

A Message from Jane Goodall

Dr. Jane Goodall was currently in Africa when our annual Convention was held this year. She emailed Suzanne Hanna, District 13 Director, her thoughts and greetings that she wanted to express to those attending. Due to poor internet connections, her message was not received in time to be read and shared with everyone at the opening ceremonies on Friday, July 15th. Here is Jane's message:

While I can't bring you an official chimpanzee hello in person, I am delighted to send you warm greetings from Tanzania! I've been working on my latest book about plants and the amazing people who work with them, so I am especially pleased to be addressing you today. Your commitment to preserving and restoring Ontario's natural heritage along with your dedication to making the communities we live in beautiful, sustainable, and liveable, are principles I hold dear.

It's particularly appropriate that you are holding your meeting in Sudbury, a city that should be congratulated on its phenomenal efforts to regreen itself. I've had the pleasure of visiting the city many times over the years and have seen first-hand that a landscape utterly devastated by years of destructive human activity can—with time, money, and determination—recover and become beautiful once again.

I wish you all the best for your meetings over the next few days and for your ongoing efforts to make the world a better place and I hope to meet many of you during my future visits to Canada!

Jane Goodall



The President's Tree



Pictured above, OHA President Vickie Wiemer, with the Convention 2011 organizing team cheering her on, plants a red oak at the entrance to Sudbury's Jane Goodall Trail to commemorate the 105th OHA Convention.

Inviting Ontario to Niagara

When one thinks of Niagara, visions of Niagara Falls, the wine route, picturesque Niagara on the Lake, the Floral Clock, the Butterfly Conservatory, the Casino, and historic Fort George always come to mind. You can see all of these sites when you come to Convention 2012, but you will need to come early and/or stay late. Niagara is a great tourist destination! The venue for the upcoming convention is the campus of Niagara College in Niagara on the Lake.

Convention participants will be able to stay in the college residence. The campus is gorgeous during August. Where else can you go to experience culinary, horticultural, winemaking, and beer making expertise all at one site?

Convention 2012 celebrates 200 years of peace between the United States and Canada. The theme is **Gardening Then and Now, 1812 to 2012**. The 1812 Rose is the official rose of the convention and the Bicentennial Celebration. Be sure to order yours - it is gorgeous. Our plenary speakers are impressive. Will Healy from Ball Seeds, Trish Symone from Hockley Hills, and Beckie Fox from Gardenmaking magazine are some of our plenary speakers. Seminars, workshops, floral and culinary demonstrations, and tours have been planned to reflect our theme. The competition schedules which all reflect our theme are posted on the OHA website, gardenontario.org.

It is our hope that when Convention 2012 is over, you will come away with a greater sense of the Niagara area, our involvement in horticulture, and its history, especially the links to the War of 1812. Niagara's biggest industries are tourism, vineyards, and horticulture. District 9 looks forward to sharing all this with you at Convention 2012 on August 16-19, 2012 here in Niagara.

Susan Lusted, District 9 Director