

Escarpment Views

Since Jan. 2008

a division of 1826789 Ontario Inc.

PUBLISHERS

Mike Davis
Gloria Hildebrandt

EDITOR

Gloria Hildebrandt
editor@EscarpmentViews.ca
905 873 2834

ART DIRECTOR

Branimir Zlamalik, gb.com unlimited

ADVERTISING/ACCOUNTS MANAGER

Mike Davis
ads@EscarpmentViews.ca
905 877 9665

EVENTS EDITOR & ADVERTISING REPRESENTATIVE

Barbara Jennings
barbara.jennings@sympatico.ca
519 833 2403

ADVERTISING REPRESENTATIVE

Jeff Yamaguchi
905 796 7931 x 23
jyamaguchi@promediacomunications.com

WEBSITE DESIGN

Joan Donogh, In-Formation Design

Escarpment Views is published four times a year.

Subscriptions in Canada:

Annual: \$22; Two years: \$39.50 HST included.

Subscriptions to the U.S.:

Annual: \$35; Two years: \$65 Canadian funds. PayPal available at www.EscarpmentViews.ca

Delivered by Canada Post



Publications Mail #41592022

The publishers of *Escarpment Views* are not responsible for any loss or damage caused by the contents of the magazine, whether in articles or advertisements. Views expressed might not be those of its publishers or editor.

Please contact us concerning advertising, subscriptions, story ideas and photography. Your comments are welcome!

Letters to the editor may be edited for space and published in the magazine, on the website or in print materials.

Escarpment Views, 50 Ann St.
Halton Hills, (Georgetown) ON L7G 2V2
editor@EscarpmentViews.ca
www.EscarpmentViews.ca

All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part is prohibited without the permission of the copyright holders or under licence from Access Copyright. Contact the publishers for more information.

ISSN 1916-3053



Printed on paper with recycled content.

View From the Editor's Desk: THE BOUNTY OF NATURE

One of the 27 people who were honoured in January with The Order of Ontario is **Charles Garrad**, who contributed photos to, and was interviewed for the article "Mysteries of Ekarenniondi, 'The Rock that Stands Out'" [Summer 2011]. Garrad was recognized for being Ontario's longest serving licensed archaeologist, and for helping to register more than 90 archaeological sites in Ontario. We are delighted to add our congratulations!

Also in January, as a media sponsor for the Guelph Organic Conference, we attended an interesting keynote forum by **Miriam MacGillis** and **Margaret Webb** about agricultural transformation. Before the formal talk began, we chatted with **Monique Blais**, a biodynamic beekeeper with Whole Circle Farms of Acton. Now I have a slight interest in beekeeping because my father keeps one hive. Last fall he told me he didn't want to harvest all of the bees' honey. "They work all summer making honey for the winter, and then we take all their honey and leave them sugar water," he said. I had to agree that it didn't seem fair.

Monique mentioned that she doesn't take any honey until the blossoms are open in spring. She hasn't lost any bee colonies over the winter, either. Perhaps there's a connection? She said that she and "a woman in Collingwood" are practising biodynamic beekeeping. Later, at a reception hosted by USC Canada, where Southbrook organic wine was poured generously, we met **Linda Proudfoot** of Pretty River Inn, a new advertiser with us, and it turns out that she is that "woman in Collingwood." Small world.

Dessert at this reception was Linda's homemade shortbread cookies and four kinds of honey to sample, including Monique's. While all the honeys were excellent, I was amazed at the smooth creaminess of one honey without a hint of crys-



talization, or turning to sugar. When I asked the beekeeper, **Marianne Shlueter**, about her honey, she said she does nothing to it, and that the honey she was serving dates back to 2008! Then she silently handed me a tub of it to take home. It didn't last long.

If organic honey from healthy bees is harvested in spring it will join maple syrup as an almost-miraculous fruit of nature that we enjoy in this season. As we have done every year, we celebrate a local maple syrup festival

in this issue. This time it's White Meadows Farms' Sugar Bush Adventure, presented by our Niagara Region contributor **Chris Mills**.

This is also our annual gardening special issue, and we have two gorgeous features for you to study and dream over. We show some of the most beautiful and soothing pond and waterfall gardens in the Golden Horseshoe, and take a close look at how the Royal Botanical Gardens in Burlington is nurturing its rose garden without drugs.

Mike Davis has a full circle moment when he interviews the brilliant artist **Robert Bateman**, decades after first seeing his sketches. Bateman was very generous with his time and tales, giving us plenty of provocative and beautiful material to work with. If there's interest, we wouldn't mind sharing more from this extraordinary champion of nature in a future issue. Do let us know what you think of our issues. We pay close attention.

Gloria

Gloria
editor@EscarpmentViews.ca

P.S. Wild animals need wild spaces. Keep wild spaces wild!

For back issues, events, photos and more, see our website www.EscarpmentViews.ca

Like us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/escarpment.views