

# CHAMPLAIN SPEAKER

August 1997

Vol 17 #1

## Cecropia Moth by Jack Holliday (Part 1 of 2)

The Cecropia is one of the giant silk moths which inhabit Eastern North America. Once abundant, the Cecropia and its cousins, the Luna and Polyphemus moths, are now scarce.

Researchers have several theories to account for the disappearance (from their former ranges) of these beautiful large moths. Among the causes named are: the spraying of insecticides; mercury vapor street lights (which attract the moths); and destruction of their food source-trees. The probable reason is a combination of these and other factors. Whatever the cause, the giant silk moths are considered endangered species by some lepidopterists (people who study moths and butterflies).

The life cycle of the Cecropia can best be described starting with the eggs, which are laid on the underside of leaves of food trees by the female moth around the end of May.

The eggs are chalky-white, round, with a little dimple, or depression, on the upper surface. The moth, when she deposits the egg on a suitable leaf (apple, cherry, white birch, maple), manages to glue it firmly in place with a quick-setting glue.

If the weather is warm, small black caterpillars chew a hole in the eggs and hatch in about 7-10 days. The larvae are quite small and slim, about 1/4" long.

They move at once to the edge of the leaf and start to eat the leaf. About ten days later they have grown to 1/2" and their skin becomes too tight. They rest and do not eat for a day. Then they spin a fine silk thread from small jets in

the region of the mouth.

With the silk thread they attach their skin to the branch they are holding on to. Several hours later the skin splits and the larvae slowly move forward leaving the old shrivelled skin attached to the branch.

Now they are able to eat again, with their new stretchable skin, which this time is coloured yellow. They eat steadily and quickly for nearly 12 hours out of each 24. Usually they eat at night and hang motionless among the leaves during the daylight hours.

On an average of once a week they outgrow their skin and must molt again; a total of five molts in all. Each new skin is a different colour.

The third skin is yellowish-green and knobs called tubercles appear. There are six red ones like the spots on a dice :: on the forepart of the body and two rows of about ten blue tubercles down each side of the body.

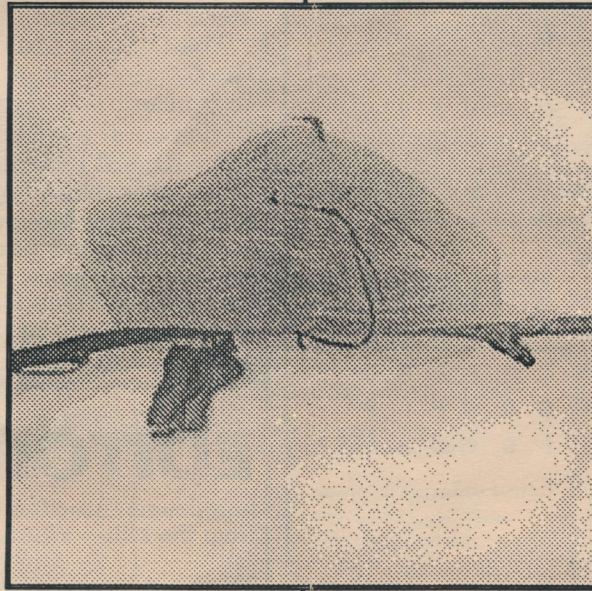
The fourth skin is apple green in colour and the red tubercles are changed to orange. They are rather large caterpillars by this time about 2 1/2 inches long but fairly slim. The fifth skin is similar to the fourth.

The voracious eating goes on daily and the larvae grow until they are about 3 1/2 or 4 inches long and as round as a wiener.

When fully grown they stop eating and rest for two days. It is now the first or second week in August. After the rest they become very active and often leave the food tree, crawling rapidly for an hour or two, sometimes several hundred feet from the food tree.

They ascend a tree or bush and start to spin a cocoon on a branch.

(part 2 continued next month)





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**Sue's Word Find**

T M C O N E F L O W E R L E S A E T  
 P U R P L E L O O S E S T R I F E Q  
 A L A K R E A R W V S T N I M E A U  
 R L L Y K I R O O S H A D E W N D E  
 T E G T E A C L N I G H T S H A D E  
 R I M O Y L C K S T O O R H N E W N  
 I N I D L T L T L I L E D D F N O A  
 D A L L E D L A Y Y T Y E L I I D N  
 G N K E O E E W V T P L R A N A Y N  
 E I W I L D E N I E I O T O F W L E  
 B S E F E F T B R O H N P F C R L S  
 E E E S R E S U N O A T O P A I O L  
 R I D E S O R R E L D D F Y Y L H A  
 R E V E N I N G P R I M R O S E O C  
 Y E N E U R E V O L C D E R Y N P E  
 F O F I E L D H O R S E T A I L A D  
 B A L M E T O N E M T E G R O F I P  
 H Y S S O P R E P P I L S S Y D A L

Bittersweet, Nightshade, Lily of the Valley, Purple Loosestrife, Queen Ann's Lace, Lady's Slipper, Partridgeberry, Field Horsetail, Evening Primrose, Prickly Poppy, Dandelion, Teasel, Sweet Clover, Chicory, Cone Flower, Daffodil, Feverfew, Forget Me Not, Plantain, Onion, Milkweed, Mullein, Ivy, Hyssop, Holly, Hop, Aloe, Boneset, Rue, Anise, Balm, Mints, Sorrel, Wild, Field, Roots, Shade, Sun, Pansy, Goldenrod, Red Clover, Thistle, Yarrow.

Answer to last month's puzzle was:

**Let's Celebrate Canada's Birthday**

**PRESIDENTIAL PROSE**

Lynne Bankier 729-0955

Well, our neighbourhood has attracted media attention! On Saturday, August 1, one of the lead stories in the *Ottawa Citizen's* "City" section was titled "Mosque creates parking problems". The article followed from a July 29 City Hall Committee meeting. Amy and myself attended the meeting during which the Mosque was told it could not rent parking spaces in its back lot to civil servants on Fridays, when all of the spaces are required for worshippers. Currently, 60 or more spaces are rented out on a monthly basis. These "monthly" parkers have been allowed to park Monday to Friday, whereas the "daily" and "weekly" parkers are restricted to Monday to Thursday parking. Councillor Joan Wong reports that the City is also taking the Mosque to court for illegally renting parking spaces in its front parking lot, including on Fridays. She has had her staff count cars renting spaces on Fridays, and reports more than the 60 spaces the mosque says it rents on that day.

At the meeting, I presented statistics collected by Elizabeth, which showed that on Friday, July 25, there were 140 cars parked on Northwestern and other streets adjacent to the Mosque. This clearly indicates that when the Mosque rents out its parking spaces on Fridays, our neighbourhood suffers, as there are many more cars parked on the street than there would be if all its parking was available to worshippers.

The Ottawa Muslim Association is distressed by the City's decision. Their argument is that they need to rent out spaces Monday to Friday to a subset of their rental parkers in order to pay the high fees the government charges them to lease the parking lot. (The lot is owned by the Federal government and leased to the Mosque). They say that if they can't rent Monday to Friday, they will lose a lot of their parking customers. If this happens, they threaten that they will stop leasing the lot and all of their worshippers will park on the street.

(continued on back page)

*It's Hot from the*  
**EDITOR**

Wow, it's hard to believe it's August already. Summer is half over and there is less than one month until school starts again. (I heard that unanimous cheer from the parents and the collective groan from the kids.) Where does the time go when you are having fun?

There are many youngsters in the Champlain Park area who will be attending school for the first time this fall. With the renovations to Hilson Avenue Public School well under way, a greater number of our children will be transported by school bus this year. Take advantage of the annual First Time Rider - Safety Awareness Day program set up by the local school boards and the Ottawa-Carleton Student Transportation Association offered on Sunday August 24, 1997. The closest site to our neighbourhood is at Woodroffe High School. Parents and their children learn about bus safety by watching a bus safety video and by taking a short bus ride to practice the safety rules. Any parent wishing more information or interested in registering their child for the program at Woodroffe High School should phone 726-1000. Other sites will be listed in the Citizen and Sun. Enjoy the rest of the summer!



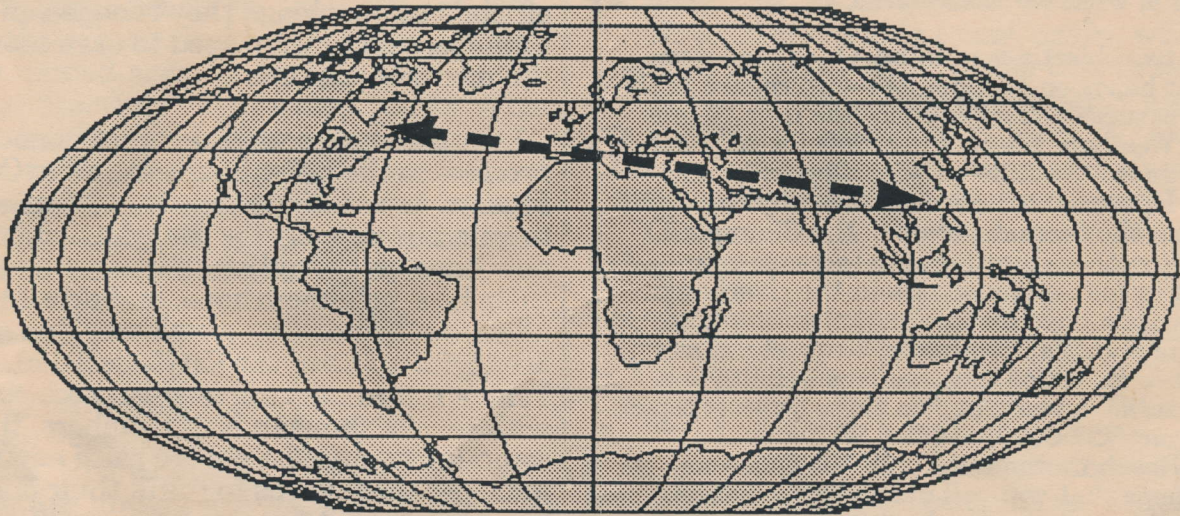
## "Jessica's Journey"

An article which appeared in The Champlain Speaker a few months ago told of a group of young Scottish folk dancers going to Shanghai to dance for "World Peace."

A tea was held, May 3, 1997, at Northwestern United Church to offset some of the cost for Jessica Clifford, who is a member of the group.

This event was a great success and highlighted by entertainment from the Barbershop Quartet "Ladies of the Day". Jessica gave a sample of Scottish dancing, with music provided by Liz McCleod, Pipe Major from the "Sons of Scotland", whose Chief presented a cheque to Jessica. Her parents are members of this group.

Two small girls also shared in this enjoyable event as their birthdays fell on the same day, Haley Cornelius, daughter of Brian and Shelley (Northwestern United Church Minister), turned 4 and Gillian Griffin, daughter of a former N.W.U. choir member Doug Griffin and his wife Margaret, turned 5. A doll and a cake was presented to both of them. A wonderful time was had by all who supported it, including Joan Wong our city councillor. By the time you read this Jessica will have left on her journey. Hopefully she will let us know all about it in a later edition of the Champlain Speaker.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Local Teens Interested in Work:

Tom Arnason	729-6639	Yard Chores
Rachelle	722-6303	Babysitting
Jessica	728-8413	Babysitting
Sarah	722-2687	Babysitting
Paul Ratsch	728-2583	Yard Chores
Kim	729-5439	Babysitting
Rory Taylor	798-0036	Yard Chores

*COMING SOON TO A  
FIELDHOUSE NEAR YOU!!*

### AEROBICS!!

Classes will be held Monday and  
Wednesday evening at 7 pm  
starting in September.  
For information, call Liz at  
728-7160.

### ENJOY THE BENEFITS OF YOGA

Yoga classes are set to start again in September! Peter Beecham, a seasoned teacher of the Sivananda yoga method, has agreed to teach the class on Thursday evening, 8:15 to 9:45.

A minimum of ten students are required.

Cost \$55.00 for 12 weeks (\$60 if you are not a member of the Community Assoc.)

Call Adrienne Scott ASAP at 728-0337 to confirm your attendance. Classes to commence Sept 18th.

### **Island Park & Scott St.**

Caregiver Available Immediately.  
Experienced - Non-Smoker.  
By the hour, day, or week.

7.00 /  
35.00 Call: Kathy  
728-4938

40.00

### **Riverbank Rambles**

**Sunday, Sept 7, 1997**

1:30 P.M. at the  
Champlain Field House,  
Cowley near Clearview

### CORRECTION

Please note the street number  
for ABBYFIELD HOUSE is  
425 Parkdale.



## AMY'S CORNER

Amy Kempster 722-6039

**Draft Regional Official Plan:** Regional Council has now passed the new Regional official Plan and it now needs only approval from the province.

**Riverbank Ramble:** The Westboro Beach Community Association and the Champlain Park Community Association will be co-sponsoring a workshop on identifying trees and shrubs and riverbank ramble **Sunday, Sept. 7, 1997 at 1:30 P.M. at the Champlain Field House, Cowley near Clearview.** This is the first of what we hope will be a series of workshops. Naturalist Leanne Kane will share her knowledge of how to identify trees and shrubs and how to document them. If you have, or can borrow, a tree and/or shrub guide for Eastern North America, bring it along. The workshop will be followed by a ramble - a hands on experience of what we have learnt.

We have two objectives in mind. One is to let you know what has been documented with regard to the natural treasures along the shoreline from Remic Rapids to Westboro Beach and to ask for your help to fill any gaps. What do we wish to protect and preserve? How can we help minimize any negative impact from the reconstruction of the Champlain Bridge? Our other objective is to increase your enjoyment by learning more about the riverbank. We hope we can have further workshops on land and aquatic plants and animals, birds, etc. If any readers have expertise they could contribute to a Sunday afternoon workshop on these types of topics please let me (722-6039) or Mari Wellman of Westboro Beach Community (722-5944) know.

We also hope that you will use the information learned in the workshop to document the trees on your own property. The City is attempting to assemble a data base on trees on private property so they would be pleased to receive this information. Hope to see you on Sept. 7!

Summertime! Its great to enjoy the days of summer and the water sports that accompany it. However, safety rules should be followed. At my cottage my rules are:

1. No use of boats without a life-jacket on.
2. No water-skiing without two people in the boat, one to drive and one to spot, and a life-jacket on the skier.
3. No swimming alone or without someone watching on shore.
4. No fooling around (jumping over wakes etc.) with the motor-boat.

If you have additional or different rules for your children or grand-children why not contribute your rules next summer?

A growing menace is careless drivers of water-scooters. Children should be warned to keep their eyes open to beware of these and avoid swimming near docks or floating rafts or other spots they might zoom by if such persons are in the area.

## PRESIDENTIAL PROSE

Lynne Bankier 729-0955

continued

In the Citizen article, parking problems and violations were accurately described. I was quoted as follows:

"The President of the Champlain Park Community Association, Lynne Bankier, says neighbours have been supportive of the mosque. The association even agreed to an addition last year that enlarged the mosque by 40 per cent. But something has to be done about the traffic, she said.

She notes that mosque officials agreed in writing three years ago to reserve the parking lot on Fridays for worshippers only. Mosque officials acknowledge they reneged on the promise, saying they need to earn money from the monthly parkers."

I think that the mosque must honour its promise to the neighbourhood. The Ottawa Muslim Association made this promise in order to gain our support for the addition and they now have an obligation to show consideration to their host neighbourhood, and do all they can to alleviate the parking problems. And yet, they are trying to have the City's decision to restrict Friday rental parking over-turned. Surely, with tens of thousands of members, the Muslim community must be able to raise enough funds amongst themselves to fulfill their obligation to provide adequate parking for worshippers. They wish us to understand their needs and their financial issues. So far, we have been fair and supportive with them. However, this understanding must go two ways. They must understand our need to retain an orderly residential atmosphere, and must fulfill their commitments and obligations to us.

Amy, Elizabeth and myself will continue to follow the issue and to represent the concerns of our neighbourhood. If you wish to offer comments, please feel free to call one of us.

## NATURE CORNER



**What to look for:** flowers creamy white, in flat-topped compound umbels with feathery green collars.

**Habitat:** fields, meadows, roadsides, open woods.

**Bloom:** May- Oct.

Photo by  
Barb Robertson

Last month's answer: Orange Hawkweed