

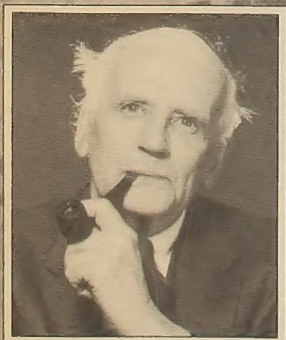
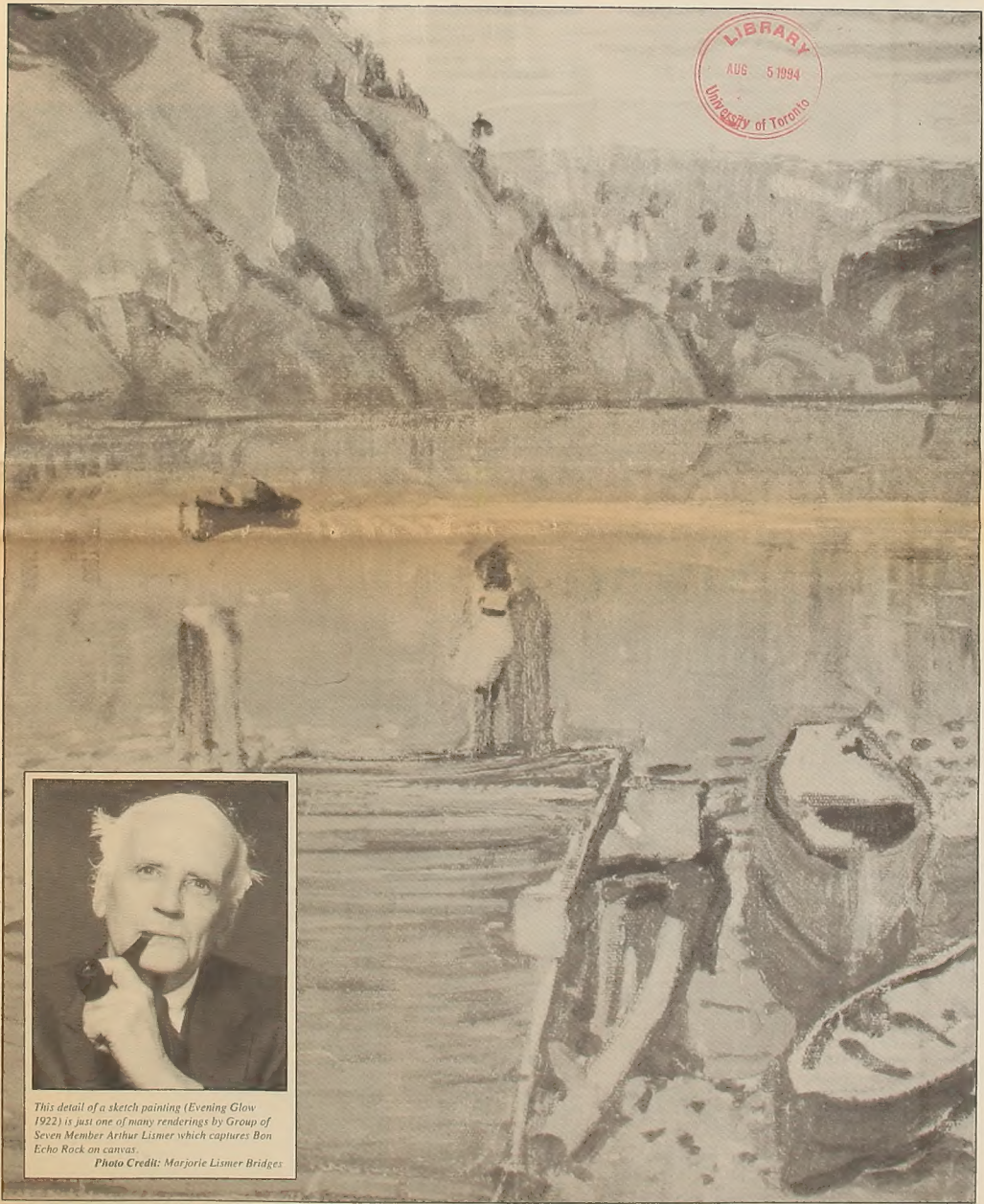
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Ministry of
Natural
Resources
Ontario

Peregrine Falcon
Release, Page 2

Bon Echo

Provincial Park, 1994 Facilities and Programmes



This detail of a sketch painting (*Evening Glow* 1922) is just one of many renderings by Group of Seven Member Arthur Lismer which captures Bon Echo Rock on canvas.

Photo Credit: Marjorie Lismer Bridges

On the Wing to Recovery

THE FIRST SIGHTING WAS last June by Park Naturalist, Bond Strand. Although the description fit and Bon Echo's 100 metre sheer cliff and wide open vistas was ideal habitat, still no one really believed him. He was claiming to have spotted one of Canada's endangered species - the magnificent Peregrine Falcon.

When a few other lucky people also reported seeing a crow-sized bird with a distinctive black "mustache", long pointed wings and tapered tail, we owed Bond an apology. The clincher was when a visitor told of witnessing this fabulous flier perform the hunting technique for which it is renowned. He couldn't say for certain if the Peregrine reached 300 kilometres per hour, a speed which may distinguish it as the world's fastest animal, but he definitely saw the immature falcon plummet from high in the sky and strike its unsuspecting prey. A canoe trip along the base of the cliff later produced the feathered evidence of several other successful kills the Peregrine had made on its favourite food — birds.

Keep An Eye To The Sky

This summer every Park visitor could have the thrill of watching this endangered species. Bon Echo has been chosen as one of

four sites in Ontario where the Peregrine Falcon reintroduction program will continue. This involves a highly organized and orchestrated production.

Somewhere up on the Rock a "hack" box will provide an artificial nest for young Peregrines until they are able to explore the wilds of Bon Echo on their own. The birds will continue to be fed as they practice their hunting skills until an inborn urge to migrate leads them south in September. It is hoped they will beat their mere twenty percent odds of survival and return to the Mazinaw cliff to raise their young naturally.

What Caused The Decline?

Peregrines are found virtually worldwide. Prior to the 1950's, seeing the "Red Baron" of the bird world would have been a rather common occurrence. At that time, in Eastern North America alone there were several hundred nesting pairs. By 1970 however, the Peregrine Falcon was declared extinct in North America east of the Rocky Mountains and south of the boreal forest (60°N). The cause was our use of a pesticide called DDT.

Similar to our position, the Peregrine Falcon is at the top of its food chain. Consequently, as

DDT accumulated in each link in the chain, Peregrines got the largest dose. The result was thin-shelled eggs that couldn't support the weight of incubating adults or others that just never hatched at all. In less than 25 years this bird of prey had itself become a victim.

Righting The Wrong

Once the problem was identified, steps were taken in North America to right the wrong. Although it is still used elsewhere, DDT was banned for most purposes in Canada and the United States in the mid-1970's. As a result, levels of this pesticide have declined in the environment.

Since Peregrines were virtually eliminated in Eastern North America, the only way to reestablish the population was through captive-breeding. A program was developed by the Canadian Wildlife Service to take wild birds, breed them in captivity and release their young in former and potential Peregrine haunts. In 1977 Algonquin Provincial Park was the first place in Ontario where young Peregrines were reintroduced. Since then 360 Peregrines have been released throughout Ontario on urban skyscraper "cliffs" and wild ones.

A Rare Success Story

Due to the release program, the Peregrine is now being considered for removal from the U.S. endangered species list and Canada may soon follow. The goal of the National Peregrine Recovery Programme is to establish ten breeding pairs of birds per zone. This has been in Ontario, where there were no known breeding pairs of

Peregrines as recently as the mid-1980's, at least six pairs raised young in the northern part of the province in 1993. Biologists hope that three more years of releases will be enough to forever avert the tragedy that nearly led to the extinction of the Peregrine Falcon in North America. Bon Echo is honoured to play a role in this major conservation effort of an incredible endangered species. ■



On a wing and a prayer, soon Peregrine Falcons will grace the skies over Bon Echo Rock.



Red Thomson

Act 2, Scene 1

AS OCCASIONAL visitors in nature's realm we tend to think of it as static. Of course, we notice the obvious, like seasonal change, but seldom do we get an opportunity to observe subtle, gradual transformation or sudden, dramatic change. However, early last summer, Mother Nature demonstrated her quick-change artistry at a convenient time and place for all to behold. It was an Oscar-winning performance of considerable magnitude. A few surprised Bon Echo Park trail hikers were even lucky enough to have the best seats in the house for the spectacular finale.

A beaver pond is at best a temporary ecosystem, evolving through various distinctive, predictable stages known as succession. The progression is from stream, to pond, to meadow and finally to forest. A wandering beaver locates a stream and builds a dam. A pond forms behind the dam, creating a suitable habitat in which the beaver clan can live. By making the dam higher the beaver enlarges its pond habitat, making more food accessible. In time however, the available food supply, mainly poplar and birch trees is exhausted and the beavers move on. The now abandoned pond slowly fills in with invading



Looking over the vast mud flat it was difficult to picture the pristine beaver pond that was there just a short time ago.

grasses and sedges, forming a meadow, which, in turn becomes a forest.

This is how the pond along the Shield Trail was expected to progress until the unexpected happened. Mother Nature decided to skip a few decades and make a scenery change.

Hearing the news, Visitor Services Trail Denice Wilkins and Assistant Park Superintendent Gary Sharman, hiked out to investigate. From

this sleuthing expedition they pieced together another episode in Mother Nature's fascinating epic play.

Anyone familiar with the Shield Trail may recall that, at post #9 the trail passed by a rather small, brackish pond full of dead trees. You would have remembered it as a haven for mosquitoes, but otherwise it appeared lifeless. On the day of reckoning, the old dam at the west end of this abandoned beaver pond finally succumbed to fatigue. Recent heavy rains or

just the lack of maintenance may have been the cause. In any event, the dam could no longer contain the pressure and it burst, spilling tons of water into the pond below. Even though this next pond was inhabited by several beaver, their dam at the far end could not withstand the sudden influx of water. One section held but the shorter and higher west side failed.

A marvel of Nature's engineering, this dam held back a pond nearly six feet deep and covering

more than thirty acres. Imagine the spectacle, millions of gallons of water cascading through a narrow rock gorge in just a matter of hours. In the aftermath trees were bent, twisted and uprooted, rocks were scourged clean of moss; even the tenacious sedges and grasses were laid flat by the torrent's force.

As for the pond ... it was gone just like that and with it a diverse and productive habitat. What remained was a mere trickle of water running through a vast mud flat. There was a lingering odour of sulphur gas emitting from the decaying organic matter. The only evidence of previous life were the exposed, bone-like tree stumps of a forest long forgotten.

Although one habitat has disappeared, it is not a loss in the natural scheme of things. It is instead an opportunity for new life to dominate. The curtain is about to rise on Act Two in Mother Nature's live theatre and we have front row tickets. Soon a meadow will appear attracting meadow inhabitants. Eventually a forest will grow, providing a home for forest creatures; then, perhaps a wandering beaver ...

In the natural world the only constant change! ■

Denise Wilkins

1994

Cultural History News

Preserving the Pictographs

Hundreds of years ago Native shamans painted sacred images on rock surfaces across North America. Using their fingers as brushes and the red mineral hematite mixed with water as a medium, they created a heritage to be treasured. Since then natural elements have weathered them, vandals have obliterated them and archaeologists and conservators have raced against time to record their magic and mystery for posterity.

Comparing all the recording techniques and technologies represented in these pictures of one pictograph at Bon Echo, you can see how things have improved over time. It was exactly 100 years ago when the first official expedition was made to record the pictographs on the

cliff at Lake Massanag, as it was then called. David Boyle, the first director of the Provincial Museum (forerunner to the Royal Ontario Museum) led the party working on an archaeological report for the Ontario Minister of Education.

Even then Boyle noted that, "in a large number of instances (the pictographs) had become too indistinct to follow". Since he feared photography would be unsuccessful, Boyle decided to measure and sketch the paintings from the canoe. As you can see, despite "close and critical examination" and scrutinizing by "five or six pairs of eyes" his drawing suggests a great deal of artistic licence. (See photo "A")

The next pictograph recording project at Bon Echo was done in

1958 by artist and author Selwyn Dewdney together with Kenneth Kidd, then Curator of Ethnology at the Royal Ontario Museum. Mr. Dewdney eliminated some of the subjectivity of Boyle's drawings by devising a clever technique to trace the pictographs. He did this by wet sponging Japanese rice paper to the rock surface and outlining the images through the transparent material. (See photo "B")

In 1977, illustrator Gail McKnight documented some of the paintings at Bon Echo using "pointillism," the most accurate method yet. Slides of the pictographs were projected onto a light table and using a red felt marker all the spaces showing red ochre were filled in with dots. The darker the color, the more dots added. (See photo "C")

At the same time drawing techniques were improving, photographic technology was also advancing. A big break came in the 1940's when film more sensitive to the colour red was devised. Recently even more sophisticated methods and films have been used to overcome the same problems Boyle experienced in 1894 — faint paintings on light rock and glaring sun, intensified by the water's reflection.

For the last decade, the Canadian Conservation Institute (CCI) has led the way in photographically recording the pictographs at Bon Echo. To achieve the best results over the years they have tried every available type of film combined with electronic flashes powered by gasoline generators. For the best camera stability and resolution, photographs are taken

in March from the surface of a frozen Mazinaw Lake.

Today Scientist, Ian Wainwright, has generously committed the CCI to documenting all the pictographs on Mazinaw cliff once and for all. They will be using state of the art technology in photography, surveying and computers. (See photo "D")

There is an ongoing debate among long time Bon Echo visitors as to whether or not the pictographs have perceptibly faded over the last few decades. Regardless of the answer, the fact is they will someday be gone, whether by the slow work of nature or one quick mindless act of a vandal. Recording this sacred Native rock art will ensure its preservation for future generations. ■



Photo "A"



Photo "B"



Photo "C"



Photo "D"

Lost Legacy

HOLD AN ANCIENT artifact in your hand or visit any historical location and be prepared for an experience limited only by your imagination. Needing little more than a shred of authenticity to prompt it, your mind is capable of generating sights, sounds, fragrances, and even emotions in compelling reality.

And so it was when you stepped on to the old abandoned road at the beginning of Bon Echo's Shield Trail. Although the original road underwent several facelifts throughout its nearly one and a half century existence, it still bore unmistakable testimony to a pioneer heritage. The tall tufts of grass and wild flowers between hard packed wheel

depressions and the moss covered boulders lining the ditches never failed to spark the imagination. Visions of the first construction crews came to mind; tough men laying sections of "corduroy" (logs laid side by side) through the low wetlands while other workers hand-mauled boulders to the road side. You could hear the distant echo of the axe, as the tall virgin pines thundered to the forest floor. Perhaps for the moment, you could even share the great expectations of the first pioneers who followed the road and empathize with their bitter disappointment upon discovering that the Canadian Shield could be a harsh, unyielding host.

It must have been with mixed feelings that families left all the comforts and conveniences of frontier towns and entered the dark forest up a trail officially called the Addington Colonization Road. Did they realize the hardships that were in store for them as they headed north to their free grant lots many miles from anything? On the other hand, did they glean satisfaction from building their own home, clearing the land and making a living from it? Did they garner a pride of ownership as the deed to 100 acres of land was earned through hard work and perseverance?

south of Kaladar at the Clare River. When completed in 1856 it twisted 45 miles northward past Mazinaw Lake and the great Rock and on to the Denbigh area.

This year you may encounter work being done on the Addington Road site. Funding for this restoration project is courtesy of the Powerline Snowmobile Club. Although the cultural value cannot be restored, the club is making an effort to improve the aesthetics and replicate some of the former road characteristics.

The Park deeply regrets the loss of this significant cultural resource to the park visitor and to the people of Ontario.

Back then the Addington Road was commonly called the "Perry Road" after Provincial Land Surveyor A.B. Perry who built it and his brother Ebenezer, the land agent for the area settlement. Building the road was a formidable task. Eventually however, a route was surveyed, the trail blazed, and trees felled. Then through much trial and tribulation, a rough road was constructed around the stumps, over steep rock ridges and across

all but impassable wetlands.

It was next to impossible to travel the Addington Road during spring thaw when mud was everywhere. Winter was the easiest time to get around. Horse and cutter could move along on the snow over the swamps and old tree stumps that were covered with ice. Travel by canoe and other watercraft was the preferred mode of transportation for most of the year. Walking of course, was the only way many people got around.

A portion of this historic road ran through the park, and its heritage interpreted along a section of the Shield Trail. It was perhaps the only remaining section of the road that could have been preserved. Unfortunately, last October the road was bulldozed to improve it for snowmobiling. Neither the Park nor the Township, to whom the road allowance belongs, were aware of what was happening until it was too late. A legacy was lost; a piece of history gone forever.

A hard lesson was learned here that should be heeded. When it comes to preserving and protecting our heritage, fostering appreciation through education must be paramount and complacency has no place. ■

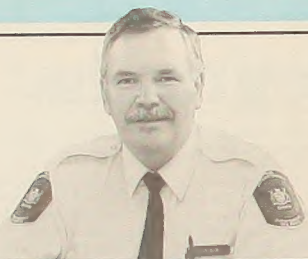


The historic Addington Colonization Road brought settlement to this area in 1856.

The Addington Road started

Superintendent's Messages

1994



Park Notes

New Scrub-a-Dub

It's always disheartening to see people polluting the lake environment by shampooing their hair or lathering up in the Park's swimming areas. To discourage this practice and for your convenience a new mini-comfort station with showers has been constructed at the New Beach day-use area. We hope you enjoy this new facility.

Rock Climbing

During your stay at Bon Echo, you may see climbers scaling the face of Mazinaw Rock. The climbers involved in this activity generally are members of an organized club, highly knowledgeable, trained and equipped for the sport. **Do not attempt to climb anywhere along the Rock's surface.** If rock climbing appeals to you, drop by the Park Office. Our staff can put you in touch with a club where you can learn this activity in a regulated manner. Thank you.

Alcoholic Beverages

From time to time park visitors have told us that they were unaware of the rules governing the possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages in provincial parks. Consuming or displaying an open container of alcoholic beverage anywhere in a provincial park, other than a registered campsite, is against the law.

Please make our jobs easier and your stay at Bon Echo more pleasant by respecting our rules and regulations concerning alcoholic beverages. We enforce this legislation rigidly.

Killing With Kindness

While at Bon Echo, it is likely that you will encounter a variety of wildlife; "wild" being the operative word. If you feed them, disrupt them from doing what comes naturally, or pick up what appears to be an injured or abandoned animal, you are likely doing them more harm than good. Often human intervention kills. For their sake, please let nature take its course.

There is also another side to consider. All warm blooded animals are susceptible to contracting rabies. What you might assume to be friendly antics or distress caused by an injury may well be the curious behaviour of a rabid animal.

Pet Etiquette

Enjoy your time here with your pets but please observe the rules of pet etiquette. For everyone's sake please clean up after your four-legged companion, keep your pet on a lead not exceeding two metres, and do not allow your dog to bark and disturb other park users. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Swimmer's Itch

After swimming in a lake during the hot summer months, you might develop an itchy rash similar to poison ivy. Suspect Swimmer's Itch! This is caused by a tiny parasite in the water and is a temporary condition lasting about 48 hours.

Calamine lotion or Caladryl can be used to treat the condition but it is best to take precautions. Avoid wading in warm shallow water and always towel off briskly and very thoroughly after a swim.

Swimming Program

Throughout July from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. the local Mazinaw Lake Swim Program utilizes an area by the New Beach lagoon to conduct community swimming lessons. This a very worthwhile program run by volunteers and the park endorses this activity. We ask that you respect their space during lessons and please stay off their dock at all times.

Take Nothing But Pictures

A dazzling array of wildflowers is just one of the many natural attractions here at Bon Echo. Among the many beautiful species present are the scarlet-coloured Cardinal Flower, the delicate Yellow Lady's Slipper Orchid and the insect-eating Pitcher Plant.

All wildflowers and natural vegetation at Bon Echo are protected by law. When you are travelling the Park's trails, please "take nothing but pictures" and "leave nothing but footprints" so that others may continue to enjoy these fragile beauties in the years to come. ■

Joerry Lake

Wilderness Experience



"As man is today separated from Nature by steel and cement, it becomes more important than ever that we keep our quiet streams, rocky hills and forests accessible."

Time for quiet contemplation is swept away in hurried, hurried lifestyles and as it does and as the places of solitude disappear too, it becomes more valuable.

Sometimes it is good to be alone in the woods, sometimes the rustle of leaves is the only sound you need to hear."

BEGINNING THIS YEAR A motor ban takes effect on Joerry Lake. Implementing this measure will achieve two important park objectives: the provision of a distinct recreational opportunity and the protection of a unique and valuable resource. Bon Echo is blessed to encompass such a jewel-like lake and motorboats not only posed a threat to the natural wetland habitat and wildlife on Joerry but detracted significantly from the quality of

the camping experience it was intended to offer. There is no arguing that prohibiting the use of motors on Joerry is wise management and we expect overwhelming support from campers. However is this enough, or do you feel that a can and bottle ban, and/or, a radio ban might also be warranted? Please do not hesitate to give us your opinion on future park management considerations. We hope you enjoy the Joerry Lake wilderness experience. ■

From Rot to Riches

REMEMBER THE TIMES you've discovered the most rotten, foul-smelling, unidentified, disgusting thing in the far reaches of your refrigerator? Imagine if it could magically become a rich, black, sweet-smelling, valuable resource for your garden. Rot actually can become riches through the process of composting!

This year with the financial support of the Friends of Bon Echo Park, we will be one of only a few Provincial Parks in Ontario to initiate a composting program for campers. Statistics show that nearly 24% of the waste generated by park visitors could be composted. That means Bon Echo can potentially divert 1/4 of its waste from the landfill.

For this year composting will only be available to Sawmill Bay campers. By starting out slow we hope to work out all the "bugs"

(not literally of course!) and expand the program to the other campgrounds in the future.

How can Sawmill Bay campers participate? It's easy! Simply save all your kitchen wastes and deposit them in the compost. Exactly what can you compost? Essentially everything that originally grew on a plant. For example, this includes fruit and vegetable scraps, tea bags, coffee grounds including the filter, nut shells, corn husks and egg shells (even though they didn't grow on a stem). If you take a second to cut up the fruits and vegetables into small (about 2 centimetre) cubes they will compost much faster. The foods which CAN NOT be composted include meat, fish, bones, dairy products, fats and oils.

There are two different containers provided for composting. One is a worm or vermicomposter in

which thousands of worms are the primary organisms at work eating your kitchen wastes and converting it into a rich soil conditioner. In the other composter a multitude of naturally occurring decomposer organisms will reduce your food into nutrient-rich humus. One composter will be located next to the garbage and recycling receptacles at the entrance to the Sawmill Bay Campground and the other will be at the garbage station near site #129.

Everyday each person generates about a half a kilogram of compostable food waste. If this material is not composted it fills our landfills and plagues our environment by ending up as pollutants. Organic trash is actually a valuable resource, not a problem. If you are camping in Sawmill Bay, please help us turn rot into riches by participating in our composting program. ■

1994

Camper Information

Camping

Four different kinds of camping experiences can be enjoyed at Bon Echo Provincial Park: drive-in, walk-in, and canoe or hike-in.

The sites in **Mazinaw Lake Campground** are almost all accessible by car. These sites are divided into three areas: Fairway, Midway and Sawmill Bay. The Sawmill Bay area is hilly, the others nearly flat. Five of the 400 sites in Mazinaw Lake Campground are walk-in tent sites, while the remainder are accessible by vehicle and can accommodate tent and house-trailers. Some are pull-through sites. Forty-two sites are serviced with electricity.

Hardwood Hill Campground, located west of Highway 41, has 100 sites set in an attractive maple and beech forest. These sites offer greater privacy, and while most are designed for tent camping, sites are also available for tent-trailer units. If you want to awaken to the sound of birds instead of motorboats — give Hardwood Hill a try!

Along the shores of **Joeperry and Pearson Lakes** are 25 sites which can only be reached by canoe or rowboat. Each site has a fireplace, picnic table, tent space and is near a toilet. An attractive natural sand beach is an added bonus for those who choose to camp at Joeperry Lake.

Note: Power boats are prohibited on Joeperry and Pearson Lakes.

Five more sites in remote lakeshore settings are found along the **Abes and Essens Lakes Hiking Trail**. If you prefer to camp "where nature is at your doorstep", head for the wild side of Bon Echo — west of Highway 41.

Reservation Service

Since Bon Echo is one of southeastern Ontario's busiest provincial parks, we recommend that you make a reservation if you plan to camp here during the mid-June to Labour Day period. You can reserve a campsite by telephone, mail or in person. Reservation application forms for mailing are available from Provincial Park Offices and District and Regional Offices of the Ministry of Natural Resources. We charge a small fee for this service. All reservations must be guaranteed by VISA/MasterCard, cheque, cash or money order. **While we make every effort to accommodate requests for specific campsites, we cannot assure you of a specific site until we have received your payment in full.**

A reservation is held only until 8:00 a.m. the morning following the start date of the reservation. If you must cancel your reservation, please let us know by 12:00 noon on the start date of the reservation so that we may issue

a full refund to you (less the reservation fee) and re-assign the campsite to a waiting party. Cancellations are accepted by telephone or by mail.

If you would like more information regarding park facilities, fees and the reservation service, please consult the current Ontario Provincial Parks Guide, visit the reservation desk at our Park Office or write to us at: **Bon Echo Provincial Park, R.R. #1, Cloyne, Ontario, K0H 1K0.** You may also telephone the Park Office at (613) 336-2228 during normal business hours.

a campsite, and purchased a camping permit, you may then drive into the campground and place your equipment on your designated site.

If the campsite which you have chosen is unsuitable, you may make arrangements with our staff at the Campground Office to transfer to another site.

Group Camping

Eight group campsites, each accommodating 30 to 40 people, are situated on the shores of Bon Echo Lake. These areas are

Echo's group camping areas must be made in writing and received at least two weeks prior to the group's arrival as well. Ask at the Park Office for further details.

Additional Vehicle Parking

At Bon Echo, you are allowed to park only one vehicle on your campsite. Additional vehicles (with the exception of shelter equipment) must be registered with the Campground Office, and left in the visitor parking lot located outside of each campground area. Permits are

Echo tabloid. In the meantime, please help us to reduce unnecessary waste by sharing this publication with others or by taking it home, and placing it in your blue box when you are finished with it.

Recyclables

Items that can be recycled (glass bottles, metal food and beverage cans and plastic soft drink containers) can be collected in grocery bags or in the promotional bags distributed by park staff. At the end of your stay, or as necessary, you can leave these materials in the appropriate blue bins in each of the Park's campground areas.

Composting

There are two compost bins in Sawmill Bay camping area...one is located at the campground entrance and the other near campsite 129. Please help us reduce waste by composting all kitchen scraps except meat, fish or dairy products. This service will be extended to other campgrounds in the coming years.

Garbage Disposal

Garbage bags are available when you register at the Campground Office. Please leave your sealed bags of garbage in the disposal compounds, located at the exit to each campground area. Do not dispose of pop cans, diapers and other refuse in the vault toilets.

Interior Campers: Please carry out what you bring in. Leave your garbage in the receptacles provided at the trail head.

Trailer Sanitary Station

A trailer sanitary and refill station is located near the Mazinaw Lake Campground Office.

Handicapped Facilities

Facilities for the physically disabled can be found in all of our campground comfort stations. There also is a wheelchair ramp in the South Beach day-use area and the park office is accessible to the handicapped and has new facilities.

Drinking Water

You can get fresh drinking water (tested weekly) from any of the water taps or comfort stations in the Park. Most taps are within reasonable walking distance of your campsite.

Sink Wastes

To ensure that sink wastes do not spoil for other campers, please dispose of your waste water at any vault toilet or at the trailer sanitary station.

Hours of Closing

Only registered campers may remain in a provincial park during the posted hours of closing — 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.

We are hopeful that recycled paper stock will be available in this area soon for use in the Bon

Hiking and Nature Trails



Roger Turrell

Some of the best hiking in southern Ontario is found in Bon Echo Provincial Park. The range of opportunities is certain to appeal to both the daytime visitor and those looking for overnight excursions.

- The **Shield Trail** (4.8 km or 3 mi) follows a portion of the old Addington settlement road and penetrates the rugged landscape of the Canadian Shield. Signs of wildlife abound.
- North meets south as you journey down the **High Pines Trail** (1.4 km or 0.8 mi) past tall pines, through groves of hemlock and along forest ponds. Midway along the trail, you will be treated to a panoramic view of the "Canadian Gibraltar", the Bon Echo Rock. Brochure available.
- Follow the **Bon Echo Creek Trail** as it winds for 1 km (or 0.6 mi) to where the Creek enters lower Mazinaw Lake. En route see signs of Beavers, Bank Swallows and a host of other animals and plants unique to this environment.
- Start a new exercise programme, keep up the old one, or just take a leisurely stroll along the **Fitness Trail** (2.4 km or 1.5 mi) through a glorious forest of White Birch. Fourteen exercise stations provide activities for your body's cardiovascular and muscular systems. A variety of bird and plant life encourages you to flex your identification and spotting "muscles" as well.
- Adventure awaits you on the west side of Bon Echo, where the three interconnecting loops of the **Abes and Essens Trail** offer choices for the energetic to the very ambitious hiker. The first loop is 4 km (2.5 mi), the second loop is 9 km (5.6 mi), and all three loops total 17 km (10.6 mi) and take a minimum of seven hours to complete. Make a day of it, or register for one of the five interior campsites available enroute.
- Leave civilization behind and enter the peaceful wilderness waters of Bon Echo's Kishkebus Canoe Route. This 21 km (13 mi) loop begins at Mazinaw Lake and takes approximately 6 hours to complete, including a 1.5 mi portage.

Interpretive brochures available at the Park Office, highway entrance gatehouse and Friends gift shop.

Comfort Stations

Each campground area has a comfort station with hot and cold running water, shower and laundry facilities, flush toilets and electrical outlets. There is also a comfort station in the day-use area near the Lagoon which features shower facilities and there is a new mini-comfort station at the new beach.

You will find laundromats south of the Park along Highway 41.

Selecting a Campsite

At the Campground Office you will find a large selection board on which we have shown the campsites that are vacant and available. Once you have chosen

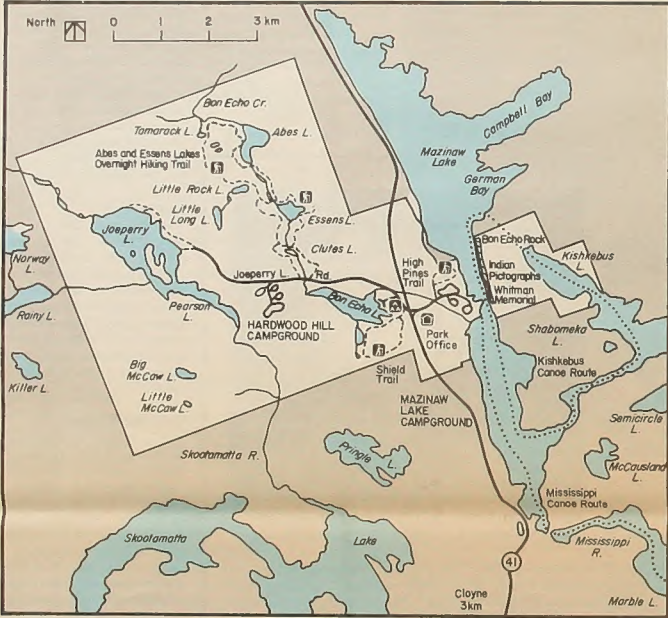
designed primarily for youth or special groups, however, when not in use, Bon Echo's group camping areas may be reserved for adults. The facilities provided at our group camping sites include: fireplaces, toilets and drinking water.

According to the Health Protection and Promotion Act, organized groups of 10 or more consecutive nights in a provincial park must notify the local medical officer of health prior to the group's arrival at the Park. The telephone number of the local Health Unit is (613) 336-8989.

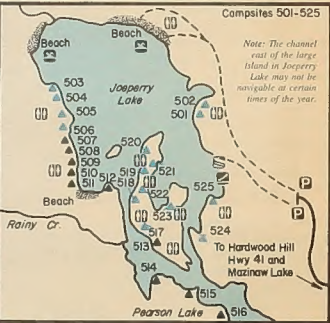
Requests for the use of Bon

Camping Opportunities

Park Boundaries and Canoe Routes



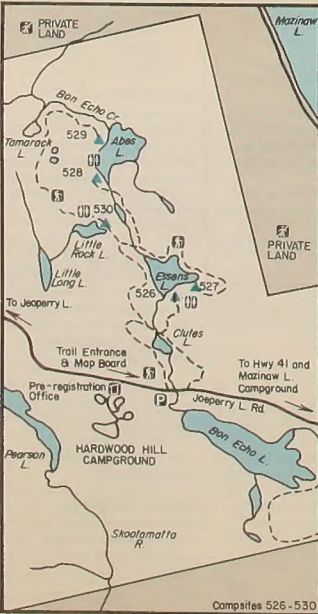
Joerperry and Pearson Lakes Canoe-in Camping



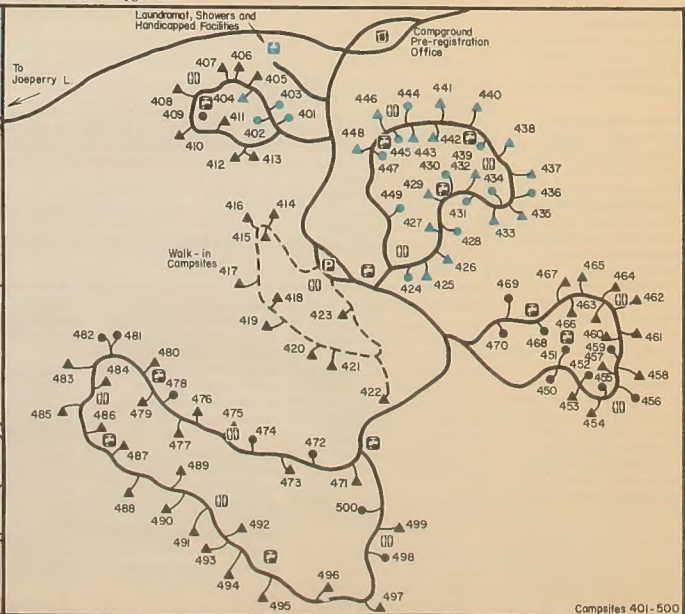
Legend/Symbols

- Pre-Registration Office
- Park Office
- Parking
- Toilets
- Comfort Stn./Showers
- Group Camping
- Private Land
- Swimming
- Tent Site
- Tent-trailer Site
- Res. Tent Site
- Res. Tent-Trailer Site
- Water Tap
- Boat Launch
- Canoe Launch
- Hiking Trail
- Overnight Hiking Trail

Abes & Essens Overnight Hiking Trail

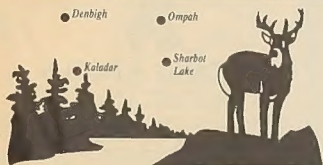


Hardwood Hill Campground



Yours to Discover... LAND O' LAKES AND SURROUNDING AREA

Calendar of Local Events



Land O' Lakes Chamber of Commerce MAZINAW COUNTRY

July 2 - Arden

Annual chicken BBQ and dance, Royal Canadian Legion #334. Contact 333-2737.

July 13 - Henderson

Roast beef dinner and smorgasbord U.C.W. hall, Henderson, sponsored by U.C.W. 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Contact 336-8541.

July 20 - Harlowe

Roast beef dinner, Harlowe community hall 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Contact 336-2201.

July 30 - Arden

Annual beef dinner and social evening, Royal Canadian Legion #334. Contact 335-2737.

August 4 - Harlowe

Roast beef dinner, Harlowe community hall. Sponsored by LOL & COBA 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. Contact 336-8541.

August 5 and 6 - Cloyne

North Addington Arts and Crafts Guild Show Case '94 (22 annual show) North Addington Education Centre open August 5, 2:00 to 9:00 p.m. August 6, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Contact 336-8308.

August 6 - Arden

Kennebec Krafters 8th Annual Show and Sale, Arden community centre 10:00 to 4:00 p.m. Contact 335-2157.

August 10 - Henderson

Salad lunches smorgasbord style, Henderson U.C.W. hall 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. Contact 336-8541.

August 19 and 20 - Denbigh

Denbigh fair, Denbigh fair grounds. Contact 333-2378.

September 5 - Omphah

Omphah stomp.

November 26 - Kaladar

Kaladar Santa Claus Parade.

-Bingo-

Flinton Recreation Centre, every Monday 7:15 p.m. Kaladar Recreation Centre, every Tuesday 7:00 p.m. Lions Community Centre, Northbrook, every Thursday 7:30 p.m. June until October. ■



Land O'Lakes Tourist Association Extends a warm...

Welcome to Our Region



THE LAND O'LAKES Tourist Region with its rugged forested hills, cool, clear lakes and impressive granite cliffs offers a wonderful setting for a vacation at any time of the year.

Dip your paddle into one of our many sparkling lakes, wet a line for feisty Northern Pike, go horseback riding through forests brimming with colour, or cross-country ski on a network of scenic winter trails. Outdoor activities abound in the Lake O'Lakes Region, and nature is never far away.

Bon Echo Provincial Park on the shores of Mazinaw Lake encompasses thousands of hectares of the rugged Canadian Shield, and offers campsites, trails, canoe routes and many other facilities for your holiday pleasure. But you don't necessarily have to "rough" it at Bon Echo to stay in the Land O'Lakes Region. Also tucked away behind the scenery and greenery are some of the most comfortable accommodations to be found anywhere in southeastern Ontario.

The region is rich in tourist lodges, cottage resorts, motels, hotels, bed and breakfast homes, as well as many family owned tent and trailer parks where you can make a reservation for a campsite. There are also marinas on some of the larger lakes in the area. Motorboat, canoe and rowboat rentals are available

from many lakeside accommodations.

Visitors to the Land O'Lakes Region will never find any reason to be bored. In addition to the excellent interpretive programmes offered at Bon Echo Park, there are a number of festivals, celebrations and other

vegetarian dinners, and Thanksgiving turkey suppers to look forward to. The smell of home baked goods and cooking draws people from near and far. And our many restaurants and take-outs are famous for their great food. When the weather cools or rain threatens overhead, antique and craft shops, museums, art galleries and tea rooms also beckon inquisitive visitors. Most of the larger towns have a farmers' market with locally-grown produce, and often a flea market too. The Philoxian farm zoo and craft shop in Marlbank has a camel, many exotic birds, a llama and wallabies in their zoo, and their hand-crafted wooden toys, rocking horses and unicorns are famous internationally.



A tranquil setting at Twin Pines Resort on Mississagagon Lake.

activities put on by local community clubs and groups. Talent nights, old time fiddling contests, bingo, live theatre productions, fairs, jamborees and floor-stompin' country and western dances are just a few of the many specialties offered in this area.

If you get hungry after a day spent on the lake or need a break from campfire cooking, there are always strawberry socials, chili cook-offs, chicken barbecues, all-you-can-eat roast beef and

it is not as busy as the Muskokas or the Thousand Islands. Treat yourself to a good meal, some fresh country air and the most beautiful scenery this province has to offer.

Come and visit the Land O'Lakes whenever you can...We'll be waiting for you!

Fay Henry, Secretary
Land O'Lakes Tourist Assoc.
Box 66, Northbrook, Ontario
K0H 2G0 ■

Family Float Trips

HAVE YOU WONDERED what attracts thousands to the whitewater of the Ottawa River each year, but haven't quite felt up to the challenge of finding out?

If so, your private internal war may be over. A family float trip program, launched by OWL Rafting, just about lets you have your cake and eat it too. You can experience the vastness and beauty of the river and ride the crest of waves a meter or more in height — and still feel safe. And you don't have to paddle!

wife and husband Claudia Kerckhoff and Dirk Van Wijk, created the option in response to people who wanted to experience the wilderness and the beauty of nature without the party atmosphere surrounding the more adventuresome excursions. "The trip runs Monday to Friday only, when there is less traffic on the river, we're super busy on week-ends," says Ms. Kerckhoff. Participants in the family float trips are bussed from OWL headquarters to a launching spot below McCoy Chute, the first and most spectacular set of rapids on the regular run. The trip then continues along the same route

followed by regular rafts. However, everyone has the option of walking around the rapids should they find it too intimidating. If you are wondering how the same river can be challenging and tame at the same time, there are many channels and a number of ways to traverse each rapid, even the big ones like Black Chute, Bulcher's Knife, and Coliseum. Ms. Kerckhoff explains that "There is the regular run, and then there's what's known as the macho sense as the chicken run."



Owl Rafting provides safe thrills for the entire family.

OWL co-owners and operators,

(Cont. on Insert back page.)

Land O' Lakes

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 Barry's Bay (613) 756-3620
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 Forester's Falls (613) 646-2263
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Yours to Discover... LAND O' LAKES AND SURROUNDING AREA

In Eastern Ontario

Tole Painting is Alive

ONE COULD HARDLY envision a bustling little business such as Creative Impressions, on Peterson Road, in the small hamlet of Northbrook. It is at this quaint building, formerly a Free Methodist Church, that Doreen and John Howard have for ten years delighted the area with a combination Tea Room, Gift Shop and Tole Painting Studio. Until recently, a full line of antiques gave everyone a warm, fuzzy walk into the past.

Formerly unknown to this area, Tole Painting has become a focal point, as illustrated by the exterior of the building.

"Tole" is the French word for unpainted tin. Originally, this early American art referred to the manner in which the early settlers decorated their walls, floors, furniture, tinware and many wooden objects used in their home. Several of the techniques were brought over to the Americas by immigrants. Today such techniques encompass

Stencilling, Bronzing, Faux Finishes, painting on fabric and Theorem painting (on velvet). Free hand brush strokes may be seen in Norwegian Rosemaling, Bavarian Baucmalerei, Dutch Hinderloopen, Russian Floras, as well as in Pennsylvania Dutch. Today, country painting such as French florals and even American "cows and ducks" are very popular. The word "Tole" then has grown to encompass all forms of "Decorating Painting".

In fact, in North America, the National Society of Tole and Decorative Painting, based in Newton, Kansas, has members numbering in the double digit thousands. Conventions are held annually and painters come from as far away as Australia and Japan to participate and compete in shows. The Society was founded in 1970 by Priscilla Hauser of Tulsa, Oklahoma, who has been a yearly visiting teacher in Northbrook. Seminar students have come from such distant places as Bermuda to take instruction from Priscilla, known

as one of the ten best Decorative Artists in America, author of many books and a communicator par excellence.

This year at Creative Impressions, you will see much more Tole painting as a new "Contemporary Gallery" of Tole and Fine Art is being launched. Classroom instructions in Tole Painting, as well as Basketry, Fashion Art and other forms of painting such as Watercolours, Stencilling, Faux Finishes and Decorative Painting will be offered.

Drop in for a glimpse and you too will be amazed! Enroll in classes, come for lunch in a Victorian Tea Room, and enjoy our wide range of gifts and "Nature Blessings".

Doreen and John and their staff welcome you, daily from 10-4 p.m. Don't leave without a memorable visit. It's worth the effort (Phone 336-2404 — see business directory advertisement)■



David Berr

Doreen Howard displays a fine example of her Tole painting.

Logos Land Resort

Near Cobden, Ontario, about one and a half hours north of Bon Echo Park is Logos Land Resort, a mecca of entertainment for everyone.

Logos Land caters to all holiday needs. The Resort features camping, golf, horseback riding, restaurant and grill, and a spectacular water park. It offers day-use as well as overnight accommodations at a campground or full facility vacation units. Resort Director Les Dalzell says that, "since opening in 1987 the popularity of the Resort has grown rapidly and facilities continue to expand to meet the demand. We have some very ambitious plans in the works."

The Logos Land water park is particularly popular with children. It has five water slides, two of which are 420 feet long for the real adventuresome type.

For a break or a change, come and enjoy Logos Land Resort on Highway 17, four kilometers east of Cobden, Ontario, or 18 kilometers west of Renfrew in the beautiful Ottawa Valley. Look for the Ark! (See advertisement in the business director)■

Oak Lor Corral Riding Stable

A Pioneer Adventure

ON CASH, ON WOODY, ON Lucy and Shilo — Whoa! — Whoaaa!!

If you are concerned that Santa has put Dasher, Dancer, Comet and Cupid out to pasture, not to worry. This isn't about breaking with tradition. On the contrary, this is about carrying on a tradition. These catchy names

belong to a few of the gentle trail horses and donkeys at Oak Lor Corral Riding Stable near the town of Kaladar in the heart of the Land O' Lakes.

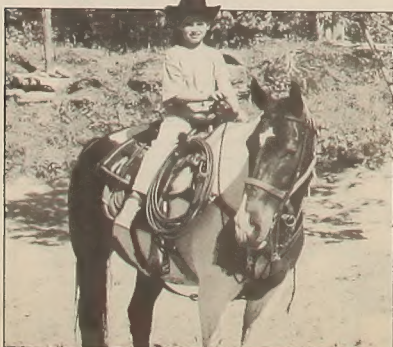
With just one year of business under their belts, Oakie and Lorie Parks are chomping at the bit so to speak, to get back out on the trail. And who wouldn't look

forward to guiding leisurely rides, spinning a tall tale or two, and making new acquaintances. A natural pioneer adventure awaits you along the scenic open ridges, under the forest canopy, or beside a quiet beaver pond where wildlife abounds and great photo opportunities are all about. "We can accommodate groups of six at a time" says Oakie, "and first time riders and children are most welcome. Our horses are very docile. As an added precaution we take only walk rides."

The Oak Lor operation is more than just trail riding. There is a farm animal petting zoo, wagon and buggy rides, and come Winter, sleigh rides are popular family fun.

Make a point to drop by. Your hosts Oakie, Lorie and their children Dallas, Kati, Naomi and Drew will make your visit an unforgettable adventure.

Look for the Oak Lor Corral sign on Highway #41 just north of the town of Kaladar. Phone 336-9421. (See business directory advertisement)■



David Berr

Kati Parks sits tall(tish) in the saddle on Shilo, one of several horses at Oak Lor Corral Riding Stable.

Family Float Trips

(Continued from front)

We take the conservative route. But we always have full view of the mighty and beautiful big rapids of the Ottawa River."

The guide does all the paddling and steering of the raft, unlike the regular trips where the paddle power of the participants plays an important role in navigating through the whitewater. Senior citizens in particular find this much to their liking.

The trip is designed to appeal to families with children who are part of the latest baby boom. But youngsters must weigh at least 50 pounds to participate. Daycare is available for younger children while the parents and older brothers and sisters go on a float trip. "We take children as young as two years on our float trips on the Madawaska River," says Ms. Kerckhoff, referring to OWL's sister company located near Barry's Bay.

For information and reservations, call 646-2263. (see business directory advertisement)

Excerpt from an article in the Cobden Sun by Marie Zettler Editor

1994

What's Happening

Discover Bon Echo . . .

**At the Visitor Centre**

Discover the story behind the scenery through exhibits, artifacts and activities. This year several new exhibits have been added. Find out where our "Artist-in-Residence" has set up their easel this week. The Visitor Centre is open daily 1:00 - 4:00 and 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. throughout the summer.

Under the Stars

Nearly every evening the secrets of Bon Echo's rich natural and cultural history are revealed through slide shows, sing-songs, plays, puppets and more. Come and enjoy some entertaining education.

Check the kiosks in the Park for specific program details, times and location.

**On a Guided Hike**

Experience the wilds of Bon Echo first-hand on a guided hike along one of the many trails or waterways. A Park Naturalist will open your eyes and mind to many interesting facets of nature and history.

Different guided hikes are offered Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays throughout the summer and at other times as posted

With a Purpose

Documenting wildlife and plants in the Park takes many pairs of eyes. We can use your help! Ask a Naturalist how you can assist by reporting.

- Peregrine Falcon sightings
- Common Loons seen on Park lakes
- Bird nests



Hey Kids...



Join in the Fun and Adventure!

There's A Programme For Every Age...

For 3 to 5-Year-Olds:

Parents, reawaken your sense of wonder as you discover the natural world through the eyes of your child on Fridays from 10:30 'til 11:30 a.m.

For 6 to 8-Year-Olds:

Games, crafts, hikes, puppets and so much more, are part of these fun and educational programmes presented on Mondays and Fridays from 10:30 'til 11:30 a.m.

For 9-Year-Olds and Up:

Pond studies, theatrical presentations and salamander searches are some of the many exciting programmes that may be enjoyed by youths on Wednesdays from 10:30 'til 11:30 a.m.

Everyone Can Become a Junior Naturalist

Pick up your "Discovery Card" at the Visitor Centre and start earning your 1994 certificate today ■



More Camper Information

1994

Campground Road Safety

Many pedestrians use Bon Echo's roadways, so we ask that you drive with extreme caution and obey all of the signs and speed limits posted in the park. We recommend a maximum of 15 kilometres per hour in the campground areas.

Bicycles and motorcycles also must be operated with care, and are not allowed on the walking trails, beaches or in the picnic area.

Firewood

You may buy firewood for \$1.50 per cubic foot bundle of mixed hardwood or kindling from the Firewood Concession located between the Park Office and the Mazinaw Lake Campground Office.

During the 1994 camping season, the concession will be operating:

May 20, 21, 22

5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

June 17, 18

5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

June 24 through September 4

5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

These are the minimum operating hours for the Firewood Concession. You will find a com-

plete weekly schedule posted at the concession entrance.

NOTE: Between May 13 and Oct. 10 on any day not scheduled above, wood can be obtained from the main gate office or from the Park Office during posted hours.

On the Beach

Parents, our beaches are not supervised, so you must accept responsibility for your children's safety and welfare at all times. Please observe the following rules while on the beach or in the water:

- * Never swim alone. Always use the buddy system. Small children should be permitted to go into the water unless accompanied by an adult.
- * Keep all glass containers, dogs and other domestic animals off the beach.

If you suspect a drowning or any other type of water emergency, please use the emergency phones to contact the Park Office. From the Park Office, we can immediately notify our staff by radio.

Groceries and Supplies

Many goods and services are available in Cloyne and Northbrook located, 10 and 23 kilometres respectively, south of

In An Emergency:

First Aid

There are first aid kits in all of our park offices and vehicles. If you suspect a drowning or require first aid, please do not hesitate to approach any member of our staff. Most of our staff are trained in basic first aid and can offer assistance with artificial respiration, minor cuts and scrapes.

Lost Persons

If a member of your group becomes lost, contact one of our

Bon Echo along Highway 41. Restaurants, gas stations, canoe outfitters, marinas and camp stores can be found north and south of the Park as well.

Ask any member of our staff, consult the park bulletin boards, or refer to the Land 'O' Lakes Users to Discover insert, for further details.

Church Services

A hymn sing is held at the Amphitheatre every Sunday morning at 10:45 a.m. This is followed by an interdenominational church service at 11:00 a.m., sponsored by the Anglican Church of Canada. The times of

staff immediately. If the lost person happens to be a child, have someone stay at the exact spot where the child was last seen, and ask someone else to wait at the child's campsite.

Emergency Telephones

Emergency telephones can be found on New Beach, South Beach and North Beach. In an emergency situation, just lift the receiver on the telephone and dial the number posted. You will then be in direct contact with our Park Office.

other church services in our local communities are available at the Park Office.

Mail Service

The closest post office is in the hamlet of Cloyne, but you are welcome to place outgoing letters in the mailbox located in the traffic circle behind the Main Gate. Incoming mail may be picked up at the Park Office.

Pets

Unrestrained pets pose a hazard to park visitors and wildlife. For everyone's health and safety, we ask that you keep your pet on a leash not exceeding two metres in length, and away from desig-

Emergency Numbers

Park Office (613) 336-2228

O.P.P. 1-800-267-7444

Fire Dept. (613) 336-8988

Ambulance (613) 336-2000

Northbrook Medical Centre
(19 km south on Highway 41) ..
..... (613) 336-8888

Lennox & Addington County
Hospital (Napanee, 82 km
south on Highway 41) ..
..... (613) 354-3301

nated swimming and picnic areas. You may, however, take your leashed pet for a swim in Bon Echo Creek.

As a courtesy to fellow campers, please clean up after your pet. Dog owners are asked not to leave their pets unattended. Barking dogs disrupt campground peacefulness.

Messages

You may post messages on the board at the Main Gate. Urgent telephone messages will be delivered to your campsite.

Telephones

You will find public pay phones outside of the Park Office, at the trailer sanitary and refill station, and at the Hardwood Hill Campground Office.

Towing Mirrors

Towing mirrors pose a hazard for children and other park visitors. Please help us to prevent accidents by removing the extended mirrors from your vehicle once your trailer has been unhitched.

Voluntary Radio Ban

A voluntary radio ban is again in effect for Hardwood Hill Campground. Campers have responded very well to this and comments have been favourable. Use of radios or walkmans with earphones is permitted.

Concerns

If you have a concern, complaint, or problem, please report it immediately to any of our park offices or staff. Appropriate action will be taken as soon as possible.

Number of People Per Site

A maximum of six persons or one family unit is permitted on each campsite.

Your Comments Please!

We want to know what you think about our services, facilities, and programmes. Even more importantly, we want you to know that a safe environment is being maintained for you.

Please help us to assess our efforts by filling out the comment card on the back of your campsite permit and dropping it in the comment box at the campground office when you depart. ■

Summary of Provincial Park Offences

There is one basic rule in Ontario Provincial Parks: **Have respect and consideration for your fellow visitors and the park environment.** The following table lists some of the more common laws enforced in the park as well as the minimum fines that apply. The Provincial Parks Act and other legislation governing behaviour in provincial parks are available in the Park Office. These laws are enforced by Park Wardens who are Peace Officers defined under the Criminal Code of Canada and have the authority of a member of the Ontario Provincial Police Force in a Provincial Park.

Offence	Fine	Explanation
Alcoholic Beverages		
*Have Liquor in open container other than residence	\$105.00 and/or eviction	You are permitted to consume or possess an open alcoholic beverage on a registered campsite only.
Campfires		
*Start fire other than in fireplace	\$55.00	Fires are permitted in fireplaces only for safety reasons. Park visitors should not have to worry about stepping on hot coals on the beach or anywhere else. By restricting fires to the fire rings provided, the risk of an uncontrolled forest fire is reduced.
Camping Equipment		
*Place more than 2 pieces of shelter equipment	\$30.00	Without a limit on the amount of camping gear allowed, campsites would quickly deteriorate, becoming larger and larger, eventually destroying the surrounding vegetation.
Camping Permits		
*Fail to vacate and remove property from campsite on permit expiry.	\$55.00	You are required to vacate and remove all property from your campsite by 2:00 p.m. on the date your permit expires so that others will have access to it.
*Unlawfully occupy campsite	\$55.00	The maximum length of stay in a provincial park is 21 days to allow for greater turnover of campsites and to provide access for a greater number of visitors.
Fireworks		
*Possess fireworks	\$55.00	Possession or use of fireworks is prohibited at all times in provincial parks. They constitute a fire hazard and disturb other visitors who want to enjoy the park in a peaceful manner.
*Ignite fireworks	\$105.00	licensed motor vehicles may be operated on roads only. All provisions of the Highway Traffic Act apply on all park roads.
Motorized Vehicles		
*Unlawfully take motor vehicle into park or possess or operate it	\$55.00	Off-road vehicles are not permitted into the park because of the environmental damage which results from their use. Each vehicle in the park must have a valid permit.
*Operate vehicle off roadway	\$55.00	All vehicles must be parked in designated areas.
Parking		
*Fail to park in designated area	\$10.00	Except for "two-vehicle sites", only one vehicle may be parked on a campsite. Some sites are not large enough to accommodate 2 vehicles without vegetation being damaged. An Additional Vehicle Permit only provides for a second vehicle to be parked in a specific Additional Parking area or an assigned additional parking space.
*Park vehicle in area not designated by additional vehicle permit	\$25.00	For health and safety purposes, all domestic animals must be kept under control, and on a leash not exceeding 2 metres, at all times. Under the Public Health Act, pets are not allowed in swimming areas or on the beach at any time. In addition, you must clean up after your pet.
Pets		
*Unlawfully permit domestic animal at large	\$30.00	Only registered campers are allowed in a provincial park during the posted hours of closing 10 p.m. to 8 a.m.
*Unlawfully permit domestic animal to be in swimming area or beach	\$30.00	Deposit all garbage and litter in the containers provided to discourage raccoons and other wildlife from becoming pests. Campsites must be kept clean and tidy at all times to eliminate potential hazards to park visitors and wildlife.
*Permit domestic animal to make excessive noise	\$30.00	
Hours of Closing		
*Unlawfully enter park after closing hours	\$55.00	
*Unlawfully remain in park after closing hours	\$55.00	
Refuse		
*Litter	\$105.00	
*Fail to keep campsite clean	\$80.00	
Roydism/Noise		
*Use abusive or insulting language	\$105.00 and/or eviction	Provincial Parks are established to provide a setting for peaceful, natural experiences.
*Make excessive noise in park	\$80.00	Roydism behaviour, including excessive noise and abusive language, is not permitted. You are not allowed to disturb any other person or interfere with anyone else's enjoyment of the park at anytime of the day or night.
*Disturb other persons in park	\$80.00	
*Unlawfully cut plant or tree	\$80.00	
*Damage Crown Property	\$80.00	

1994

The Friend's Corner



Experience Bon Echo by Water - Take a Ride Aboard...

THE WANDERER TOO
and the MUGWUMP

Courtesy of The Friends of Bon Echo Park

- Explore Mazinaw Lake aboard the Wanderer Too tourboat which departs from the dock at the Visitor Centre. The Wanderer's hour-long excursions of Upper and Lower Mazinaw Lake provide park visitors with ample opportunity to take photographs, or just relax and enjoy the interpretive commentary as well as the scenic vistas of Bon Echo's magnificent landscape. Advance registration is recommended and can be made at the docks or Friend's Giftshop.
- Aboard the Mugwump ferry boat visitors are shuttled from the Lagoon across Mazinaw Lake to the Cliff-top Trail access dock. A well-maintained trail and sturdy staircases lead young and old alike to a series of observation decks overlooking Mazinaw Lake and the surrounding countryside. Service is on demand and advance registration is not required.

Schedules and rates for both boats are posted at the respective docksites and at the information kiosks throughout the Park. ■

New Start In An Old Setting

THE SUMMER OF 1994 will see big changes in the Friends' Book Store and Gift Shop. We are moving out of our tiny corner in the Visitor Centre at Dollywood to an area four times the size across the way in Greystones. The store will be taking over one entire side of this historic building and its new name is Greystones' Gifts and Books. With all the additional space, we will be able to offer many new gift items, a greater selection of book titles, extra environmental toys,

posters and much more. This year's raffle item is an oil painting of the Rock, by Artist-

Echo T-shirts and mugs — souvenirs with an interpretive message. Since all the store's profits go towards environmental programs and projects in the park, you can feel twice as good about your purchases.

We are excited about the expansion of our store and invite everyone to wander through the doorway of Merrill Denison's old cabin, listen for the voices and footsteps from the past and browse among our wonderful new products. ■



in-Residence John Mortenson. We are also adding to our line of pictograph pewter jewellery, Bon

Paddles Included

THE ULTIMATE WAY TO appreciate the majesty of Mazinaw cliff is from the water at close quarters. With this in mind, the Friends have entered into a cooperative agreement with Bon Echo Villa and Smart's Marina to make canoes conveniently available for you. The rental facility will be located near our new Gift Shop next to

the Visitor Centre, right across from the Rock.

We are catering to those park users who just want to sight-see or experience first-hand, the fascinating natural and cultural history associated with the cliff. Interpretive information will be available.



Full service rentals for overnight camping and day long excursions will continue to be provided at Smart's Marina and Bon Echo Villa, just outside the Park boundary. Enjoy! ■

Another New Exhibit

Bon Echo's Bonsai

THE FRIENDS OF BON Echo have a whole new set of friends — Canada Trust's "Friends of the Environment Foundation". Thanks to their \$700 grant, when you come to the Visitor Centre this summer you'll see another brand new exhibit about an amazing phenomena. This one tells the

story of the vertical old-growth forest on the Bon Echo Rock and the ancient Eastern White Cedars that cling to its face. Gary Page, a graphic design student, graduate in wildlife biology and former Park Naturalist designed and constructed the display.

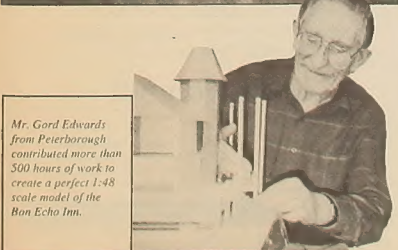
If you are one of the donors to

the "Adopt an Ancient Cedar Tree" campaign, you also won't want to miss seeing your name on the beautiful new plaque across from the exhibit. Pick up one of our new brochures courtesy of Printcraft in Picton to find out how you can adopt a cedar for yourself or as a unique gift. ■

Bon Echo Inn

The Story Of A Craftsman

by Colin Edwards, President, Friends of Bon Echo Park



Mr. Gord Edwards from Peterborough contributed more than 500 hours of work to create a perfect 1:48 scale model of the Bon Echo Inn.

ABOUT A YEAR AND A half ago, at a Friends Board of Directors meeting, the idea was raised of having a model of the Bon Echo Inn built to display at the Visitor Centre. Everyone agreed it would be a valuable addition but the costs involved would be prohibitive.

I suggested I might know a person who met the requirements of our want-ad. For over 40 years whenever something needed repairing or building, or volunteer labour was required, I called upon my Dad — Gord Edwards. Why should this time be any different?

I proposed Dad and outlined the proposal. He was somewhat skeptical (probably remembering some of the other situations I had got him into) but agreed to visit the Park and find out what the job entailed. I smiled. He was hooked!

Following the meeting, he returned home to Peterborough with a pile of fuzzy photos and copies of old architectural drawings. Being an engineer and draughtsman with expertise in woodworking and model-making, he soon realized that building a

Wanted: Skilled model builder to draw accurate plans and construct meticulously correct scale model of the Bon Echo Inn. A number of old photos and rough plans will be available as resource materials. Salary is \$0.00.

model which would satisfy both Park staff and his own high standards would be a much bigger job than it first appeared. However, after many hours of work and another trip to the Park, he completed a set of accurate plans showing a late 1920's version of the Inn.

Construction began using a building fund supplied by the Friends. In his basement workshop Dad meticulously replicated decking, railings, windows, walls, roofs, porches

and gables. After almost a year of work and over 400 hours of labour, through major surgery and better times, the shell of the Inn was complete.

Dad then began working on interior details. He had built removable walls in two areas so people could see inside the model. Miniature furniture, carefully constructed fireplaces and accurately reproduced decor gradually appeared. Scale model people and vehicles were purchased to complete the magical scene.

As I write this, Dad is busy with the final assembly of the model. Both as his son and as Friends' President, I am very indebted to Gord Edwards, a master-craftsman who has devoted so much time and expertise to this project. The model will be on display in the Visitor Centre this summer as the centrepiece among Bon Echo's historical exhibits. ■

"Glad Red Meeting Place"

A.Y. Jackson at Mazinaw Lake

by Robert Stacey

IN THE 1920'S, THERE were few owner-operated resorts like the Bon Echo Inn that could have attracted, much less afforded, the services of a fine artist to design advertising materials — especially one who had the distinction of founding a major school of painting. But Merrill Denison was not your ordinary innkeeper, and Group of Seven co-founder A.Y. Jackson, despite his eminence, was not too proud to accept a commercial art commission in return for a chance to discover an unfamiliar and spectacular landscape. The coming together of these two personalities resulted in one of the most distinctive Canadian travel posters ever designed.

After his mother's death in 1921 Merrill realized the business he had inherited desperately needed a higher profile if it were to survive. To accomplish this Merrill set about to procure the very best and most up-to-date promotional materials. The hope was that these items would be distributed by the Canadian Pacific Railway, whose line passed through Kaladar, a major jumping-off point for Bon Echo Inn visitors.

Luckily for Denison, many of his artist friends from the Arts and Letters Club in Toronto had started out as commercial illustrators and designers and most were still occupied by day in this field.

Even those who, like Jackson, had traded their drafting-tables for easels were willing to take on the odd advertising job for much-needed cash and the chance to travel. Adding Jackson's love of winter scenery and new painting places, it was easy for Merrill to lure him to Bon Echo in February 1924.

On 13 February Merrill wrote to Muriel Goggin, whom he had hired to manage the Inn and would later marry, that he had "a letter from Alec Jackson from Montreal and he expects to arrive on the 15th to stay a few weeks. I'm very glad the place is to be painted in its winter garb by a fine painter."

The previous month Jackson wrote to fellow Group of Seven member, J.E.H. MacDonald, "Leave here 24th January to go to Bon Echo. Expect to find myself in very exclusive literary circle..."

"I am glad Jackson is here,"

Merrill later told Muriel, "He is an intelligent man with wide interests and I can feel my mind expanding again in discussing things with him." In the same letter he also congratulated her on securing a deal with the C.P.R. to promote the Bon Echo Inn.



A.Y. Jackson, was one of the members of the Group of Seven, who visited Bon Echo in the early 1900's and created promotional materials for the Inn.

Before Jackson turned his attention to his primary objective, which was to sketch and paint the ice-covered lake and looming red-grey cliff, he worked with Merrill on several promotional materials. During his stay Jackson designed a handsome letterhead for the Inn, which was also used on a folding brochure. A section of the scarp also found its way onto the cover of a flyer advertising the 1925 season. But the crowning touch was Jackson's poster design.

Writing to Merrill on 31 May 1924, Muriel Goggin informs him that, "Alec Jackson has done a gaudy flaming poster... Everyone thought it a gorgeous thing... I telephoned the C.P.R. about how many they wanted and Mr. Horder said... 250 because they wanted to put them all through the States." Although considered "very cheap" by the printer, Muriel thought the prices quoted to produce the poster were "...a ghastly chunk of money."

Despite the high cost of printing, Denison somehow found the money to produce Jackson's poster. In the meantime, however, their relationship with the C.P.R. would soon unravel due to complaints by customers about the service at the Inn, the "primitive" conditions, and the terrible road between Kaladar and Cloyne.



In 1926 the poster was included in an exhibition of "good Canadian Posters" organized by the National Gallery of Canada. In 1977 the original artwork was sold at auction. Today the poster is hard to come by and expensive, but mint copies can still be found.

This striking and strongly composed image inspired a line in a poem from Stuart MacKinnon's 1980 collection, *Mazinaw*: "Jackson's glad red meeting place". The Bon Echo Inn was truly a meeting place of minds and A.Y. Jackson was one of its finest.

(Robert Stacey, a Toronto based writer, editor and exhibition curator.)

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Naturally... it concerns you

1994

Natural History News

Close Encounters

SOME PEOPLE HAVE ALL the luck. This account by Mr. Wayne Devries describes a chance in a million encounter with one of Bon Echo's most interesting and charming personalities. It happened last July first weekend on Joeperry Lake. As always it was when least expected.

"All I could think about was why, oh why, did I leave my camera back at the campsite! It was such an incredible experience! At one point all five of them surrounded my canoe only about fifteen feet away. Their heads poked up through the water like periscopes. Frankly it was a little unnerving, even though I knew it was just playful curiosity. This wasn't my first encounter with otters but I had never been close enough to hear their grunts and chattering before. From a distance you can't possibly appreciate their size and how agile and powerfully they swim. It was certainly a sight to behold."

With patience and a little luck of your own you too might catch a glimpse of Bon Echo's *Lutra canadensis*. The River Otter is a large, water-loving member of the weasel family. Although it is seldom seen in the Mazinaw Lake area, it is a year-round resident of the more remote corners of the Park.

Measuring up to 137 centimetres (54 inches) in length and weighing nearly 15 kilograms (33 pounds), the River Otter is perfectly designed for life in Bon Echo's lakes, marshes and streams. Its muscular neck, short, powerful legs, long tail and webbed feet help to propel its streamlined body through water in a swift, snake-like motion in pursuit of its prey. The long, stiff whiskers on its broad snout are highly sensitive and aid the animal in locating and capturing food in murky lakes or streams. Like the beaver, the otter has protective membranes that function like ear and nose plugs under water.

While the otter is almost always found near the water, it occasionally travels inland, particularly during the mating season. When travelling on land, this large, aquatic mammal moves with a bounding run. In the winter, its "run" becomes a combination of jumps followed by a slide during which the animal's forefeet are tucked neatly back along its sides. The slides may carry the otter a considerable distance especially down hills and across frozen lakes. In the summer, otters use grassy or muddy slopes for sliding into the water.

Otters slide not only as a means of travel, but also for "fun". It's not unusual for an entire family

of otters, the adults and up to five young (usually two or three), to take turns at making belly whopper-like slides down a slick bank and into the water. This playful activity is often accompanied by a variety of squeals, chuckles and grunts.

to see an otter look for tracks, scats (droppings) or slides on muddy areas. Studying signs and unravelling the story they tell can be almost as gratifying as a close encounter ■



Michael Reutz

Otters are just one of the fascinating animals inhabiting Bon Echo's back country.

Otters are outstanding parents, with both adults sharing in the raising and training of their offspring. An otter den is usually in the bank of a lake or river where they excavate a long burrow that leads to a large living chamber. However their "den" may also be in a hollow log, or just a spot under a jumble of rocks. Sometimes even abandoned beaver lodges, muskrat or groundhog burrows are used as homes.

Fish, including sunfish, minnows, trout and perch, seem to be the otter's favourite food. If crayfish, frogs and large aquatic insects, such as stonefly nymphs and water beetles are available these are also eaten with great relish. Otters normally hunt alone but will occasionally travel in pairs or in small groups, a trait that sets them apart from other members of the weasel family.

Intelligent and playful, the otter is a personality that helps make the wilder parts of Bon Echo Provincial Park a more exciting place to visit.

When you are out and about in the Park's back country waterways, keep a watchful eye for this remarkable animal. Joeperry and Pearson Lakes as well as the smaller lakes along the Abes and Essens hiking trails have ideal habitat. Even if you don't have the good fortune

Autumn Splendour

September 10 to October 10, 1994

Some say autumn is the best time of year to visit Bon Echo. There are no biting insects to annoy you and fewer people mean greater chances to see wildlife. Best of all, the contrast of grey granite outcrops, deep blue lakes, rich green conifers and the gold, crimson and russets of deciduous leaves creates a tapestry of colour that is just spectacular!

So join us this autumn and camp for the weekend or just come for the day. Each weekend the following activities and amenities will be available. (Inquire about specific dates and times by calling the park at (613) 336-2228.)

- Visitor Centre open
- Friends of Bon Echo Park Gift and Book Shop open
- "Mugwump" ferry/boat shuttle operating
- Wildlife viewing, Fishing and Boating Opportunities
- Full Camping Conveniences
 - hot showers — flush toilets — comfort stations — electrical campsites

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Mazinaw Lake Campgrounds



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