Festival, opens our eyes to the practices that help protect the unique environment and biodiversity of daunting cliff faces. Climbers these days are learning to "do it" right.

In our Spring 2018 issue Rosaleen Egan led us down the garden path through Norval's Lucy Maud Montgomery Children's Garden of the Senses. In this issue she reveals the plans for the future Lucy Maud Montgomery Museum and Literary Centre in the former manse of the Norval and Union Presbyterian churches. Already designated under the provincial heritage act, the important buildings are hoped to achieve designation as a National Historic Site of Canada.

Delivering stories with impact, written well with beautiful photographs – that has been our mission since we began publishing 10 years ago, and continues to be our focus as we move through our next decade.

What Can You Share?

If you have something related to the Niagara Escarpment that you'd like to learn more about, please let me know. It may be what we'd like to work on in future. And if you know a lot about something Escarpment-related that you'd like to share with others, let me know that too! We may ask you for an interview, or perhaps to write or provide photos or artwork for a future issue.

Because there's always more to learn along the Escarpment.

Gloria Hildebrandt

P.S. Wild animals need wild spaces.

Let us know what you think!

Learning about the

Educational Excellence

Write us at editor@NEViews.ca or Niagara Escarpment Views, 50 Ann St., Georgetown ON L7G 2V2.

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