

Escarpment Views

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View From the Editor's Desk: STEERING M.S. CHI-CHEEMAUN



Gloria steering Chi-Cheemaun somewhere between Lion's Head and Cabot Head. The watchful First Mate stands ready to correct the course. PHOTO BY MIKE DAVIS

Mike caught my expression of concern as I took the helm of Chi-Cheemaun, the magnificent ferry that runs between Tobermory and South Baymouth on Manitoulin Island. On May 3 Captain Kerry Adams and crew moved the ship from its winter berth in Owen Sound to its summer dock in Tobermory. People buy tickets every year to take this scenic voyage close to the Bruce Peninsula, and several of them get to visit the bridge and put their hands on the wheel.

Just as the ferry is ready for summer, this issue can help you get ready for your summer vacation in the northern part of the Niagara Escarpment. We show you six great places to visit on Manitoulin Island. We highlight Owen Sound's Harrison Park as the site of the 150th annual celebration of the Emancipation of slaves. Our annual look at farmers' markets focuses on the year-round one in Owen Sound.

Robert Bateman has much more wisdom to share than we presented in our Spring 2012 issue, and so we have another article on this brilliant Canadian icon.

We introduce two new items in this issue. The first is a regular column on sustainable gardening by Sean James, a talented gardener and

landscaper with an environmental commitment. The second is a new department called Escarpment Visionary, intended to share the achievements of someone passionate about the Niagara Escarpment. The first person featured is very close to my heart: my father, Charles Hildebrandt.

Get out this summer and steer or paddle a boat, tour Manitoulin, celebrate liberty, indulge in the freshest local food, or in any way you please, enjoy and cherish Niagara Escarpment lands.

Tschüss, Papa. Wiedersehen.

We love your messages and letters. Write us at editor@EscarpmentViews.ca or Escarpment Views, 50 Ann St., Georgetown ON L7G 2V2.

There's exclusive online content at our website www.EscarpmentViews.ca and you can "like" us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/escarpment.views.

Gloria

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

Readers & Viewers

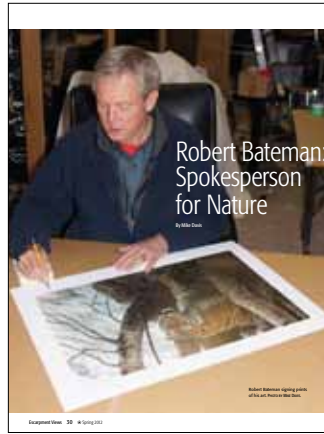


My sister and I really enjoy your wonderful magazine!

**Christina Marsh-Semerjian,
Burlington**

I always look forward to reading your publication, and commend the work of you and your team over at *Escarpment Views*. I encourage you to keep up the good work you do and for the interesting and informative publications you create.

**Gary Burroughs, Regional Chair,
Niagara Region**



I really enjoyed your personal & fresh approach to the subject (me & the Escarpment). The article will of course take its place in the Bateman Archives at the future Bateman Centre...All the best & thank you very much.

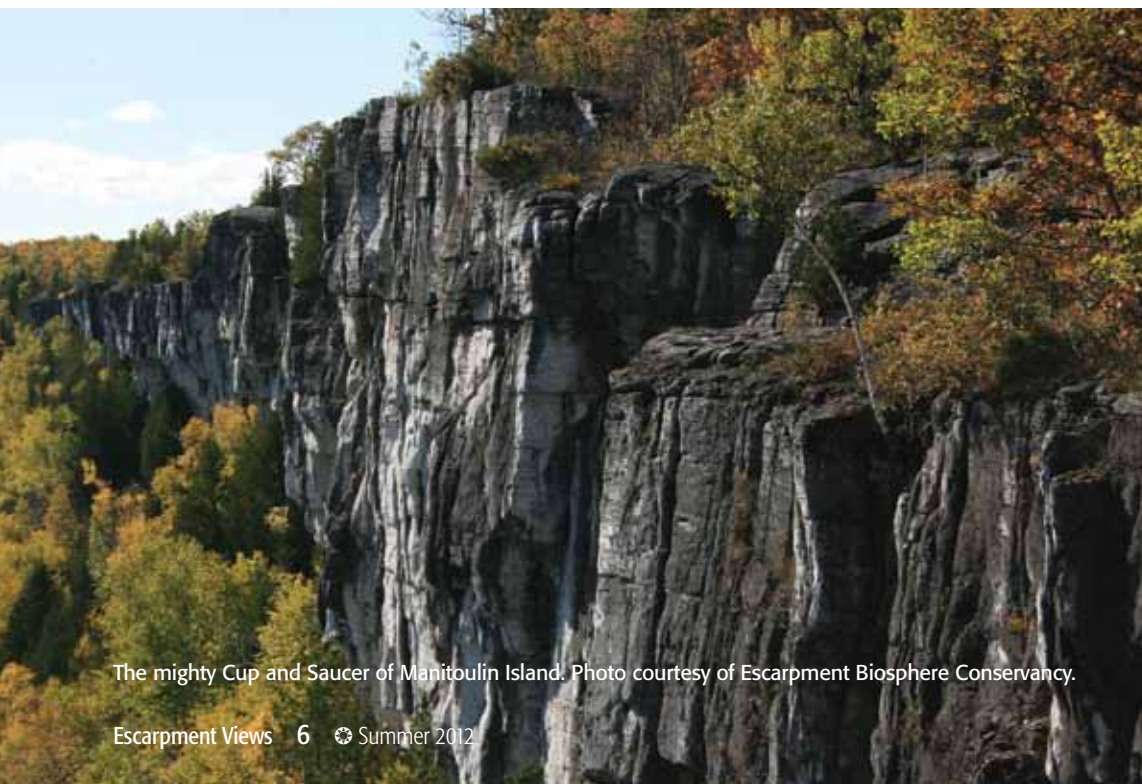
**Bob Bateman,
Salt Spring Island, B.C.**

Send your notes
and photos of
your favourite
views to [editor@
EscarpmentViews.ca](mailto:editor@EscarpmentViews.ca)



Just had to congratulate you on your last issue. Joyce & I think it is the best you have done! The content was interesting & the layout clean. Too bad you missed our backyard pond when you were on the tour in Dundas. The yard & pond have filled in a lot since this picture but we find it very relaxing. It's the result of purchasing a home with a "wet" backyard & doing something about it! We also installed underground drainage. Hope to see you at Summer Solstice this year as well as Telling Tales. Keep up the great work.

John Macrae, Dundas



The mighty Cup and Saucer of Manitoulin Island. Photo courtesy of Escarpment Biosphere Conservancy.

Sponsored by EBC

Conserving Land on Manitoulin Island

Manitoulin Island is a big surprise for most people. With only 12,000 people on the world's largest freshwater island, there are no stop lights, box stores, or chain coffee shops. But there are Niagara Escarpment cliffs, dozens of rare plants on the south shore alvars, and even hundreds of islands like the one called Lonely, with its seldom visited lighthouse.

Escarpment Biosphere Conservancy (EBC) started conserving land on the Island in 1998 when we discovered that the highest cliffs on the Island at the Cup and Saucer were up for sale. This allowed 10,500 people to continue hiking there every year and protected \$385,000 of annual economic benefit.

Now we have 22 reserves and 1,808 acres on the Island, nine of them with hiking trails. At Misery Bay Provincial Park, we've added three new properties to expand its boundaries. We just added another km of Niagara Escarpment, soon to be trail.

Manitoulin is one of Ontario's most important places to conserve. Unfortunately, Manitoulin's Ordovician and Silurian Escarpments are barely protected, but EBC and other groups are slowly protecting the south shore. Carter Bay's dunes just came on the market with 17 km of shoreline and 6,400 acres. EBC has identified a great property for \$99,000 with rare Dwarf Lake Iris, alvars and 600 metres of shoreline. If you care about the LaCloche Mountains, of Group of Seven fame, there is a great property available with six km of Voyageur Trail on the quartz domes.

Call us if you want to see great places like this protected.

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Family-friendly cider-jug curling got people outside at Alton Mill's Fire & Ice festival on Jan. 22.



Events Along the Rock



At a USC Canada reception on Jan. 28 during the Guelph Organic Conference, organic honeys and homemade shortbread were served by, from left, Marianne and Arthur Schlueter, Monique Blais, and Linda Proudfoot, of Pretty River Valley Country Inn.



Wiarion Willie makes his annual appearance at sunup on Feb. 2 in an elaborate celebration in Wiarion.

Coalition on the Niagara Escarpment hosted Chris Hamilton's entertaining, informative presentation on turkey vultures at Conservation Halton's Crawford Lake Conservation Area on March 10. ▼



Friends of the Eramosa Karst held their annual fundraising dinner-dance on Hamilton Mountain on March 3. From left, some members of the board: Tom Zietsma, Donna Gautreau, Brad Gautreau and Paul Whitty.





On a sunny, cool March 10, visitors to Crawford Lake's reconstructed Huron village gathered for a Native-style Sweet Water demonstration.

Events Along the Rock

Maid of the Mist V was launched in Niagara Falls on April 4 to open the 2012 season. Supervising from the shore were Lawrence McGinn, assistant general manager, and Emil Bende, general manager. On board were John Williams, captain, and in the stern, Nicole Comeau, deckhand, with Paul Templeman, mate. ▼

Red-tailed hawks and a bald eagle were seen in flight at the Hawkwatch Open House at Beamer Memorial Conservation Area on April 6, hosted by Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority and Niagara Peninsula Hawkwatch. ►



A lemur held by Ron Woolley of Exotic Critters Tales in Guelph, was one of the animals that attracted attention at Halton EcoFest on April 14. Jasmine Adams of Halton-Peel Biodiversity Network is here with children Ella Macdonald-Rumi, Keila Koo and Daniel Montus. ►



Other activities at the Beamer Hawkwatch on April 6 included trying on some British clothing from 1812. From left, Tristan Kadwell in part of a Ranger's uniform, Riley Zulauf in a civilian beaver felt hat, and Ethan Zulauf in part of a lieutenant's uniform.



Events Along the Rock

Please see www.EscarpmentViews.ca for more photos & listings!



Despite the rain, Chris and David Moore inspected new Kubota products at Kubota's Orange Truckload Event on April 21 at Ben Berg Farm & Industrial Equipment in Wainfleet.



Passengers photographing Flowerpot Island from Chi-Cheemaun on the annual spring cruise from Owen Sound to Tobermory, on a rainy May 3.

◀ Kubota's excavator challenge was popular at the annual open house at Stewart's Equipment in Erin on April 28.



Peter Kelly, co-author of *The Last Stand*, presented some of his findings about the ancient cedars on the Niagara Escarpment at the Escarpment Celebration Day held at Terra Cotta Conservation Area, May 6.