

Trillium

Keeping Ontario Beautiful

Ontario Horticultural Association Newsletter

Winter 2008/2009



Winter
in
Linda's
Garden



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President's Message

Greetings to one and all from the beautiful Ottawa Valley. We have had snow already but thankfully it disappeared in a hurry. Then came Indian summer. What a relief! Time to put the garden to bed and time to rake up the leaves. There just does not seem to be enough hours in a day.



The Fall AGMs and suppers are starting and what an exciting time as I move across our province. We just can't fit them all in but we try.

The new trends for the coming year are *growing it yourself* and *water savers*. As more and more of our population react to rising food costs and safety concerns, 'grow your own' is becoming a new in thing to do. The newbies are growing organic homegrown fruit and vegetables in containers, on patios, on roof top gardens, in their backyards, and in the front yard where grass once grew.

Remember to 'Roll out your Barrel' in 2009. These rain barrels capture and redirect this free runoff water for more efficient use in your garden. Think of the money you will save without having to use the municipal water system! If you were a plant....would you not want to be watered with rain barrel water?

The OHA also will show support for the new Ontario Cosmetic Pesticide ban by issuing a public statement: ***The Ontario Horticultural Association supports the reduction in the use of cosmetic pesticides in Ontario and encourages the research and promotion of alternative controls.***

Our Conservation and Environment committee is planning a publication on Waterwise Gardening in 2009, and a project regarding roadside planting in 2010. These are wonderful projects from which the whole of Ontario will benefit. The *Natural Landscape Resource Booklet* (a guide to using native plants) will also be reprinted and sold. How exciting can this be!

And don't forget the Youth and gardening. Give them a plot of land, let them get dirty, give them seeds, and watch what they can do. They are tomorrow's gardeners.

Mark July 10th - 12th on your calendars for our annual convention. ***Remember Today-Protect Tomorrow*** is our theme. The University of Trent will be our locale in Peterborough and District 4 members will be our hosts. See you all there.

**Ken Fink,
OHA President**

The OHA Has a New Secretary!

Following the resignation of Marlene Bruckhardt as Secretary of the Ontario Horticultural Association, a committee has chosen **Janet Moyser** of Kincardine & District Horticultural Society as the new Secretary of the Association.

Janet has worked as an Administrative Associate/Executive Secretary in a large Toronto corporation. Part of her education was received at Ryerson University in Toronto. Janet is a Master Gardener, receiving her Horticulturist Certificate from the University of Guelph.

She was Volunteer Coordinator during 2003-2004 for Communities in Bloom. In 2005 and 2006, she was chair of the Floral Committee, also for CiB.

For the last five years, Janet has been President of the Kincardine & District Horticultural Society, and is now Past President.

Please join me in welcoming Janet as our Secretary of this great Association. Janet's new position will begin January 1st 2009.

We thank Marlene very much for the years of excellent service to OHA and wish her a Happy Retirement.

**Ken Fink,
OHA President**



**Janet Moyser,
OHA Secretary,
49 Blairs Trail, RR8
Kincardine, ON N2Z 0B3
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Hop on Board the E-Trillium Express!

If you would like to receive your own electronic version of each issue of the Trillium newsletter, just send me your email address with a request to add you to my expanding list of e-subscribers. There is no cost and you will be among the first to see each edition. Because this version will have low resolution graphics, the pdf will be less than 3 mgs, a reasonable size for downloading and viewing. Save it, and/or print it in whole or in part, in grayscale or in full colour.

If you wish to reprint an article for your own society's publication, just request a Word document of that article. Please remember to credit the author and cite the Trillium as your source. Thank you to Directors and Society Presidents who have already passed on this offer to their members.

Editor Linda

Nominations for Association Awards

The Ontario Horticultural Association sponsors a number of Awards which are presented annually during the Convention. Each society should have an Awards Booklet available to inform the members of the awards available and the procedure to follow to place a nomination for an award. This information is also on the website for downloading by societies.

Awards presented at the convention are:

- **Silver Medal Award**
- **Trillium Award**
- **Silver Fir Award**
- **Award of Merit**
- **Community Improvement Award**
- **Environmental Award**
- **Youth Leader**
- **Honor Roll**

Nominations, with supporting information, should be sent to the Association Secretary, **Janet Moyser, 49 Blairs Trail, RR8 Kincardine, ON N2Z 0B3** by February 28. The Secretary will forward the nominations to the Awards Committee for selection of the winning recipients. The Awards Committee is composed of the President (chair), Immediate Past President, Vice Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, and Chair of the Past Presidents' Council. Please give serious consideration to selecting people who would be worthy recipients of these prestigious awards.



Nominations

The election of the Ontario Horticultural Association President, as well as First and Second Vice Presidents, is an important part of the Annual Convention. Usually, there is a normal progression into the President's chair. It is essential to have continuity in the flow of these offices.

To be eligible for a position, one must be a past or present District Director or a past or present executive member of the Ontario Horticultural Association Board of Directors for a period of not less than two years. This person must be willing to serve and consent must be obtained before nominations can be considered.

Nominations for any of the above offices must be received on or before February 28. Please send the nomination to the Association Secretary **Janet Moyser, 49 Blairs Trail, RR8 Kincardine, ON N2Z 0B3**. This nomination must be sent by Canada Post as there must be an original signature on the nomination.

Nominations must be proposed and seconded by a horticultural society that is affiliated with and in good standing with the Association and must be on society letterhead. The society **MUST** have the consent of the nominee and include a resume with qualifications and past or present offices held.

Meet the New Director...

Dorelene Anderson

I am married to my best friend Doug. We have been married for 55 years. We have 6 children & 20 grandchildren plus 3 greats with 2 more on the way. We had a dairy farm and moved to town about 4 years ago.

I have always been active in the community teaching 4H and coaching girls baseball for 8 years. I have been a member of Beehive Women's Institute for almost 50 years and also Harriston and Minto Agriculture Society. I have served as president of the the Women's Institute and the Ladies Division Fall Fair. I am at the present time President of our Seniors Club. I have been judging for the fall fairs for a number of years which led me to become interested in horticulture. I attended the OHA judging school in London, then joined Harriston and District Horticultural Society. This led me to being the Director for OHA's District 7.

Doug and I enjoy Square Dancing and traveling. We are both involved with our local theatre group. I do costumes and Doug does sets and repairs. My favourite hobby is oil painting. We do have a big yard with lots of trees and flower beds. We are lucky enough to live where the Maitland River flows by the back of our property. While we enjoy our garden, we find it to our advantage to have help maintaining it.

**Dorelene Anderson,
District 7 Director**

2009 Trillium Deadlines



*Please take note of the
'drop dead' dates
for submissions to the
2009 issues:*

*Spring – February 21st
Summer – May 21st
Fall – August 21st
Winter – November 21st*

Helen Scutt
Agriculture Organization Specialist
Client Services Branch

**Ministry of Agriculture.
Food, and Rural Affairs**
1 Stone Road West, 3rd Floor SW,
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Helen.Scutt@ontario.ca

Peterborough Society Award

Peterborough Horticultural Society is pleased to announce that a permanent award at Trent University has been established. Through the Ontario Trust for Student Support, with a one-time commitment of \$12,500, which is matched by the provincial government, an annual award of \$1,000 will be given to a student in financial need with an average of at least 85%. Recipients are chosen through the Financial Aid Office at Trent University. This endowment ensures that there will always be an annual award given at Trent University on behalf of the Horticultural Society.

The prize, which will be listed in the Trent Handbook, reads as follows:

***Peterborough Horticultural Society Award –
Established by the Peterborough Horticultural Society
(founded 1861), to be awarded to a full-time
undergraduate student in any year who is majoring in
Environmental and Resource Science/Studies and who
has an interest in our natural world and its
preservation.***



Gary Westlake, President of PHS, presents a cheque for \$12,500 to Sherry Booth, manager of Planned Giving and Leadership Gifts at Trent University at the October General Meeting.

Looking Back at Convention 2008 Youth Camp

Sharing our Diversity was the theme of the 2008 OHA's 102nd Convention, held at the Sheridan College in Brampton, August 22 to 24, 2008. Fortunately, District 15 and Director Brenda Heenan recognized the importance of including youth in this year's convention. Initially, a youth camp was organized at Albion Hills but soon afterwards Brenda was notified that Albion Hills would be closing for renovations and a new location was suggested. Lake St. George Conservation Field Centre was the new location of the camp. Lake St. George specializes in outdoor and environmental education. It is located on a 120 hectare site, on the ecologically significant Oakridge Moraine that encompasses Kettle Lake.



The field centre, which is part of an estate entrusted to the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, consists of Davies Hall, a picturesque turn of the century home that has been converted into the dining hall, and administrative offices. Snively House, where the campers stayed, is one of two air-conditioned dormitories. To complete the experience there were two resident teachers and instructors as well as kitchen staff.

The OHA youth program included a photography lesson and competition, bat study, tree identification program, and team building games and activities. Some of the team building activities included: A-frame walk, land skis, satellite volleyball, and scavenger hunt. Thirty-three campers and six leaders from around the province took part in this year's camp. Home Depot donated \$3 000, OHA donated \$1 000, and \$1 000 came from District 15's Baker Youth Fund to support the camp. Additionally, Kodak Canada donated a camera for each camper and cameras for the photo competition. In the Youth Competition at Sheridan College youth won ribbons and all participants were given very attractive participation ribbons.

NOTICE: Housecleaning at gardenontario.org

The Society Resources area of the OHA website is accessible only to users who have received a password for administrative purposes. Password holders have access to maintain society webpages, to upload and store documents, and to create links to these documents from the public side of the website, as outlined in the website how-to manual [Garden Webs for Societies](#).

The storage capacity of the Society Resources area is limited. It was never intended to become a long-term storage space for OHA Society files. Effective January 1, 2009, OHA webmasters will begin removing from the Society Resources area, all society files that were posted more than 24 months ago. This will become an on-going, regular maintenance procedure.



Society webmasters, please review the files you have posted in the Society Resources area and ensure that any files you want to keep are saved elsewhere.

Brenda Heenan,
Chair - Website Committee

OHA's 103rd Convention

Remember Yesterday – Protect Tomorrow

District 4 invites you to spend part of next summer in the Kawarthas at the 103rd OHA Convention. The Convention will be held at Trent University in Peterborough from July 10th to 12th, 2009. Peterborough is home to the highest hydraulic Lift Lock in the world and a vacation spot for many from Ontario and beyond.

Trent University straddles the Otonabee River that is part of the historic Trent-Severn Waterway. It is situated close to the downtown core, which features an eclectic mix of shops, restaurants, and historic buildings. Special offers from restaurants on Thursday evening will be available.

Our home base for the Convention will be Gzowski College. Built in 2004, it is a hotel-style residence with 250 rooms. These rooms feature double beds, semi-private washrooms (one shared between two rooms), air conditioning, and elevator access. Some accessible rooms are available. Internet access is available in the room through an Ethernet connection (you need to bring an Ethernet wire) and there is wireless access in other areas of the University. On each floor there are lounges with TVs, microwaves and small fridges. Each unit can accommodate up to four people if they are willing to share double beds. The cafeteria serving breakfast and lunch, vendor space and break out rooms for seminars will be found in Gzowski College.

We are offering an accommodation and meals package at a reasonable rate. Booking for this option only will be done through the University Conference and Hospitality Services at 1-866-290-6491. If you wish to stay off campus and purchase meals only, you will indicate that on your registration form which is sent to the Convention Registrar as in previous years.

Otonabee College, right next door, will be used for Friday's plenary and the competitions. We will also use the athletic complex for the banquet and other gatherings as well as the Great Hall for a barbeque on Friday evening. These locations are a short walk across the river or if you prefer to drive, there is parking nearby.

Our speaker for Saturday evening's banquet will be television personality and owner of Chalk Lake Nurseries, Martin Galloway.

Other speakers have been chosen for their knowledge of a variety of topics and interesting presentation styles. With vendors, competitions and Youth Camp, this conference should appeal to everyone. As in previous years, we will have bus tours but unique to this



convention is a cruise down the river to Little Lake through Peterborough's famous Lift Lock.

The campus is yours to explore. In addition, Trent is right on the Greenway Rotary Trail. Maps will be available. Other attractions include the Riverview Park & Zoo (family-oriented and open to the public daily free of charge), the Peterborough Art Gallery, and the Canadian Canoe Museum. Every Wednesday and Saturday night throughout the summer, the Festival of Lights is held on the outdoor stage at Del Crary Park beside Little Lake. Some of the best musical acts in Canada are showcased - for free! The evening is topped off with a fireworks display. A little farther afield are the Petroglyphs Provincial Park, Warsaw Caves, and Lang Pioneer Village.

Join us in Peterborough for informative seminars, workshops, garden tours, competitions, vendor displays, and a Youth Camp. This is also the OHA Annual General Meeting - your opportunity to represent your Society and build your awareness of the way the OHA functions.

Why not make the 103rd Convention a part of a vacation? Stay a while and explore the area. Whether you come for the business of the OHA or to spend time with friends, be prepared to have a great time next July in Peterborough.

Be sure to check the website (www.gardenontario.org) for updates.

Dianne Westlake,
Peterborough Horticultural Society

Remember Yesterday – Protect Tomorrow Youth Camp 2009

Friday, July 10 – Sunday, July 12

District 4 is pleased to be offering a Youth Camp for OHA members between ages 7 and 17. This camp will take place right at Trent University. There is a minimum of 30 registrations required. The fee per camper at this time is \$240. Application forms are available through your District Director and on the website: www.gardenontario.org/site.php/district4

Accommodations:

Otonabee College Residence is located on the East Bank of the campus beside Gzowski College. It offers single and double rooms (all single beds). Beds are made up with sheets, blankets and pillows; towels are provided. Washrooms are shared (4 per house). Each house has one common room.

Nature Centre:

Trent's 12 nature areas are useful for teaching, scientific research and nature interpretation. They provide opportunities for outdoor recreation and enhance the campus aesthetically. They also serve to maintain the ecological and human health of the region. Check out this website: www.trentu.ca/academic/tna/ which gives information on the natural areas at Trent.

Registration:

Complete an application form and send it, along with two cheques payable to **OHA District 4, 154 Brimley Rd. S., P.O. Box 26, Grafton K0K 2G0**. Enclose a deposit cheque of \$100 with the application and a post dated cheque dated May 25, 2009 for the remainder. More details are included in the application package.

How Can You Help?

We are asking that societies consider a donation when working on their budgets for 2009 to help reduce the high cost of this camp. Individuals are also welcome to assist financially to ensure youth have an opportunity to attend. One OHA person is expected to be present at the day programme. While in the residence OHA adult leaders are required for supervision and to provide evening programmes.

To become involved or to make a gift to support the camp, please contact

Bev Silk 905-349-3766
youthcamp09@eagle.ca

OHA History Book Update

In early 2007, shortly after copies of *The Story of the Ontario Horticultural Societies 1854-1973* were distributed to all of the OHA's member societies, work was begun on updating the history to include the years following 1973. As research for this new book has progressed, it has become increasingly apparent that there are many interesting stories that were either omitted or not fully covered in the first volume. Unfortunately there are also some errors that need to be corrected.

With this in mind, we have decided to alter the scope of the update to include the entire history of the OHA, from 1906 to the present. Changes in the composition of the Association's districts, our relationships with the provincial government, involvement in communities, and people who have played a part in the life of the OHA are a few of the subjects that will be included in the new book. As a result of the expanded time period, the target date for the new volume has been moved from 2009 to 2010.

With the notion that the history of the OHA is the history of the actions and accomplishments of our member societies, this fall, each of the OHA's 281 horticultural societies and garden clubs was sent a letter requesting information for use in the book. The later publication date provides a little more 'breathing room' for responding to the letter. Ideally, I would like to have most of the information by the end of this winter. However, I realize that with OMAFRA forms and society reports to fill out, and a new year to organize, this might not be easy.

Many of our societies have a wealth of historical records to draw on, and it might be difficult to get the information organized and sent to me before spring 2009 rolls around. If that's the case, I can easily wait a little longer, especially if it means that there will be more information available for the book.

If you have questions about the book, or would like to contact me with information or pictures, I can be contacted by phone (416-429-4719) or by email (ohahistorybook@mac.com) or by regular mail.



Malcolm Geast
10 Dustan Crescent
East York, Ontario
M4J 4G5

Flowers for the Mayor

While reading the **Aurora Garden and Horticultural Society's** electronic newsletter, I was intrigued by their design class called **The Mayor's Bouquet**. Lorraine Hill explained it to me as follows...

'Here's how Flowers for the Mayor works - it is really simple. At the end of each flower show at the monthly meetings from April to October, one of our floral designers collects plant material donations from the horticultural and design competitions and instantly creates a floral arrangement in an inexpensive container. One of the board members delivers the arrangement to the mayor's office the next morning, along with a tasteful card with our society name and floral emblem.'

*For September we introduced a neat variation on this plan. For our Annual Flower Show, which was held on September 13th this year, we added a design class called **The Mayor's Bouquet**. The mayor attended the show and judged the entries herself. The winning design was delivered to her along with the usual mixed floral design on Monday morning.'*

Pictured is Mayor Phyllis Morris with Shirley Binns' winning design.



Evergreen Thumbs Get Creative!



Members of the Evergreen Thumbs (Thunder Bay/Rainy River/Kenora) posed for a photo after creating living ivy topiaries at the November meeting. Thanks to Liz Lang for being creative with plant material donated by Schmidt's Greenhouse.

A Deeper Act of Green

Have you heard? The CBC is running a campaign called **One Million Acts of Green**. The idea is to get people to pledge to do a whole bunch of simple green things: change a light bulb or two, ride your bike or take transit, turn the taps off, and plant a tree. They've done a great job setting it up, with a fact page for each green act, blogs from eco leaders, your own home page and mini-blog, photo galleries and discussion groups.

I've spent a lot of time in recent months researching all the different interactive platforms, and I have to say I like this one. It's the perfect opportunity to kick Canada up to the next level in going green. Enough simple acts of green, I say! It's time Canada invested in helping people make **deeper** acts of green. It's time we created a united movement. Imagine if we can get a whole lot of people to use their Simple Acts of Green to lobby for a stronger conservation movement in Canada. All we need is for people to sign up and show their support for *thinking like a movement*.

I've set up a discussion group on Million Acts of Green called **Think Like a Movement**. In there, I've posted 6 recommendations on how to move Canada to a united green movement. They are:

- **Community Conservation Networks** in every municipality to develop a local vision, priorities, projects, and campaigns.
- **Movement-based campaigns** to connect the many specific solutions within a common action (i.e. eat local, drive less, save energy).
- **A Great Green Directory** to connect people with the products, services, and incentives in their community.
- **A United Conservation Appeal** to raise funds for common campaigns, community networks, and centres of excellence.
- **A common definition of green leadership** to help people understand how all the many initiatives contribute to the overall goal.
- **Supportive government policy**, including incentives to help people go green, to reward eco-entrepreneurship, and to create local green jobs.

Here's what I'm asking you to do...

Go to <http://green.cbc.ca/>.

Sign up on One Million Acts of Green. (You need to sign up to join a group).



Click "Create an Account" in the upper right of the screen.

Fill in your e-mail address and a password.

Create a Profile:

Click "My Profile" at the top.

Click "Edit My Profile" on the right.

Give yourself a nickname. Include "icon" in your nickname if you want to let me know you're part of this campaign.

Update any other info you want and click "Save Profile".

Join the Group:

On the top toolbar, click "Find Groups" under "Groups and Challenges".

Enter "Think Like a Movement" into the search bar and click Search.

Click on the link to "Think Like a Movement".

Click on "Join" at the top to become part of the group.

Add Your Comments: (optional)

You can post a comment on any one of the six Movement Ideas. You can add a new idea.

Commit a Deeper Act of Green!

Chris Winter

Executive Director

The Conservation Council of Ontario

416-533-1635 ext 1

www.weconserve.ca

weconserve

Ontario Pesticide Ban

The Ontario Horticultural Association is pleased to support the reduction in the use of cosmetic pesticides in Ontario and encourages the research and promotion of alternative controls.

The Demise of Gardening Life



On a wintry afternoon in mid November, I picked up my December issue of Gardening Life to thumb through it one more time. I was saying my private farewell to a magazine I had been enjoying for more than a decade.

On November 14th St. Joseph Media issued a press release announcing that it had suspended publication of Gardening Life. President Douglas Knight cited a 'sharp decline in advertising markets that has caused media companies worldwide to evaluate their portfolios and make tough decisions about those brands least able to withstand the downturn'. He also reminded readers that the magazine had been 'widely praised for its journalism, photography, and design, and had connected deeply with loyal readers'.

Marjorie Harris, one time Editor-in-Chief and currently Editor-at-Large, was just as shocked as the rest of us. According to her blog #80 she was 'called to be told that Gardening Life magazine was folding. Right now. No advance warning, no time to write a final Back Talk. Nada. No time to figure out what to do in the future. The central part of my life since 1996, this wonderful magazine is gone like a puff of smoke.'

In a letter to readers, posted on the Gardening Life website, current subscribers were assured that they would be contacted about their subscriptions 'over the next weeks', and that subscriber information would be updated on their website as well.

In Marjorie's words...

R.I.P. Gardening Life.

Hope Amid the Shambles

Slugs are dining on my hostas,
There is mildew on my phlox,
And the leaves of my old roses
Look as though they've caught the pox.

The clematis is wilted,
And squirrels have spilled the seed
Set out to nourish finches,
Not intended as squirrel feed.

The delphiniums are toppled
By winds that grew humungous.
The hollyhocks are mottled
By an unrelenting fungus.

The irises look sickly,
A borer's made them mush.
Rabbit appetites voracious
Have consumed the burning bush.

The lawn is brown and splotchy.
The grubs have left a mess.
And the throat of every lily
Has a beetle as its guest.

Earwigs are multiplying
At an exponential rate.
Hordes of swinging neighbour children
Have destroyed the garden gate.

Bishop's Weed is taking over
Every place it's dropped a seed,
And the Spanish Moss is yellowed
Everywhere the cat has peed.

No matter how we labour
In our quest for paradises,
More oft' than not the reward we reap
Is another garden crisis.

Ever wonder why we gardeners
Don't just throw in the towel?
It's because hope springs eternal
When you wield a garden trowel.

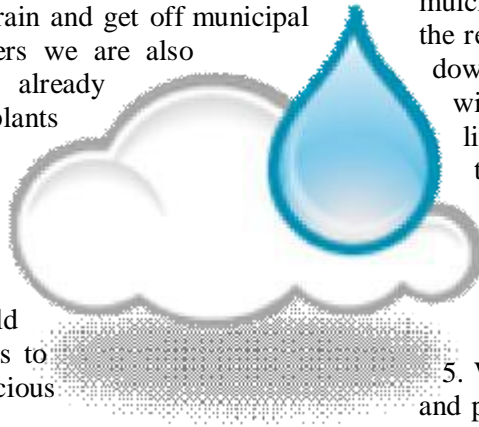


Tony Snider,
Past President,
Lake Simcoe South Shore
Horticultural Society

Rain Gardening 101

What word is on all gardeners' lips as our climate rapidly changes? Yes, it is **water**. The reduction of worldwide annual rainfall has prompted partial or even complete bans for those wishing to water gardens and lawns. This means that water we relied on before has not been available as needed. As gardeners we know there are a number of things we can do during periods of drought.

Look through the Ontario Horticultural Association's newly published booklet ***Roll Out The Barrel*** to see how easily you can capture rain and get off municipal and well water. As gardeners we are also plant-wise and many have already begun to choose and grow plants that have the ability to survive with less water. Of course, our garden soil is humus rich to maintain as much moisture as possible. It seems that 'Everything old is new again' when it comes to being a conservation-conscious gardener.



And then there was this year! Granted, there were some areas in Ontario that received little rain while the rest of the province was suffering a deluge. This was the summer for a **Rain Garden** whether your season was wet or dry. Not only can a rain garden keep water on your site, but as your plants are nourished, pollutants and impurities are prevented from flowing into our watersheds. No romantic showers tapping lightly on the roof but great deluges of water were the order of the day after a number of dry summers, causing pollution in our waterways, overflowing storm drains, flooding basements, and sewer systems under great stress. This is a trend that is predicted to continue as more land areas are hard surfaced and water no longer can soak naturally into the ground.

A rain garden is designed to catch and absorb rainwater from your roof, driveway, and any other hard surfaces where rain cannot soak in. A six inch deep depression will do the trick. This is then filled with plants that can handle both dry and wet periods. Their deep roots take in lots of water and keep erosion at bay. Imagine the beauty of a rain garden filled with many of your favourite plants with colourful flowers, fall foliage, seeds, and berries. Native plants would be at the top of your list of selections.

Some Hints on Creating a Rain Garden:

1. Check for where water coming off your roof ends up as it flows away. Site your garden ten feet away from the house foundation to prevent basement moisture.
2. The recommended size is 20 to 30 percent of your roof surface.
3. A depth of four to eight inches is sufficient. Go deeper if you are going to beef up your soil or plan to use mulch. Slope the sides and if your property slopes, use the removed soil to build a berm to collect water on the downside. A shallow channel from your downspout will lead the water to your rain garden. Some people like the look of river rock in the garden and it helps to prevent erosion.
4. As suggested, native plants are ideal for this garden. Add some shrubs and small trees for interest. Large trees are water hogs.
5. Weeding is necessary as in any garden. Mulch well and place plants close together to help keep weeds out. Watering is required but less during a drought if rainfall has been channelled into the garden during one of those deluges.

Properties of a Rain Garden:

- Keeps water that falls on your property in the soil.
- Helps to maintain the water table.
- Reduces erosion, especially on sloping property.
- Acts as a filter for pollutants – road salt, fertilizers, herbicides, and so on.
- Helps to keep our local waterways clean.
- Is a magnet for butterflies, birds and pollinators.
- Means less lawn to mow and lower water bills.
- Does not stay wet or breed mosquitoes.

Rain Gardens work. Include one in your garden. Add plants you have elsewhere to make it fit into your landscaping, then pat yourself on the back as you contemplate the beauty of your garden and the good you are doing for your rivers and streams.

**Dorothy Shropshire,
Conservation Committee**

38 Ontario Communities Honoured at 2008 Communities in Bloom – Ontario Awards Conference

Representatives of communities across Ontario were present in Gravenhurst on September 13th, 2008 to celebrate their achievements at the 15th annual CiB – Ontario Awards Conference. Each received a certificate and, where applicable, a Trillium Bloom Rating of Excellence and Special Mention of the community's remarkable attributes or projects. Nine communities were presented with Ontario Special Criteria Awards.

2008 Trillium Bloom Ratings for Provincial Edition

POPULATION	COMMUNITY	RATING
1,001 - 5,000	Municipality of Red Lake	5 Blooms
	Community of Exeter	3 Blooms
	Village of Sundridge/ Township of Strong	4 Blooms
5,001 - 10,000	City of Dryden	5 Blooms
	Municipality of Southwest Middlesex	5 Blooms
10,001 - 20,000	Municipality of Lambton Shores	4 Blooms
	Municipality of Trent Hills	4 Blooms
	Town of Wasaga Beach	5 Blooms
20,001 - 50,000	Town of Essex	4 Blooms
	Town of Lincoln	4 Blooms
	Township of Scugog	5 Blooms
50,001-100,000	City of Pickering	5 Blooms
	City of Sarnia	5 Blooms

Ontario Criteria Award Winners

CRITERIA AWARD	SPONSOR	RECIPIENT
Tidiness	Trystan Site Furnishings	City of Sarnia
Environmental Awareness	Horizon Utilities	Town of Wasaga Beach
Community Involvement	Composting Council of Canada	Town of Lincoln
Natural & Cultural Heritage Conservation	Ontario Small Urban Municipalities	Township of Scugog
Tree/Urban Forest Management	International Society of Arboriculture – Ontario	Municipality of Southwest Middlesex
Landscaped Areas	Niagara Parks School of Horticulture Alumni	City of Pickering
Floral Displays	Bearskin Airlines	Municipality of Lambton Shores
Turf & Groundcover	All Treat Farms Inc.	City of Dryden
Most Improved	Landscape Ontario	Town of Essex



**COMMUNITY CORNER –
AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE**

Participating Community/Group	Project
Township of North Huron	Historical CNR Trail & Walking Bridge Trestle
The Junction - Toronto	The Solstice Walk
Town of Carleton Place	Creating a Green Screen
Township of Bradford West Gwillimbury	Elizabeth Gwillim Simcoe Statue
City of Elliot Lake	Food Share Gardens
Town of Prescott	The Prescott River Heritage Trail
Ottawa Horticultural Society	Plant Recreation Centre Garden
Community of Strathroy-Caradoc	MacKinlay-Paul Park
City of Niagara Falls, Parks in the City Committee	The Armoury Garden
City of Woodstock	Ironsides
City of Woodstock	Via Rail Cars Art Project
City of Woodstock	Highway 401 Gateway Project
The Rotary Club of Bracebridge	The Rotary Centennial Gardens
City of St. Catharines – Merritton	Heritage Bin Project **
County of Frontenac/Fairmount Home	North Gardens

****Congratulations to the 2008 Winner of the
CiB Ontario Award of Excellence:**

City of St. Catharines – Merritton	Heritage Bin Project
------------------------------------	----------------------

National Award Winners

- *1 to 1 000* * Muskoka Lakes – Port Carling, Ontario
- *1,001 to 3,000* * Calmar, Alberta
- *3,001 to 5,000* * Antigonish, Nova Scotia
- *5,001 to 8,000* * Goderich, Ontario
- *8,001 to 10,000* * Dauphin, Manitoba
- *10,001 to 13,000* * Ingersoll, Ontario
- *13,001 to 20,000* * White Rock, British Columbia
- *20,001 to 55,000* * Saint-Bruno-de-Montarville, Québec
- *55,001 to 155,000* * Barrie, Ontario
- *Over 300,001* * Mississauga, Ontario
- *Canadian Forces* * 4 Wing Cold Lake, Alberta

International Challenge

Brampton, Ontario in the Large category, **Stratford**, Ontario in the Medium category, and **Annapolis Royal**, Nova Scotia in the Small category were the winners in the International Challenge categories. In this category winners of Communities in Bloom compete with past winners of Tidy Towns of Ireland, Britain in Bloom, America in Bloom and Japan in Bloom.

Best Blooming Community and Criteria Awards

The Best Blooming Community in Canada is awarded to **Stratford**, Ontario for achieving the highest aggregate score in both the Winter Lights Celebrations and the Communities in Bloom programs for 2008.



We Love a Parade!



For the first time, the Port Dover and Woodhouse Society entered a float featuring a red canoe in Port Dover's Annual Canada Day Parade and won 1st place.

The Delhi and District Horticultural Society decided to follow Dover's great example and entered a float in the Delhi Harvest Festival Parade on Saturday, September 20th. Just like Dover, we were proud to receive the 1st place ribbon as first time entrants!



Donna Hussey,
Assistant Director, District Six

Insurance Queries?

Contact:

Brian McCartney
Law Insurance,
14900 Yonge Street
Aurora, ON L4G 1M7
1-800-529-2235
oha@lawbrokers.com

Four Blooms for Gravenhurst

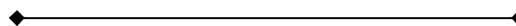
On Saturday the 13th of September, 2008 the Communities in Bloom Provincial Awards Ceremony was held in Gravenhurst, Ontario. The Municipality of Trent Hills re-entered this competition after a six year hiatus. During that time period a lot of work was done in response to the comments and suggestions that were made by the judges who toured our community in 2002.



A committee was formed in the fall of 2007 to decide if most of the criteria had been addressed and it was agreed it was time to be involved again.

At the awards dinner and ceremony six representatives attended from the municipality and were overwhelmed when it was announced that we had won four blooms out of the possible five. We also received special mention for our Volunteerism and Community Spirit.

We thank all those who participated and helped us reach this level. Planning is already started for 2009.



In 2008 **Ludnow and District Horticultural Society** celebrated its 50th anniversary. With 200+ members, the group planted 32 barrels on the main street of Ludnow, seven gardens around town, and baskets on the bridge going into town. We are very proud of what we have accomplished in our small town and we welcome all OHA members to come next year to see how society members in a small town can work together to beautify their community.

Andrea Feeley,
Secretary,
Ludnow & District Society



Grafton's New Heritage Park

The new Grafton Heritage Park which the **Grafton Horticultural Society** has created in the past 24 months has an 83 year history. It all began in 1926, a year after the formation of the society.

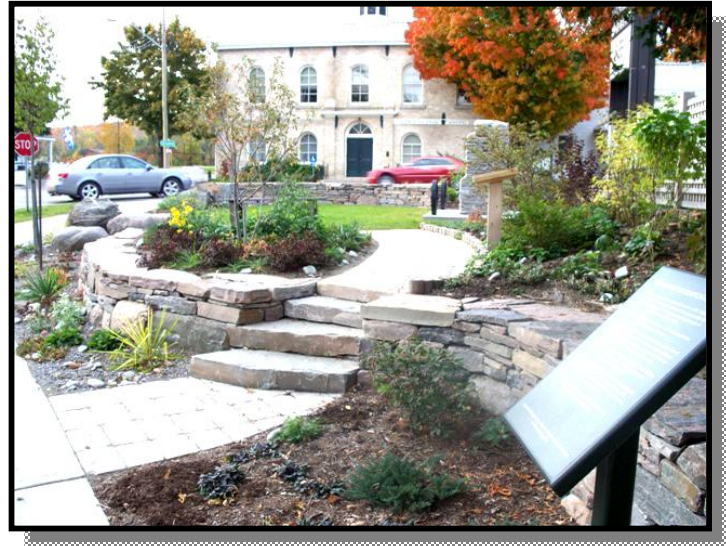
In the middle of the intersection of the King's Highway #2 and the Old Danforth Road, there existed a triangular piece of land owned by the Lawless family. The land was donated to the newly formed horticultural society. It was decided that the land would become a garden, 'to beautify the village', as our archives show. A 24" high field stone wall was erected, followed by a cairn which became a cenotaph about the First World War.

This garden was tended by the society until 1990 when a new cenotaph was erected in another part of the village. The memorial plaque was replaced by a LACAC plaque. The society continued to lovingly enhance the garden.

In 2006 the intersection was reconstructed because of traffic safety concerns. The Triangle, as it was called for decades, was removed and the cairn was transported to a storage location. A new easterly space (about 50' x 80') resulted. It was on this site that the Grafton Horticultural Society decided to create the **Grafton Heritage Park**.

Plans fell into place, and in the spring of 2008 the new construction began. The original cairn was returned and restored with a new Heritage of Grafton plaque. Two dry stone walls were built, landscaping was begun in earnest, a cedar lattice fence was constructed, and native plants, trees, and shrubs were added. The Ontario Heritage Trust, in association with Heritage Alnwick/Haldimand, erected an historic plaque. An appreciation plaque was also created and a bench was acquired. The final touch was a name stone with the engraved words...

GRAFTON HERITAGE PARK by the GRAFTON HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY



This garden park was funded as follows: \$15 000 Ontario Trillium Foundation grant; \$10 000 donated by Grafton and area residents and organizations; \$16 000 from the sale of donor pavers; \$3 000 from the Northumberland Community Futures Corporation. The Ontario Horticultural Association contributed a grant of \$500. In addition to this, about \$15 000 was provided in in-kind services and gifts, primarily by the township council and other individuals.

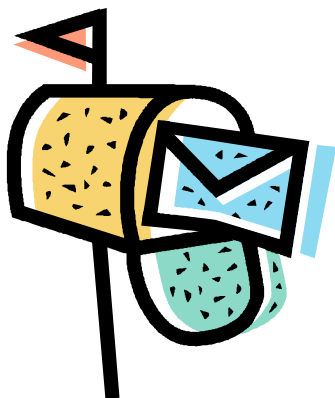
The Grand Opening, held on September 27th, was attended by 115 people, including representatives from the three levels of government. The Ontario Trillium Foundation was also represented, as was the Ontario Horticultural Association by John Sellers, the District 4 Director.

The Grafton Horticultural Society is proud of this beautiful new addition to Grafton. The project committee consists of chair John Liptay, secretary Bev Silk, Aengus Finnan, Rosemary Dignam, Board of Directors liaison Ivan Moore, Bob Garthson from Heritage Alnwick Haldimand, township councillor Cathie Ritchie, and Society President Suzanne Liptay.

We are happy to be contributing to *Keeping Ontario Beautiful*.

For further information email liptay@nexicom.net.

John Liptay,
Grafton Horticultural Society



Receive your own hard copy of *Trillium* the traditional way. Fill out the form below or mail a 'reasonable facsimile' to treasurer Sharon Hill. It's never too early to renew your current subscription – Sharon will simply extend your mailings for an additional four quarterly issues. A subscription would also make a terrific addition to that gardening friend's gift basket!

What a great way to support the OHA and keep up to date with what's happening across the province.

Trillium



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Flagpole Garden

Sixteen years ago (1992), the Town of Kincardine asked our horticultural society to plant and maintain a garden around the base of the newly-erected flagpole located at the west end of Harbour Street right next to the beach. The beach sand is held in place by large boulders. Three years ago an additional piece of property was added to the area.

Our society wanted plantings that would complement and enhance the beautification of this area. Two 'in memoriam' park benches grace the seating area overlooking Lake Huron, and a walking path meanders through the plantings and adjoins an existing path along the lake.

The design of the flagpole garden and the plant selection is of historical and cultural significance as the garden has been planted with native trees, shrubs, and perennials to reflect the landscape when the settlers first arrived in Kincardine. Plants were chosen that would exist and thrive in the harsh environmental conditions of sand, drought, hot drying winds in summer, and the extreme cold, winter winds, snow, and ice conditions of Lake Huron.

In the summer of 2007, we experimented with the addition of a butterfly garden on the newest acquisition of property, planting numerous Buddleias, Asclepias, Echinaceas, etc. This summer, our volunteers were delighted with the large number of butterflies using their new butterfly garden. As we weeded, they flew around our heads with no fear.



This large garden is maintained weekly by volunteers from our society. We also have two major cleanups a year, in spring and fall with many more volunteers. The garden enhances the area around the landmark flagpole and makes the area a more attractive site for national, provincial, and local commemorative ceremonies. The flagpole garden has become a highlight and a *must see* area for tourists and Communities in Bloom judges. Needless to say, town residents enjoy walking through the gardens as well.

Janet Moyser, Past President, Kincardine & District Horticultural Society

Blue Sky Day



To celebrate Blue Sky Day the employees and managers of Johnson Controls, Inc. located in Lakeshore planted twenty native trees and shrubs. Assisting them in their effort to green the environment were members of the **Belle River & District Horticultural Society**. Everyone supported the planting with a lot of enthusiasm and children as well as adults had fun learning how to plant trees successfully.

Commonly Asked Questions



WHO DO I SPEAK TO ABOUT:

- Ø **ASSOCIATION DUES?** If your District Director cannot answer your question, then by all means you can contact Sharon Hill, the OHA Treasurer.
- Ø **INSURANCE?** If you have a question about insurance premium payments, call either your District Director or me. HOWEVER, if you have a question about what insurance covers and the differences between insurances, please call Brian McCartney of Law Insurance Brokers at 416-969-8262 or 1-800-529-2235.
- Ø **TREASURER BONDING?** Your District Director can probably answer questions about the treasurer bonding. By all means please feel free to contact me if that doesn't work for you.
- Ø **NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTIONS?** The newsletter subscriptions (hard copies) are now handled through the Treasurer's office. See page 16 for a subscription form.

WHAT DOES *SOCIETY IN GOOD STANDING* MEAN?

This is a term that is used by OMAFRA, the Insurance Companies and the Association. In order for a Society to be a 'member in good standing' it must have:

- ü filed an annual report with OMAFRA (regardless of whether it has applied for a grant).
- ü filed the Society Annual Report with the Association.
- ü paid its District dues.
- ü paid its Association dues.
- ü paid its Insurance premiums: General Liability and Directors' & Officers'.

The OHA Treasurer must file a report with Law Insurance stating which societies are in good standing so I will check each one of the above elements. If a society is not on that report, it **will not** be covered for insurance. In addition, the Society Treasurer Bonding Kits go only to those societies that have paid their dues/insurance invoices.

WHERE DO WE SEND OUR PAYMENTS FOR DUES, INSURANCE, AND NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTIONS?

**Ontario Horticultural Association,
c/o Sharon Hill, Treasurer
P.O. Box 595,
Bracebridge, ON P1L 1T8**

WHEN ARE THE ASSOCIATION DUES/INSURANCE INVOICES DUE? The invoices that were mailed September 15th, 2008 are due by December 31st, 2008. I recommend that you send payment by December 15th, 2008 and if you wish, you may call me if you need to send a post-dated cheque.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me.

**Sharon Hill, OHA Treasurer
P.O. Box 595,
Bracebridge, ON P1L 1T8
705-645-3552 or treasurer@gardenontario.org**

Ontario Horticultural Association

Budget 2009

REVENUES		
Membership Fees		95,824
Insurance	liability	20,272
	directors & officers	29,972
Sale of OHA Supplies		5,010
Web space sales		520
Newsletter		1,275
Donations/Supporters		6,700
Advertising		750
Special Projects	trsf fr restricted funds	5,000
Memorial Tree Plantings	trsf fr restricted funds	1,200
Miscellaneous Fundraising		1,500
NET OPERATING REVENUE		168,023
EXPENSES		
Meeting Expenses	Board Meeting Expenses	39,000
	Committee Expenses - i.e. social marketing, youth, constitution/by-laws, conservation, education, judge's registry, long range planning, funding,	7,140
Other Meeting Expenses		25,600
District Expenses		5,300
Audit/Legal Fees		500
Bank Charges		20,234
Insurance	Liability	31,900
	Dir & Officer's Insurance	2,020
Mailing Costs/Print & Stationery		6,300
Secretary	Honorarium & Off Expenses	7,200
Treasurer	Honorarium & Office Expenses	1,700
Awards & Prizes		25
Memberships in other org's		5,000
Special Projects		1,200
Memorial Tree Plantings		500
Scholarships/Bursaries/Awards		3,000
OHA Supplies	Supplies purchased	1,050
	Admin-Postage etc	3,600
Newsletter/Youth Newsletter		1,000
Annual Report/Yearbook		2,800
Education/Promotion/Publicity	Internet/Web Expenses	2,500
Exhibitions, incl.storage		450
Fund Raising Expenses		
NET OPERATING EXPENSES		168,019
NET INCOME (LOSS)		4

2009 OHA Supplies List & Order Form

Item #	Item Description	Price	Quantity Ordered	Total
01-01	Youth Member Card	free		
01-02	Youth Service Certificate	\$1.00		
02-01	Society President Certificate	\$1.00		
02-02	District Appreciation Certificate	\$1.00		
02-03	Life Member Certificate- w/card	\$2.00		
03-04	Note Pad (4.25" x 5.5 "	\$1.00		
04-01	Pin- President	\$5.00		
04-02	Pin- Past President	\$5.00		
04-03	Pin- Judge	\$5.00		
04-04	Pin- District Director	\$5.00		
04-05	Pin- Past District Director	\$5.00		
04-06	Pin- Secretary	\$5.00		
04-07	Pin- Treasurer	\$5.00		
04-08	Pin- Member	\$5.00		
04-09	Pin- Youth Leader	\$5.00		
04-10	Pin- Life Member	\$5.00		
04-11	Pin- Assistant District Director	\$5.00		
04-12	Pin- Vice President	\$5.00		
05-01	Notecards, 5 per pkg, with envelopes	\$5.00		
05-02	Notecards, 5 packages	\$20.00		
06-01	Decals, static cling	\$1.00		
06-02	Gardenontario Bookmarks	free		
07-01	Needlepoint Pendants	\$5.00		
07-02	Ontario Judging & Exhibiting Standards (Publication 34)	\$5.00		
07-03	History of Ontario Horticultural Societies 1854-1973 (soft cover)	\$9.99		
07-04	History of Ontario Horticultural Societies 1854-1973 (hard cover)	\$14.99		
08-01	Golf shirt, green (logo) - small	\$8.00		
08-02	T-shirt, white - X large only	\$6.00		
08-03	Sweat Shirt, cream - medium	\$25.00		
08-04	Sweat Shirt, green - medium	\$25.00		
09-01	Society Manual binder - includes Youth Leader Manual and Volunteer Toolkit	\$40.00		
09-02	Society Manual CD - pdf format includes files for OHA colour ads, bookmarks, and new brochures	\$5.00		
			TOTAL	

Send this order to:

OHA Supplies
c/o Don Matthews,
Box 491,
Harriston, ON
N0G 1Z0

or via e-mail to
supplies@gardenontario.org



Static Cling Decal

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the postage to the
amount of your cheque.



'History of Ontario
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Address:	
City, Province:	Postal Code:
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