

HISTORY OF  
THE ST. THOMAS FIELD NATURALIST CLUB

1950 - 1967



*"Conservation is the intelligent management of all the benefits bestowed upon us by Nature, and the protection and preservation of those benefits, so that while yielding a maximum pleasure and profit today, they will remain inviolate as a heritage for the future."*

*Compiled by Mrs. Marshall (Dolly) Field*

Presented to  
Egan County  
Pioneer Museum

February 1968

## ELGIN NATURE CLUB

Nature study and conservation has always interested many people and so it was on March 21, 1941, that sixteen young men began the formation of a Nature Club in St. Thomas and Elgin County. They met at the Y.M.C.A. with Ron Brooman as chairman and Donald Young as secretary. Jack Bocking chairman of an organizational committee, was to bring in a slate of officers and a draft of a constitution at the next meeting on April 18, 1941.

The officers that were accepted for the new organization, "The Elgin Nature Club" were as follows: President, Ron Brooman; Vice-President, Fred Bodsworth; Secretary, Donald Young; Executive Members, Marshall Field, James Stewart.

The programs for the meetings were arranged to interest all, with Don Young describing his plans for the recording of spring bird arrivals and plotting of nesting sites; Jack Bocking describing the various wild plants; Fred Bodsworth telling of his experiences at bird banding; O. Kilbourn on astronomy; Doug Bocking giving a talk on birds. Other interesting speakers were R. W. Johnson relating his personal experiences on his hobby of birds, Dr. W. E. Saunders and Dr. J. D. Detwiler both of London. The Club's first outing was to White's Woods at Springwater on June 7, 1942 which was a regional gathering sponsored by the McIlwraith Ornithological Club of London.

The last minutes recorded were for January 27, 1943, by the secretary at that time, Charles Johnson. The Club was forced to disband as so many of the young men enlisted in the armed services of World War II, leaving to serve their country.

## THE ST. THOMAS FIELD NATURALIST CLUB

After the war, many of the interested naturalists that had been in the original Club moved to other places. But still there were some who would like to see a Nature Club started again in the St. Thomas area.

On September 29, 1950, in the Department of Agriculture rooms, Talbot St., St. Thomas, with forty-five interested people, a new Club was started. It was to be called "The St. Thomas Field Naturalist Club." Marshall Field was chairman with Charles Johnson acting as secretary. A nominating committee, Jack Stirling, William Stewart and Marvin Smout was selected to bring in a slate of officers. The guest speaker at this first meeting was William Girling of London. He related the history of the McIlwraith Ornithological Club and also gave a talk on birds. With his encouragement and best wishes, the new Club was off to a good start.

Officers for 1950-1951 as follows: President, Marshall Field; Vice-President, Russel Foster; Secretary-Treasurer, Charles Johnson; Advisory Committee, William Allan, William Stewart, W. R. Bocking, Joseph Field and R. W. Johnson.

The Club became affiliated with the Federation of Ontario Naturalists, Toronto. On December 24, 1950, the first Christmas Bird Census was taken for the National Audubon Society by this newly organized Club. There were 14 observers in 4 parties and they recorded 39 species and 1,314 individuals. The observers were: Lloyd Auckland, Fred Bodsworth, Joseph Field, Marshall Field (compiler), Russel Foster, Charles Johnson, Ian McKay, Campbell Miller, Lois Pincombe, Marvin Smout, William Stewart, Albert Tier, Donald Young and James Young. (On December 26, 1949, a Christmas Bird Census was taken by 5 interested natural-

ists and it is recorded in the 50th Christmas Bird Count of the National Audubon Society. Marshall Field (compiler), Fred Bodsworth, Ron Brooman, Ken McCaw and Donald Young sighted 27 species and 850 individuals).

## SPEAKERS: 1950-1954

To make the meetings interesting and informative, the following contributed their talents: R. Prince from the Carling Conservation Club; Hon. F. S. Thomas on conservation; (Mr. Thomas, Fred White of Springwater and Tom Jones of Dexter were made Honorary members of the Club); William Girling on birds; William Stewart, flowers (Mr. Stewart is compiling a list of wild flowers that are native to this county); Dan Neill, conservation officer for the Department of Lands and Forests, who showed films; Munroe Landon, Simcoe on the flowers of Norfolk County; Dr. Keith Reynolds on conservation surveys; Dr. W. W. Hughes of Embro gave a special presentation of bird pictures at the Vocational School; Harold Lancaster of West Elgin who spoke on the great naturalist, Frank Farley; Al Berst from Lands and Forests speaking about Lake Whittaker; Dr. Kingston from the University of Western Ontario on astronomy; Charles Bartlett on the Mississippi Waterfowl program; Cyril Clarke with his colored slides of nature; Fred Bodsworth speaking on Northern Ontario; Rev. L. C. Harvey from Brownsville with his slides on wild flowers; Don Young, wild flowers; Jim Leach and William Girling from London; Jim Robertson with his experiences at the F.O.N. Nature Camp; special program with Dick Bird of Regina who showed his pictures of Newfoundland; Dr. W. W. H. Gunn from the F.O.N., Toronto; A. C. Askew, bees; Mr. & Mrs. Fred Lewis showing slides and telling of their trips to the west coast of Canada and of the southern United States; William Carrick with his film on Point Pelee; Eli Davis of London, on mammals; a

special program with Charles Broley of Delta, Ontario, and Florida, telling of his experiences on the banding of bald eagles in Florida; Herbert Milnes, Woodstock, on reptiles; Dr. David Fowle, Maple Research Station, on ruffed grouse; George Ponsford from the Department of Lands and Forests; Charles Bartlett, mammals; Ken Murphy from the Lands and Forests on woodlots; Dr. George Stirrett, Canadian Wildlife Service with practical lesson on conservation; Marshall Field telling about wood ducks and the banding of them. The members' nights always prove to be very interesting.

## PROJECTS

A special project was undertaken with wood duck boxes being built and erected. During the winter of 1953, the Club awarded prizes to Bruce Graham, John Lemon, Barry Barnard and Gary Carnegie for their efforts in building of these boxes.

The Club was instrumental in having a sign erected at the Pinafore Park Wildlife Sanctuary with William Girling of London, designing and painting it, the Carling Conservation Club donated the funds for it.

It was on February 8, 1952, the Club discussed the project of listing all the birds seen in Elgin County in book form. Ron Brooman (now of Kitchener) did the tremendous job of research and compiling, with the Club underwriting the cost and disposing of the books. It wasn't until 1954 that the books were ready for distribution and sale. (Incidentally there are still some of these valuable books available from the Club if you are interested).

It became necessary for the Club to move to larger quarters and so on and after March 7, 1952, the meetings would be

held in the children's section of the St. Thomas Public Library. Nearly 200 people attended this meeting in the new location to hear William Carrick of Toronto and see his excellent films of nature.

To begin a program on conservation, the Club planted willows along the banks of Kettle Creek at Cowan Park. Seven hundred trees (white pine, birch, etc.) were planted by students of the St. Thomas Collegiate Institute at Cowan Park. The Conservation Committee who was responsible for this project; Russel Foster, chairman, Wm. Allan, Wm. Corner and Lloyd Auckland.

## NATURE CAMP

The Federation of Ontario Naturalists sponsored a nature camp in the north each year for two weeks. The Club took the opportunity to send young naturalists to learn more about nature. In 1952, Jim Robertson was the first one chosen to go and enjoy this camp. Bob Henry was chosen in 1953; Ray Hillisheim in 1954; Jim Ronald in 1955; John Lemon in 1956 and two boys were sent in 1958, Jim Butcher and Darryl Till.

## AUDUBON SCREEN TOURS

Audubon Screen Tours were tried for the first time in the fall and winter of 1952 with three tours being presented on a trial basis. Since they were so successful, it was decided to carry them on with five tours being presented each season from then on. They were sponsored for ten years when in the spring of 1962 they had to be discontinued because of rising costs and lack of ticket sales. But during those ten of Audubon, many interesting naturalists were introduced to St. Thomas and they brought with them wonderful pictures and educational information. To be able to present these

pictures to the fullest, the Club purchased a large 8 x 10 beaded screen. When not in use, it was left at the school and when the Club was finished sponsoring the Audubon Tours, A.V.S.S. purchased the screen from the Club for \$75.00. Tickets for these Tours were distributed to the public schools to help further the interest with the children. Also many patients from the Ontario Hospital were entertained with these pictures.

Not only did the Club hold a regional gathering at Springwater in May, 1952, but they combined their efforts with the London Club for a gathering in September 1952 at Hawk Cliff for the migration of hawks and other birds. The largest 2-day count was made for all of the North American continent on that particular weekend at Hawk Cliff. Since then it has become quite a famous spot for naturalists from Canada and the United States to gather and observe this wonderful migration each fall of hawks, other birds and migrants.

Pinafore Park Wildlife Sanctuary was the home of a pair of mute swans purchased from the United States by the City of St. Thomas. In February, 1953, one of them died and so the Club felt they would like to help put swans back on Pinafore Lake. Through the help and services of Lord Elgin, contact was made to the zoo authorities of the Royal Zoological Gardens, Edinburgh, Scotland, who donated 3 swans as a gift. The transportation costs amounted to approximately \$220 which the Club would look after. It was a happy event on February 17, 1954, when after a year of trying to arrange the transportation of these swans, they arrived safe and sound. Mrs. E. A. Allan, secretary, who handled all the correspondence and details, presented them on behalf of the Club to the City of St. Thomas. They were accepted by Mayor Thomas Currah.

But disaster struck again. In October 1954, two of the

swans were shot and so efforts had to be made again to obtain more swans. In 1955, the City of Stratford generously donated a pair with the stipulation that the first 2 cygnets be returned to them to introduce new blood to their flock. The Club was indeed grateful to Stratford. The swans have flourished since on Pinafore Lake and in the sanctuary. Some have been sold or traded throughout the years with some going as far west as Alberta and as far east as Quebec. There are 12 swans presently residing at Pinafore Park (1967).

During 1953, William Girling designed Club crests for the members, with "bald eagle" chosen to be put on them. This same design is used on the Club letterhead and also on the monthly notices.

#### CHRISTMAS BIRD CENSUS

The potluck supper after the Christmas Bird Census was started in December 1952 and those participating in the count were able to gather around the dining table and hear the observations of all parties that had been out that day. This tradition is still carried on and the different members who have offered their homes are Mr. & Mrs. Marshall Field, Mr. & Mrs. Fred Lewis, Mr. & Mrs. Lloyd Auckland, Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Sanders, Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Walls and Mr. & Mrs. Les Brayford.

The counts throughout the years for the census:  
1950 - 39 species, 1,314 individuals; 1951 - 46 species, 2,951 individuals; 1952 - 54 species and 4,030 individuals; for 1953 - 60 species and 5,687 individuals; for 1954 - 60 species and 5,900 individuals; for 1955 - 67 species; for 1956 - 68 species; for 1957 - 66 species and 4,598 individuals; for 1958 - 63 species; for 1959 - 63 species, 8,600 individuals; for 1960 - 69 species; for 1961 - 64 species;

for 1962 - 66 species; for 1963 - 67 species and 10,194 individuals; for 1964 - 65 species and 6,966 individuals; for 1965 - 68 species and 9,038 individuals; for 1966 - 67 species and 8,935 individuals.

In December, 1954, another "first" for the Club was a photo salon with Fred Lewis in charge of the judging which proved to be very interesting.

The Club membership at the end of 1954 was 141, being made up of 21 junior members and 120 family memberships.

#### GUEST SPEAKERS - 1955-1956

During 1955 guest speakers were A. C. Askew, on the language of the bees; Dick Bird of Regina with his "Camera Trails along Nature Trails"- Dan Neill from the Lands and Forests; Eric Bastin a naturalist from Hamilton; Dr. Aitken from London speaking on Flowers; Lawrence Sanders on the geology of Elgin County; Miss Gladys Elliott on her trip to Ireland; in 1956, D. Roseborough spoke on the fish and wildlife management in the province; Fred and Corona Lewis with their "Geyser Country"; Harley White, a fish biologist; William Stewart, spring flowers; Truman Balsden from the Carling Conservation Club and again different members showed various slides.

The annual meeting of the Federation of Ontario Naturalists was held in St. Thomas at the Arthur Voaden Vocational School with the Club as hosts. After the day-long meeting in the school, a banquet was held in St. John's Anglican church. From this meeting which drew naturalists from all over Ontario, a resolution was forwarded to the Provincial Government urging Fred White property at Springwater be set aside as a game and wildlife preserve.

The Club planted another 2000 trees at Cowan Park this year to further conservation interests. The Boy Scouts assisted with the tree planting at this time. The Junior members did their part by selling sunflower seeds. At the September 1955 meeting, the Club started activities for the fall season by having a barbecue at Pinafore Park and they still gather each fall in this manner.

Field trips have always been a part of the Club activities and in 1956, the earthworks at Iona, White's Woods at Springwater, Lake Wittaker and a camping trip to Point Pelee were enjoyed.

It was during 1956, the Club started to take steps to designate Hawk Cliff near Port Stanley as a hawk watching point and they were desirous of purchasing some land. It is interesting to note that during investigations of purchasing property at this time, mention was made that a pipeline was to come from the Hawk Cliff area.

#### 1957-1958

Our guest speakers for this period were Ray Weeks of Tillsonburg; Dr. Wehlow, London on astronomy; Dave Fisher with his bird drawings; William Wasserfall, Toronto on bird banding; Dr. Frank Cook, London, on botany; A. F. Helmsley, a naturalist supervisor with Lands and Forests; Dr. Keith Reynolds who spoke on the Indians in the north; Dr. W. W. H. Gunn from Toronto who outlined the aims of the F.O.N. The Club joined with the Camera Club to bring Nicholas Morant, a commercial photographer with the C.P.R. to show his outstanding pictures of Canada. John Lemon and other junior members gave talks on the bluebird boxes they built and erected. Dr. W. W. Judd spoke on botany and zoology; Marshall Bartman, Toronto, extension secretary of the

F.O.N.; R. D. Usher, park naturalist from Rondeau Park; films were also made use of by the Club.

In 1957, to have their own feed for the birds, the Club planted sunflower seeds as a project and harvested it. The next year Carling's donated 300 pounds of bird feed so that helped the feeding activities. It was during the winter of 1957 both senior and junior members built and erected more bluebird boxes throughout the county. A Juneberry tree was planted at the new Elgin County Pioneer Museum.

The first annual dinner meeting was started in November 1958. The guest speaker was Dr. Wilfred Jury of London who gave an interesting talk on archeology. This event was held in St. John's Anglican church, St. Thomas.

During 1958, the Club had a booth at the Stylerama Show in May which was held in the St. Thomas Memorial Arena; held a regional gathering at Springwater with clubs from London, West Elgin, Woodstock and Ingersoll; a field trip to Komoka; took part in an eagle survey in Elgin County and it was this year the beaded screen was purchased for the Audubon Screen Tours.

#### 1959-1960

The list of guest speakers for these years: William Garrick with his film on the Arctic; Morley Thomas, Toronto, on meteorology; John Mansell, the art of arrowhead making; Fred and Corona Lewis with their "Pueblo Land"; G. F. M. Smith, the fisheries of Lake Erie; J. C. Higgins with slides of nature; Jim Ronald, mammals; John Lemon, educational talks on birds and the showing of films; field trips were taken to Alton's at Eden; Normandale; Wimbush's Bush; Higgin's Woodlot; Komoka; Dougald Murray's at Melbourne. Other speakers were Arthur Goodwin of Port Stanley, Miss

Irene Snyder, London, on her trip to Europe; Herbert Milnes, Woodstock on "Reptilian Ramblings"; films were used as well as slides with recordings of bird songs.

The Club suggested that natural history reference books be in all school libraries. The booklet "Hawks and Owls of Ontario" were given to each school by the Club.

Fifty-four bluebird boxes were built and put around in the local area but none proved to be too successful. Twenty memberships to the Club were given to Cub groups in their bird-building contest. An essay contest on the subject, "Why I am a member of the St. Thomas Field Naturalist Club" drew many interesting papers with Miss Elaine Kennedy being chosen the winner. Junior members were encouraged in a winter twig and bud contest and also a collection of native seeds.

In 1959, the annual dinner meeting in St. John's church drew a good crowd to hear Dr. Walter Tovell of Toronto, give an illustrated address on the topic "Beneath the Landscape" showing geological formations in various parts of Canada and the United States.

In 1960, the annual dinner meeting was held in Knox Presbyterian Church, with Prof. T. F. McIlwraith of Toronto as guest speaker. His topic being "Man and Nature Through the Ages."

#### 1961-1962

Dr. Frank Cook of London spoke on the Byron Bog; H. B. Wressell of Chatham, an entomologist with the Department of Agriculture spoke on "Our Insect Allies"; Fred and Corona Lewis took us on a "Hawaiian Holiday"; Lloyd

Stock from Lands and Forests spoke on waterfowl; John Lemon with slides and commentary on nature; Dr. Keith Reynolds told us about the parks that are available in this area; Elder Dean and Elder Neilson of Utah and California spoke on falconry; William Stewart told us about the common mushroom; Mr. & Mrs. Mel Kennedy with their slides of nature; David Hussell on bird banding and an excellent film on pure water was shown by our film convener Eric Allan. These people all contributed to make the programs so worthwhile and interesting. The projects and activities the Club participated in during this time: a writeup was put in the Police Association Tourist Bulletin concerning the Club; the book "Birds of Elgin County" was brought up to date; six wood duck boxes were erected at Waterworks Park; took part in the F.O.N. gathering at Long Point to see the migration of swans in the spring. The first Christmas Bird census was taken at Long Point on December 26, 1961, organized by Marshall Field and sponsored by the Ontario Bird Banding Association with 6 Club members taking part. They recorded 58 species.

The 1961 annual dinner meeting was held in Knox Presbyterian church with Dr. C. David Fowle, president of the F.O.N. as guest speaker. Dr. Fowle is assistant professor of biology at the York University, Toronto and assistant professor of zoology at the University of Toronto. He spoke on the survey that was done on the British Columbia island of Mitlenach in the Straits of Georgia about 8 miles from Vancouver Island. On April 12, 1962, the curtain came down on the last Audubon Screen Tour in St. Thomas.

The McIlwraith Ornithological Club in London was the host to the annual meeting of the F.O.N. which was held at the Teachers College. The St. Thomas Club assisted them in various ways.

A sign was made this year by the Club and erected at the Hawk Cliff road directing people from distant places to the right spot to observe the migration in the fall.

The 1962 annual dinner meeting held again in Knox Presbyterian church with between 95 and 100 people attending to hear Mr. Phil Gosling, Guelph, tell of the Bruce Trail -- the nature trail from Niagara to Tobermory.

## 1963-1964

Eric Allan looked after films for us on many occasions; Ted White from Aylmer spoke on White's Woods at Springwater which had been purchased by the Catfish Creek Authority; Don Johnson from Lands and Forests on wildlife management; Paul Park on archeology; Brenton Hellyer who showed slides on the Scout Jamboree in Greece; Bob Laurance displayed driftwood; Clayton Axford on taxidermy; Dan Neill, Lands and Forests with a film; Miss Gladys Elliott with pictures of "Little Ireland"; E. Keith of Windsor on eagles; George Thorman on the excavations at Fort Albany on James Bay and the early history of this local area. The photo contest was held again in 1963 and field trips were taken to Gordon Axford's woods south of St. Thomas and Olde's fish hatchery. The 1963 annual dinner meeting held again in Knox church had Mr. Jim Woodford, Toronto, executive director of the F.O.N. as guest speaker. He told of the bird population phenomenon in Southern Ontario.

The 1964 annual dinner meeting in Knox church with approximately 113 people present to hear Dr. Richard Saunders of the University of Toronto give an illustrated address on "Up a Mountain".

After meeting at the library for 12 years, the Club was

forced to find other quarters. So on December 4, 1964, the Club started to hold their meetings at Scott Street School.

#### 1965-1966

The Club had an interesting variety of programs during this year (1965) with films, Dr. W. H. Minchell, Department of Agriculture, London, on pesticides; Mr. & Mrs. William Stewart speaking on fresh water clams and the interesting hobby of collecting buttons; Mr. & Mrs. Fred Lewis' presentation "Four Corners"; Leonard Johnson from the Upper Thames Conservation Authority; William Carriek with his "Black Duck" film assisted by his wife, Mary, of the Niska Waterfowl Research station; Gordon Walls telling of his experiences with "Crossroads Africa"; a highlight of the year was the hike along the old traction line between St. Thomas and Port Stanley on May 8th, the day of the Ontario-wide hike for naturalists. Field trips to Komoka, the Niska Waterfowl Research station near Guelph were enjoyed by all those who were able to go. This was the year the Club had its first lady president and that honour goes to Mrs. Fred (Corona) Lewis. Annual reports were printed for the first time and sent to all members, this being the idea of the vice-president, Gerald Gordon. The annual dinner meeting held in Knox church with the largest attendance (118) to hear Mr. Fred Bodsworth the president of the F.O.N., Toronto who spoke on his recent bird watching tour around the world.

The field trips in 1966 were taken to Alphonse Nacevitch's sanctuary at Rodney; White's Woods, Springwater to observe the changes that had taken place there in recent months; to Rondeau Provincial Park for spring arrivals of birds and to see the new Park Museum.

The guest speakers for this year (1966) were the different

members showing their slides of interest; N. B. Scott telling about the bird room at the Elgin County Museum; Fred Helleiner of London, telling of his experiences and the activities around Kirkland Lake; Misses Margaret Ross and Irene Snyder from London with their slides on their trip to Texas, Arizona and Florida; Mrs. Mel Kennedy with her colored slides of the "Call of the Maritimes"; Prof. Aleksis Dreimanis from the University of Western Ontario speaking on the geology of western Ontario; William Stewart on astronomy; Marshall Field and Robert Hubert with their duck banding experiences at St. Thomas and also at Long Point; William Rayner with his presentation of "The Canadian West".

A bird observation contest for the junior members was held with the prizes being nature books.

The annual dinner meeting was held in Grace United church with W. W. H. Gunn of Toronto speaking on the use of radar in tracking migration movements.

#### 1967

Centennial Year! Our programs for this year have been made interesting by the members contributing slides -- our regular Members' Night; Allan Foster who is attending the University of Western Ontario showed slides and told of his experiences while he was 600 miles from the North Pole at Eureka, Northwest Territories; Paul Prevett from West Lorne, who is now attending the University of Western Ontario gave an illustrated address on the "Ecology of the Goose". Paul has been active in the banding of geese in the far north in the summer and has taken part in the research at the wintering grounds of the geese in the southern United States; Lawrence Sanders was in charge of one program and had a

variety of nature films; William Wyett, park naturalist at Point Pelee, who told us about this interesting National Park; the annual barbecue at Pinafore Park in September; William Girling, president of the McIlwraith Field Naturalists Club of London, gave an illustrated talk on "The Four Seasons" - (Bill was our first guest speaker when the Club organized 17 years ago so it was a pleasure to have him speak to the members at the first meeting of the fall season for 1967); John Haugh from Cornell University also gave his observations at the September meeting, of the hawk migration at Hawk Cliff; F. O. Lewis gave a very interesting talk on bees for the December meeting. Mr. Lewis has had this hobby for many years and now has more time to spend on them since he retired as principal of the St. Thomas Collegiate Institute. The Club planned a special night to hear John Haugh from Cornell University tell of his experiences in Costa Rica and Alaska. John took us on a wonderful trip with his magnificent pictures of these places. John spent the fall at Hawk Cliff studying the migration of hawks and other birds.

The annual dinner meeting was held in Grace church with Mr. Robert Bateman of Milton giving an illustrated address on "Africa."

In May of this year, the Club had a display in the bell Telephone window for two weeks as part of the County's year-long celebrations. Mr. & Mrs. William Stewart, Mrs. Mel Kennedy and Gerald Gordon were responsible for this attractive display.

The field trips this year took us to the Niska Waterfowl Research station; the Long Point gathering to see the whistling swans; the annual meeting of the F.O.N. in Kitchener; to Springwater for a hike through the woods and a picnic

supper; the hawk migration at Hawk Cliff and our annual Christmas bird census.

To climax a very full year, the Christmas bird census was held on Boxing Day, December 26th, with approximately 40 people participating. It was the highest count yet recorded in all the years the Club has been taking part -- 74 species and 10,942 individuals.

The potluck supper with 30 people attending, took place at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Les Brayford. This was our 15th such supper and our 17th bird census by the St. Thomas Field Naturalist Club.

Yes, we have moved again. We are now meeting in the Canada Trust building at the corner of Elgin and Talbot Streets, the first Friday of the month at 8 p.m. sharp. We would welcome anyone that would be interested in our nature programs and activities.

While compiling this history of the St. Thomas Field Naturalist Club (actually it has been reminiscing) there are so many happy memories of the little "incidents" that cannot be put down on paper. My apologies if I have omitted anything that would be of interest. I have tried to include everyone and everything that has had a part in the Club. There are many happy thoughts of the good times and the friendships one has acquired throughout these past 17 years.

Appreciation is expressed to each and every one who has contributed in any way to the success of the Club with its many varied projects and programs.

The membership may be down this year to what it has been in the past, but then everything has its "ups" and "downs".

When you look back on the many, many wonderful people who have been associated with the Club, you feel so much richer for their companionship and friendship. We have lost quite a few of our "faithful members" this past while, but our best wishes go out to all who have left us for other places (we hope they never forget us). May their interest in the great out-of-doors continue and we hope one day our paths will cross again.

## EXECUTIVE THROUGHOUT THE YEARS

### PRESIDENTS

1950-1953.....Marshall Field  
1954-1955.....Russel Foster  
1956-.....Fred Lewis  
1957-1958.....Lawrence Sanders  
1959-1960.....Lloyd Auckland  
1961-1962.....Marshall Field  
1963-1964.....Gordon Walls  
1965-1966.....Mrs. Fred Lewis  
1967-.....Gerald Gordon

### SECRETARIES

1950-1951.....Charles Johnson  
1952-1956.....Mrs. Eric Allan  
1957-1958.....Mrs. Frank Winter  
1959-1961.....Mrs. Fred Lewis  
1962-.....Miss Janet Smit  
1963-1965.....Mr. & Mrs. Les Brayford  
1966-.....Mr. & Mrs. William MacVicar  
1967-.....Mr. & Mrs. Lloyd Auckland

### TREASURERS

1950-1952.....Charles Johnson  
1953-1967.....Miss Ruth Marr

### EXECUTIVE FOR 1968

Past President.....Mrs. Fred Lewis  
President.....Gerald Gordon  
1st Vice-President.....William Stewart  
2nd Vice President.....William Rayner  
Secretaries.....Mr. & Mrs. Lloyd Auckland  
Treasurer.....Miss Ruth Marr

*There is a destiny that makes us brothers;  
None goes his way alone;  
All that we send into the lives of others  
Comes back into our own.  
I care not what his temples or his creeds,  
One thing holds firm and fast ---  
That into his fateful heap of days and deeds  
The soul of man is cast.*

- by Edwin Markham