

# the TaTTler

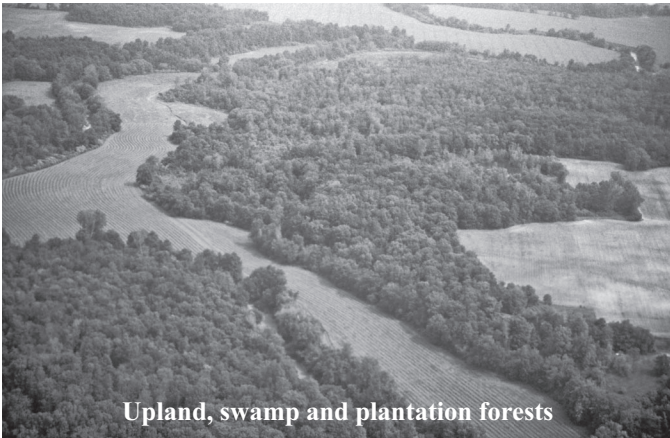
Special Edition

*a newsletter of the*

Thames Talbot Land Trust

*Working together to leave a legacy of healthy landscapes*

## Save Joany's Woods



Upland, swamp and plantation forests

The clock is ticking and we have until September 30, 2007 to raise the money needed to protect Joany's Woods forever. The campaign target of \$660,000 includes the purchase price and transfer costs, natural heritage inventory and management planning, immediate stewardship expenses and a dedicated stewardship fund to provide for future expenses. Joany's Woods is a 367 acre (148.5 ha) parcel of land Municipality of North Middlesex, Middlesex County.

Joany's Woods is part of the Ausable River Valley Carolinian Canada Site, and is also part of the Provincially-recognized Area of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI). ANSIs are areas of land and water containing natural landscapes or features which the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) have identified as having values related to protection, natural heritage appreciation, scientific study, or education.

In terms of wetlands, Joany's Woods is bordered by the Ausable River to the west and contains a hardwood swamp in the northern end. Along with some small marshy areas,

the property contains a small pond and borders on another larger pond. The property is bordered by hardwood swamps to the north and east. The rest of the area consists of upland and lowland forest, scrubby areas and a number of sizable plantations. All of the agricultural land has been reforested through the ABCA and MNR. The diverse nature of the property has resulted in a wide range of plant communities which in turn provide excellent wildlife habitat. A number of Species-at-Risk are associated with Joany's Woods including: Butternut; American ginseng; Snuffbox mussel; Flowering Dogwood; Spiny softshell turtle; Wavy-rayed lampmussel; Northern riffleshell; Queen snake and Eastern hog-nosed snake.

The Thames Talbot Land Trust needs your help to buy Joany's Woods so that the public may continue to enjoy this special site and to protect it from lumbering or other forms of development. TTLT will be a good steward of the property using the best management practices to enhance habitats and limit damage from invasive species and incompatible uses such as ATV-riding.

***This is one of the largest forests remaining in Middlesex and we couldn't let it slip away.***



Tulip Tree: a feature of Joany's Woods

**We can't do it without you. Please contribute today!**

# As Long As This River Shall Run

If you could create a legacy gift that would last forever you would have found a piece of immortality. Helen and Spencer Inch's bequest to the McIlwraith Field Naturalists of London has accomplished just that. Helen and Spencer were active members of the Field Naturalists since their arrival in London in 1965, and both served terms as President of the organization. Helen was a renowned birder and outdoor educator who enjoyed sharing her love of nature with any audience, but in particular with youth. Spencer was among the first faculty of the newly established Althouse College of education, where he instructed in Geography. He was also one of the authors of the Canadian Oxford School Atlas, which has been a standard in homes and schools for generations.

The McIlwraith Field Naturalists trace their origins to 1864 when William Saunders organized the London Branch of the Entomological Society. Upon receiving the Inch bequest the Club set about finding a worthy project to commemorate the love of nature that Helen and Spencer shared. They found that project in a substantial contribution towards Joany's Woods, a large forested tract along the Ausable River near Sylvan, that the Thames Talbot Land Trust will buy and then steward in perpetuity to protect its natural values. Stan Caveney, who is the Vice-Chair of the Thames Talbot Land Trust explains, "Joany's Woods is part of the Ausable River Valley, which scientists have identified as one of the most important natural sites in our area." Once it is protected, Joany's Woods can continue to provide refuge for many Carolinian plants and animals including many rare species.

Helen and Spencer were leaders in conservation, hosting naturalist conferences, developing educational programs as well as lecturing and leading walks to share their appreciation for nature with countless others. It is a fitting tribute to their memory that a wondrous natural area will now be saved for future generations to enjoy.



Helen and Spencer Inch

Photo Courtesy Jean Comfort

## Ivey Natural Legacy Fund

In 2005 the TTLT created the Opportunities Fund to receive legacy gifts, bequests and other Planned Gifts. The monies in this fund allow the Trust to respond quickly to conservation opportunities before they are lost. Richard and Beryl Ivey made the inaugural gift to the Opportunities Fund in the form of a million dollar pledge. Dick Ivey explains, "We chose the TTLT because of the integrity of the people involved and we hope that others will follow our example to create their own natural legacies." Including the Opportunities Fund in your will contributes to natural heritage conservation in perpetuity. Consult your lawyer or financial planner and then call us. Thanks to the Ivey Natural Legacy Fund every dollar you donate to the campaign will be matched. We started this journey half way to our destination.

**Please consider your own gift to save Joany's Woods.**

## Other News in Brief

- TTLT now holds a Conservation Agreement on the 110 acre Newport Forest on the Thames River in the Skunks Misery area. Negotiations are underway for the donation of the property to the Trust.
- With support from Shell Environment Fund and the London Community Foundation we are undertaking several habitat enhancement projects at the Meadowlily Nature Preserve this year.
- Our Fall Speaker Series will host Lorraine Johnson on November 2 at Wolf Hall, London Central Public Library. Lorraine's philosophical and provocative talk will tell us how backyard gardens can express our stewardship of Earth.

# Joany's Woods — A Natural Legacy

Saving Joany's Woods will take more than good wishes; it requires time, talent and treasure. The good news is that everyone can help. Every dollar that you contribute will be matched from the Ivey Natural Lands Legacy within the TTLT Opportunities Fund.

**There are many ways to donate: donations, pledges, securities or create a legacy.**

**Donations:** Send your cheque to TTLT, PO Box 25054, London ON N6C 6A8. Write Joany's Woods on the subject line and your gift will be used exclusively for this project. You will receive an income tax receipt for the value of your gift.

**Pledges:** A big project like this needs big gifts and big gifts can come from ordinary people like you and I by making a pledge over a three year period. You select any amount for your gift monthly, quarterly or annually. We can either bill you or set up automatic withdrawals. For just the price of a cup of coffee each day you could donate more than \$1,500. This is a painless way to make a substantial gift to nature. Call us at 519 858 3442 for more details.

**Gifts of Securities:** Changes to the Income Tax Act have created a new giving opportunity for Canadians. Now when you donate appreciated securities (stocks, bonds etc.) to a Canadian charity you are exempt from the Capital Gains that you would otherwise have to pay. In addition you also receive a tax receipt for the full market value of those securities. Details are at our web site: <[www.ttlc.ca](http://www.ttlc.ca)>

*Cut here*

## Help to Secure Joany's Woods

*Charitable receipts are issued for all contributions (#86745 7475 RR0001)*

Please use my donation of \$ \_\_\_\_ to protect Joany's Woods forever.

Make cheques payable to Thames Talbot Land Trust  
(note "Joany's Woods" on subject line)

Donor \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

eMail \_\_\_\_\_

To enable larger gifts TTLT welcomes pledges for up to three years. Contact TTLT or visit our web site <[www.ttlc.ca/JW\\_contributions.html](http://www.ttlc.ca/JW_contributions.html)> for details on making a pledged gift through a series of payments. These payments can be by cheque or through pre-authorized bank charges.

All donors of \$50 or more become members of TTLT. Charitable receipts are issued for all contributions (#86745 7475 RR0001)

*Please mail to:*

**Thames Talbot Land Trust  
PO Box 25054  
395 Wellington Road  
London ON N6C 6A8**

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# Come and Tour Joany's Woods

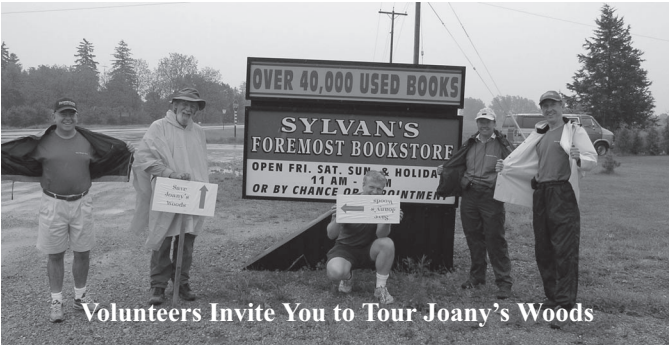
**Sunday, June 10, 2007 1:30 to 4 pm**

**Sunday, June 24, 2007 1:30 to 4 pm**

We plan to meet outside the Sylvan Bookstore at the junction of Elginfield Rd and Sylvan Rd at 1:30 pm before moving on to Joany's Woods nearby.

Two different hikes are planned:

- 1) A short leisurely hike of an hour or so at the north end of the woods (off Boot Hill Road)
- 2) A more demanding 2 hr hike starting at the south end (off Vernon Road).



**Snuff Box Mussels, Ausable River**

## Directions to Joany's Woods from London

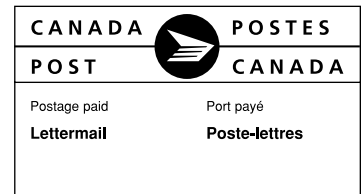
- Travel North from London on Richmond Street (Hwy 4)
- Turn left on Fanshawe Park Road (Highway 22)
- Turn right on Nairn Road (County Road 17) at Lobo
- Continue on to Elginfield Road (County Road 7) from Nairn Road
- Turn right on Sylvan Road at village of Sylvan
- Turn left on Elliott Drive to access Joany's Woods from Boot Hill Road

OR

- Continue on past Sylvan Rd take next right (Vernon Road)
- Travel to dead end of Vernon Road to access Joany's Woods

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