

Trillium

Keeping Ontario Beautiful™

Ontario Horticultural Association Newsletter

Summer 2009



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**Sheila King's
Guernsey Cream Clematis**

A Final Message From The President

What a year and what a ride! The time has come to move on to other things great and beautiful. I have had an amazing year as President of the Ontario Horticultural Association and I know that ***Keeping Ontario Beautiful*** is a wonderful trademark that we all treasure.

Meeting so many wonderful people across our great province and renewing acquaintances with former friends is a real plus. This is what memories are made of. The officers with whom I conferred so many times are a real asset to the organization. Thank you for being there.

Nineteen directors have been a strong support at the board meetings and at the many hours on the computer. We have had some very good times and some not so good times. The friendships that we made will last a long time. We are the volunteers and we work to make the OHA a strong association.

Past President Jim Mabee has been a friend and confidante for the past 6 years and he has taught me so much about our association. I am very grateful to him. He is always there to answer my inquiries.

Don Matthews, our Past Presidents' Council rep, is also a wealth of information and I thank him for his guidance. These two people, along with our very efficient treasurer Sharon Hill, have made this year very easy and enjoyable. Thanks also goes out to the newest member of our team, secretary Janet Moyser.

As we wind down another year, please don't forget our upcoming convention to be held July 10th-12th in beautiful Peterborough, at Trent University. John Sellers and his team have put together a magnificent event. There are boat cruises, visits to greenhouses and private gardens, as well as tours to a delphinium farm and an ecology park. What more does a delegate want! The convention abounds with speakers on organic vegetables, hostas, photography, Ikebana, mini-gardens, and so much more. So pack your bags and we will welcome you with open arms.

Yes - what a ride! It has been a wonderful year and a pleasure and an honour to be your President in 2008-2009. Our convention theme of ***Remember Yesterday, Protect Tomorrow*** is the message of the year. Remember our strength comes from your volunteer work and commitment to ***Keeping Ontario Beautiful***.

Ken Fink, OHA President, 2008/2009
president@gardenontario.org

From the Secretary's Desk

With the longer daylight hours we are enjoying more time in our gardens, watching each day to see which of our old friends is emerging. This is undoubtedly my favourite time of year – my trilliums are prolific, society plant sales and flower shows are now underway, and garden centres are beckoning me in to see their newest cultivars.

The Spring Trillium (still available at gardenontario.ca) included detailed information about the Peterborough Convention along with a registration form. The convention is being held at Trent University in Peterborough on July 10th, 11th, and 12th. The theme is ***Remember Yesterday—Protect Tomorrow*** and it is advisable to register early, especially if you are interested in taking part in the exciting tours that are being offered. The registrar and treasurer greatly appreciate registrations that are received well before the deadline!

Enclosed with this mailing are the minutes of the 2008 convention, resolutions being presented at the upcoming convention, a biography for each nominee (C. Dunk and S. King) standing for election to the position of 2nd Vice President, and proxy voting information. Proxy authorizations must be returned to me by June 15th, 2009. Please review this information with your society members as these items will be presented at the Peterborough convention.

Have a safe journey to the convention and I'll look forward to meeting you there.

Grass is just a flowerbed in waiting!

Janet Moyser
secretary@gardenontario.org
519-395-0227

Memorial Period at Convention 2009

During the Memorial Period of the 2009 convention, we will take the time to remember our friends who are no longer with us. If a Society has lost a member in the last year and wishes to have that person's name recognized at the convention, please send the name, *along with your Society name and District number*, to the Association Secretary, Janet Moyser, at **secretary@gardenontario.org** before June 30th.



Election Notice

The 2009 OHA Nominations Committee is pleased to report that there will be an Election of Officers for the position of **2nd Vice President** at this year's convention in Peterborough.

Kees Stryland, currently OHA 1st Vice President, has consented to let his name stand and move up to become President.

Vickie Wiemer, currently OHA 2nd Vice President, will stand for the position of 1st Vice President.

Carol Dunk, District 16 Director, has been duly nominated for the position of 2nd Vice President.

Sheila King, District 2 Director, has been duly nominated for the position of 2nd Vice President.

Therefore, at the time of writing, there will be an election for the position of 2nd Vice President. Proxy voting will be in effect if there are no further nominations from the floor. Societies should either send in their marked proxy vote sheets to be placed by the secretary, or they should delegate their proxy votes to any individual who is a member of the OHA and have these individuals do the voting by secret ballot.

The Proxy Voting Sheets are inserted in this mailing and must be signed and mailed by the deadline given.

Jim Mabee,
Nominating Committee Chair

2009 Convention Art Competition

It is not too late to register for the Art Competition to be judged at the Convention in Peterborough. Visit www.gardenontario.org to take a look at the classes.



This year I designed the competition to be easier to transport, using less glass, smaller maximum sizes, and with one class aimed at anyone who can use a coloured pencil!

The schedule covers most media. I do hope you will enjoy the challenge. Please register before July 3rd at district2@gardenontario.org.

Sheila King
Art Competition Chair

Planned Gifts

Future gifts to the Ontario Horticultural Association, usually referred to as 'planned gifts' are very welcome. These may include charitable bequests provided in a will (cash or securities), retirement funds, or gifts of life insurance. Although donors plan for these gifts now, the Association will receive them at a future date.

Life Insurance:

Planned giving using life insurance can help you

- ▶ Support your favourite charitable organization in a more significant way than you may have been able to before.
- ▶ Protect the value of your estate by avoiding erosion due to taxes, probate, and administration fees.

Consider this:

- ▶ You may not use all your net worth in your lifetime, so it may ultimately be gifted to a charity.
- ▶ Does it make sense to pay income tax on the growth each year?
- ▶ Permanent life insurance lets you accumulate cash value without paying tax on it until you withdraw it from the policy. Upon death, your named beneficiaries receive the death benefit tax-free.
- ▶ During your lifetime, you can contribute up to 75 per cent of your income to charity.
- ▶ In the year of death and the preceding year, you can contribute up to 100 per cent of your income to charity.

You have two choices:

1. Buy a life insurance policy – Donate it to the charity, then take tax receipts as the premiums are paid.
2. Buy a life insurance policy – Retain ownership, then at death, take a tax receipt for the proceeds paid to the charity.

In both cases the charity receives a much larger gift than if the donation was made in cash. Furthermore, the benefactor could use the full deduction at death to offset taxes on their estate if they choose option 2. Questions? Email treasurer@gardenontario.org.

Sharon Hill
OHA Treasurer

OHA Organizational Advisory Panel

As the OHA advances into its second century, there are many challenges that confront it. Technological advances are radically reshaping the methods and speed with which we communicate with each other as well as the way that we organize our activities. Economic uncertainty, rising energy costs, and environmental considerations may result in our modifying the focus of both our gardening and our gardening organizations. At this point in our history we need to step back, and take a look at the implications of these changes and pressures on our operation.

With these changes and pressures in mind, the OHA is hoping to put together an advisory panel to examine the organization of the Association and the way that it conducts its business, and if appropriate, to make proposals regarding changes. Included in the responsibilities of the panel will be the examination of significant OHA activities, OHA policies, and the structure of the organization. The objective will be to improve its overall performance, so that it delivers to its members the best value for their money. This is not a line-by-line budget or expenditure review, but instead, a look at whether our 'business model' can be improved and can meet the challenges of today and the years to come.

This organizational advisory panel is to be comprised of seven to ten members of OHA societies who are willing to embrace new practices and approaches. The aim is to include people with experience in other organizations at a committee or board level, with financial management experience and/or experience with organizational reviews. Although it is hoped that there will be an opportunity for some face-to-face meetings, it's likely that a full get together would require an untenable expense. As a result, much of the panel's discussion and communication will be conducted by email or telephone.

For those members who previously may not have been active beyond the society level, but who have valuable managerial or organizational experience, this is an opportunity for greater involvement in the Association. Those who are interested in volunteering their names for the panel should email Malcolm Geast at malcolm@eastyork.net. Please include full contact information, and a brief background summary. The panel selection is expected to take place in mid-September, 2009.

Malcolm Geast
Past District 5 Director
malcolm@eastyork.net 416-429-4719

Welcome to our New Associate Members

We are very pleased to report we have 2 new Associate members!

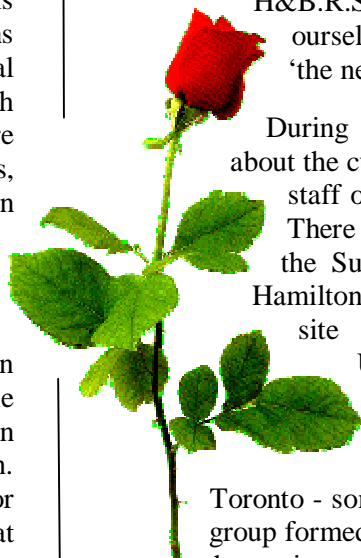
The Long Range Planning committee has been working on a proposal to invite specialty societies to join us as Associate members for quite awhile. At long last, the board has approved the benefits, the letter, and the application form.

Our approach is to benefit you, the society member and the specialty societies, by sharing information and education. We hope some of you may want to join the clubs that become Associate members. In many cases, distance doesn't matter because you receive the newsletters and the opportunity to be part of special events such as plant sales, garden tours, bus trips, or, at the very least, support a society whose passion for a plant family is the same as yours. Our new associates will post their major activities on our website's calendar of events. We look forward to other specialty clubs joining us in the future.

Please welcome, with a little applause please:

New Kids on the Block

Earlier this year, **The Hamilton and Burlington Rose Society** was invited to join the fold of the Ontario Horticultural Association. The executive committee of H&B.R.S. felt it proper to introduce ourselves to OHA members, since we are 'the new kids on the (your) block'.



During the early 1950s, many enquiries about the culture of roses were received by the staff of Royal Botanical Gardens (RBG). There existed a rose garden at the site of the Sunken Garden, on Main St. West, Hamilton, then part of RBG properties. (This site is now occupied by McMaster University Medical Centre). The only rose-specialist club at that time was the Ontario Rose Society (CRS), headquartered in Toronto - some 50-plus miles away. By 1956, a group formed to establish a local rose society. In the spring of 1957 the Hamilton and District Rose Society was founded, which staged its first Rose Show in June of that year.

The charter members, in drafting the constitution of the society, stated the purpose to be the promotion of rose growing and investigating improved methods of its cultivation.

This concept has been carried through the years by

- establishing rose beds in schools, particularly in those with gardening classes;
- pairing new members with experienced ones under a buddy system;
- support of RBG through sponsorship of rose beds in the Centennial Rose Garden, and the manning of information booths during RBG's Rose Festival;
- organizing of public lectures featuring important personalities in the "rose-world", especially regarding disease resistant and winter-hardy cultivars.

Of course, we like to think that our club meetings have an interesting speakers' program, too! In addition, many members availed themselves of courses for show exhibitors and judges, offered by RBG and CRS. A number of members drafted a manual for staging shows, others worked on improving our show schedule, which was subsequently adopted by other rose groups for their use. Indeed, our show schedule was declared 'exemplary' at an international meeting of show organizers and judges in the U.K.(ca.1980), and received an award in recognition of its clarity and detail.

In 1982 the Society's name was changed to its current form, in order to reflect our membership base more accurately, and because other rose groups were being formed in southern Ontario. Not all have survived, alas! And in spite of the name, we have members residing in Newmarket, Etobicoke, Niagara Falls, and other places outside the Burl-Ham. area. We celebrated the Society's 50th Anniversary with our 51st Annual Rose Show in June 2007. The show was opened by Dr Leslie Laking, former RBG Director, the only surviving charter member and a member of the founding committee. The top prizes were awarded to a member from Welland.

The First All-Canadian Rose Show was staged in 2007. Yes, another first for Canada and this Society! The show was organized rather differently from the traditional norm, in that exhibits were staged to reflect the breeder or introducer, and not according to rose classes, such as HT, Shrub, etc. It was decided not to stage a show in 2009, as many members would be attending the World Federation of Rose Societies conference in Vancouver, B.C. This coincides with the time when we expect our roses to be at their best.

Please feel free to attend any of our meetings, held on the last Sunday of March, April, and May, as well as in September and October. For details contact: hbrosesociety@sympatico.ca. Visitors are always welcome!

George Pagowski

Toronto Cactus & Succulent Club

The Toronto Cactus & Succulent Club (TCSC) is pleased to be one of the first 'Associate Societies' to become a member of the OHA and we are hoping this alliance will be beneficial to all member societies.

The TCSC was formed in 1977 by a group of enthusiastic cactus and succulent plant growers who wished to learn more about the culture of these plants, and to share their knowledge and experiences with others. Most members have joined to meet other collectors in the Toronto area and to learn more about the hobby, but we do have members far from Toronto. Eight informative meetings are held each year at the Toronto Botanical Garden.

There is a sales table at most meetings where named plants can be purchased. Non-members are welcome to attend one of these meetings as visitors to see if they would like to join our group. Our web site provides details of meeting dates and program.



Our club's library contains a wealth of information about these fascinating plants. Books are picked up and returned at the club meetings. Eight newsletters are published each year, containing upcoming C&S events, reports of the meetings and plant talk. They also provide free classified advertising for our members. We also have a free seed distribution service. Our annual show and sale is held the first Sunday in June at Allan Gardens in Toronto and we usually have one or two summer picnics.

We would like to know how this alliance could benefit you. How can we help the general horticultural society members with their cactus and succulent plant questions? If you have a succulent plant that needs identification you are welcome to e-mail a digital photo of it to us via the TCSC web site's *Contact us* link. We will do our best to provide you with the plant's botanical name.

Our web site is at <http://torontocactus.tripod.com>.

David Naylor
Treasurer & Membership Secretary,
Toronto Cactus & Succulent Club
905-877-6013

Natural Gardening:

Five Easy Ways to Create an Eco-Friendly Garden

As gardeners, we want to do the best for the environment. Sustainable gardening is not only good for the earth, but it results in superior gardens. Follow these tips and you'll see that it can save you time, money, and work.

Welcome Birds, Butterflies and Beneficial Bugs. Birds and butterflies add both colour and movement to the garden. Along with beneficial insects, such as bees, ladybugs and spiders, they pollinate flowers, eat insect pests, and help to decompose organic matter. Here's how to attract birds and butterflies to your garden:

1. Be sure to choose plants that
 - provide nectar, larval food and egg-laying sites for butterflies.
 - offer nectar to hummingbirds.
 - bear clusters of juicy berries for the birds.
2. Add a birdbath or a shallow container of water for drinking and bathing and your birds will be happy. Include a few small stones so butterflies can perch and sip. Watch carefully and you will see their long feeding tube unfurl as they take a drink.
3. In autumn allow seedheads to ripen on both perennials and ornamental grasses. These will feed the birds through the winter.
4. Provide birds with shelter and perches by planting a diversity of shrubs and evergreen plants.
5. Stop using pesticides and herbicides. Even organic products such as rotenone, nicotine, sulphur and copper sulphate can be poisonous to birds and beneficial insects.



Berries for Birds:

Allegheny Serviceberry (*Amelanchier laevis*) – a North American native plant
Blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus*)
Dogwood (*Cornus spp*) -- N.A. native
Elderberry (*Sambucus canadensis*) – N.A. native
Pin Cherry (*Prunus pennsylvanica*) – N.A. native
Raspberry (*Rubus idaeus*) – N.A. native
Staghorn Sumac (*Rhus typhina*) – N.A. native
Viburnum (*viburnum spp*) – N.A. native
Also High Bush Cranberry
(pictured above in winter).

Seeds for Winter Accent:

Columbine (*Aquilegia canadensis*)
Purple Coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*)
Small Globe Thistle (*Echinops ritro*)
Rough/False Sunflower
(*Heliopsis helianthoides var scabra*)

Butterfly Havens:

Aster (*Aster novae-angliae*)
Bee Balm (*Monarda didyma*)
Black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*)
Chives (*Allium schoenoprasum*)
Cosmos (*Cosmos*)
Dill (*Anethum graveolans*)
Milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*)
Morning Glory (*Ipomoea purpurea*)
Phlox (*Phlox paniculata*)
Yarrow (*Achillea spp*)

Hummingbird Ambrosia:

Delphinium (*Delphinium spp.*)
Hollyhock (*Alcea rosea*)
Daylilies (*Hemerocallis*)
Obedient Plant (*Physostegia virginiana*)



How Green Is Your Valley?

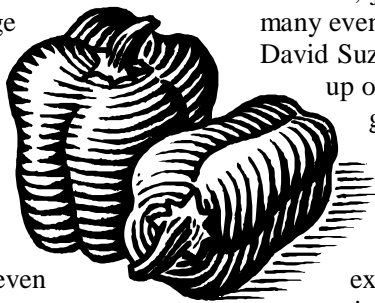
With the current concern for the environment, it seems as though there are only two states of being: those who are green and those who are becoming green. We are being made more aware of the green movement than ever before, but what is so surprising about it is that much harkens back to our grandparent's day and almost everyone is on the bandwagon in some way.

Garbage, which we all produce, has become big business and a very real concern, especially in that large city on the shores of Lake Ontario. Who has not seen Toronto's garbage speeding down the 401 to Michigan, sometimes spilling mementoes along the way? Years ago there was no garbage. The tin cans were used to keep mice out of the granary; the newspaper was used to start fires or line shelves. Glass jars were used year after year.

Today we call this recycling, and it goes into a blue box (first used in Kitchener), and what a boon it is to the environment. Material is reused and the life of the landfill is extended. Here in Waterloo Region we have a most amazing dump which offers a very interesting bus tour of the site. It's amazing how the base for a garbage pile is prepared and it's astounding to learn about the recycling program – cardboard becomes toilet paper, plastic shopping bags become building materials, and paint is free for the taking.

Many horticulturalists take advantage of their garden space to grow vegetables for pleasure and in doing so benefit from the excellent produce. Prince Charles recommends growing some of one's own food. In crowded Chinese cities a large percentage of their food requirement is met by urban gardens.

With smaller lots it is impossible to grow huge quantities, but it is possible to grow a very decent amount. The first thing is to forget about long rows and concentrate on maximum yield from minimum ground space. Onions, lettuce, swiss chard and beans do not take up a lot of space and can be planted as succession crops. With the use of tomato cages the tomatoes and even cucumbers grow 'up'.



People often say it doesn't pay to grow vegetables. Well it doesn't pay to grow petunias or impatiens either! Home-grown is so excellent that for the taste alone it is worth it, and it is so very *green*!

The slow food philosophy and the 100-mile diet both promote the use of local produce, thereby cutting down on transportation and its resulting costs and pollution. Restaurants and grocery stores proudly advertise locally grown foods and are eager for their patrons to know this

fact. Many eateries build their menus around seasonal fruits and vegetables. That is exactly how grandmothers cooked: strawberries in June, beans in July, peaches in August, and in winter it was root vegetables and squash. Of course today we are not giving up lettuce or tomatoes because of a few snowflakes, but maybe we could try cabbage once in a while – it is green!

In the construction industry a new acronym has come into use L.E.E.D. – Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design. LEED buildings are rated on such things as water-efficiency, material and resources, indoor environmental quality, and innovation in the design process. Initially the cost may be higher, but hopefully costs will come down as more of these structures are built. Using local stone has to be cheaper than importing stone from India! It is good to hear about using wood from sustainable forests and recycling old wood.

People in general are becoming accustomed to the idea of un-landscaping the property with native plants and less turf grass. Hold back those chemicals! In many small ways this very idea may be happening to people who are unaware of how green it is to grow ninebark rather than sand cherry, to plant elder and not use any pesticide or to increase a flower bed with echinacea.

With the price of gasoline at its present level, everyone is looking for ways to use less. Slowing down, not rushing a red light, and not idling a vehicle unnecessarily are things everyone can do, and they are *green* things. Buying an electric car or a hybrid is just a little higher up the *green* ladder.

This summer many people had a *stay-cation* instead of a vacation, just line in grandpa's day. It is wonderful how many events and attractions can be found close to home.

David Suzuki extols the virtues of turning the temperature up on the air conditioner by just one degree – an easy green step to saving energy and money. A dollar saved is worth more than a dollar earned!

Just how green one becomes depends on the individual. The philosophy is most easily expressed as a desire to live comfortably while ensuring that future generations will be able to do the same. Anthropologists claim that one of the most advanced civilizations on earth was that of the natives of the North American Plains prior to the arrival of Europeans. Their way of life was very inclusive, something we strive for today, and so too their philosophy of walking on the earth and leaving no trail. This is exactly in tune with the current green movement.

So how green are you?

James Graham, Director, OHA District 19

The Nominations Committee is pleased to announce that Sheila King has been duly and properly nominated for the position of OHA Second Vice President by Kemptville Horticultural Society. Read about Sheila and see why she has received her society's nomination.
Jim Mabee, Nomination Committee Chair

Meet Sheila King....

I was educated in England as a Mechanical Engineer. After a long career in engineering design on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean, I passed the last ten years before retirement managing a successful company in Montreal consulting in Total Quality and Re-engineering. Along with publishing books and teaching material, there was the opportunity to meet the boards of most large companies in Quebec and enjoy great travelling in North America and Europe.



I have spent a lifetime of leadership in my profession, sports and hobbies - Girl Guides of Canada, badminton clubs, and Horticultural Societies - from tea girl to president and all positions in between! I direct large art shows and horticultural shows with ease. An OHA judge for eight years, I am presently chair of a judging school in Ottawa.

Somehow I still find time for my passions of art and gardening. My art reflects a love for all things growing and my floral designs reflect my artistic talents. I enjoy demonstrating, sharing, writing, speaking, and teaching all things horticultural and am working on a research project on the use of flowers in well known art pieces.

My motto, **Grow to Show – Show what you Grow**, has allowed me to leave my name on many a trophy on two continents and in two Canadian Provinces.

It seems I am always the practical person in any group - the planner, the organizer, the director, and the do-er! After two years serving as a hard working District Director in combination with my life experiences I believe I would make a valuable contribution to the future success of OHA and be of willing support to the President and Vice President as required.

Sheila King

Introducing James Graham

I recently heard that to have a successful retirement, one should reinvent oneself. This seemed like an amazing task – to morph from a tree toad into a canary – and then I realized that I had done that very thing. From a hectic life as the head chef at Wilfred Laurier University, I had become immersed in a world of horticulture. But the reinvention was really more of a return to my great interest and passion than pupating into a foreign or exotic being.

I had started gardening at the age of five when a stranger in a store handed me a package of pumpkin seeds. My parents (not great gardeners), gave me a corner of their weed-choked garden for my pumpkin patch. I had great success and was hooked! By the age of 12, I was planting huge vegetable gardens, collecting dahlia tubers, starting seedlings, and growing roses. Our ever-expanding vegetable garden fed the family for several months each year. We ate fresh and we sure ate local!

As my life unfolded and work consumed more of my time, the garden became smaller – from 180 tomato plants down to 12, and only one kind of squash. Then as retirement approached, I vowed I would do two things – get back to swimming (having once been a lifeguard/swimming instructor), and join a gardening group. This led me to the Waterloo Horticultural Society. Through the kindness of one of the senior members, I became one myself. Before I knew it I was showing my vegetables and flowers at the annual competition. Without this woman's genuine interest and friendship, I don't think I would have stayed the course. Her charming ways brought sunshine and openness to a path once shadowed by exclusive and inflexible attitudes.

As time passed, I became more involved in the work of the society, writing regular articles, organizing garden tours, preparing the program agenda, and ultimately fulfilling a



James Graham
District 19 Director

four year term as President. The society and its members have enriched my life, and in an effort to further the growth of the horticultural societies in District 19, I became their Director. Our District's goal is to share, learn, and grow, because a secret of the very best gardeners is to have no secrets at all!

Ten Neat Things About Plant Latin

1. The point. Horticulturists refer to plants by their Latin names for reasons far beyond being snobbish (though the occasional plantsperson can be a bit of a snob). The Latin name can carry plenty of information about a plant (more about that in a moment) and it doesn't vary from one locale to another. For example, what's referred to as a serviceberry in Ontario is always called a Saskatoon on the Prairies, but it is *Amelanchier canadensis* no matter where you are. At least, as long as you're some kind of horticulturist.

2. Binomial system. "Binomial" means two-name, and the two names are the genus—which refers to the general kind of plant, like *Rosa* for rose, and is capitalized—and the specific epithet (or species name), which is the particular type of plant, written all lower-case. The great thing about the specific epithet is that it is an adjective: it describes the plant, so sometimes you can get a good idea what a plant looks like just from hearing its Latin name. For example, *Rosa grandiflora* is a large-flowered rose. Sometimes, though, the specific epithet gives information about where a species is from or who discovered it; you can't tell from the name *Rosa chinensis* what the size or colour of a Chinese rose is. Neither does the title *Viburnum davidii* tell you much about the form of that flowering shrub named in honour of French Jesuit and plant egghead Armand David.

3. Genus and species pluralized. Just to be a pain, the plural of genus is genera, while the plural of species is species. No wonder the Roman Empire fell.

4. Cultivar. When you see a capitalized name, unitalicised, in single quotes after the binomial name, that is the cultivar name. Cultivar is short for cultivated variety. When a hybridizer develops a great new variety, he or she gives it a name. Since that would be too easy, sometimes a grower, to market the plant, will give it a trademark name or name it as part of a series.

5. Colour. Some specific epithets for colours are: *alba* for white, *lutea* for yellow, *caerulea* for blue, *purpurea* for purple, *rosea* for pink and *rubrum* for red. When the species name is a colour, the plant is that colour. Usually. Sometimes new cultivars muddle things up; for example, *Echinacea purpurea* 'White Swan' is a white coneflower.

6. Size. *Nana* means dwarf. *Grandiflora* means the plant has big flowers and *macrophylla* refers to big leaves.

7. Place. *Canadensis* means native to Canada and *sinensis* means from China. Other places of origin are generally easy to spot: *japonica* means from Japan, for example. *Occidentalis* means from the western hemisphere while *orientalis* means from the eastern. Something *montana* or *alpina* is from the mountains, *sylvestris* is from the forest, and *martima* is from near the sea.

8. Growth habit. Some of growth habits you see featured in specific epithets are: *paniculata* (blooming in panicles), *stricta* (upright), *reptans* (creeping) and *scadens* (climbing).

9. Other attributes. *Maculata* (spotted), *odorata* (scented), *tomentosa* (woolly) and *rugosa* (ridged, usually in reference to the leaves). Something *officinalis*, though it sounds like it has been sanctioned by someone for something, is simply a plant used as a herb, whether culinary or medicinal.

10. The last word? Latin botanical names may transcend languages, national borders and ethnic cultures, but they do not transcend time. With so many botanists, horticulturists, and geneticists beavering away, sometimes a whole genus gets renamed or divided. One of the biggest upheavals in recent memory is the once huge genus *Chrysanthemum*. It is now a much more limited genus, losing several plants to the genera *Leucanthemum*, *Ageranthemum*, *Leucanthemopsis* and *Tanacetum*. So, while it's good to feel comfortable with plant nomenclature, be sure you don't get too stuck on it.

You can subscribe to the weekly **10 Neat Things** newsletter at www.localgardener.net.

Shauna Dobbie, Ontario Gardener Living magazine.

OHA's 17th Annual Successful Gardening Show

International Centre, Mississauga

Once again, it was a great show and the committee continues to come up with new ideas each year to keep the OHA flower show and events fresh. Due to the economic times and conflicting dates with Canada Blooms, the actual show space was reduced, yet our show area was slightly larger in our new location in Hall 4 at the International Centre.

The show committee extends a thank you to Showcase Marketing, Paul Newdick, president, and all his staff for the 2400 sq. ft. + of space, skirted tables, curtains, carpeting, special lighting, the extra space across the aisle to accommodate our miniatures, special exhibit fun class "Family Pet" open to kids and adults, and society class entries, to mention only a few of the courtesies extended to us during the show. We thank them for hosting our judges' luncheon too. We also extend our gratitude for over \$2500.00 for show prize money including our demonstrator honorariums.

A thank you and recognition to the publicists, Linda Crane Communications and Kim Graham and Associates, for including us in the press packages and encouraging the media to visit our show area.

We appreciate all of our volunteers who offered to sit at the OHA booth promoting our societies. It seemed to me they all enjoyed the experience very much. This event is much like a family reunion. Great to see and talk with old friends from other districts once again!

Congratulations are extended to all of our exhibitors. The show committee thanks everyone for their support. The theme this year was ***Home is Where the Heart is***. A few details:

Invitational Class: ***Garden Sculpture*** - a free-standing design

1 st	Janet Schmidt	Huron Rose Soc. #16
2 nd	Mary Audia	North Toronto Hort. #5
3 rd	Elizabeth Schleicher	Burlington Hort. #6
HM	Anne Clarke-Stewart	Manotick Hort. #2
HM	Pam Wright	Markham Hort. #5

Society Class: ***Birthday Party***

Exhibition Table Type I, staged on a 30" round table

1 st	Aurora Hort.	#5 (second time!)
2 nd	Credit Valley, Miss.	#15
3 rd	Georgetown Hort.	#6

We were very proud of our demonstrators, who encouraged the audience to make their own floral designs at home or to create their own spring planters. Show management received very positive responses from visitors once again. The show committee applauds:

Simple and Effective Floral Designs for your Home

Celia Roberts Vanderjagt	(District 6 Director)
	Oakville Hort.#6
	Cloverleaf GC #15
Elsie Baker	Orangeville Hort. #7
Pam Wright	Markham Hort. #5

How to Design your own Planter

Heinke Zemancik	Credit Valley Hort. #15
-----------------	-------------------------



Pulling it all together wouldn't have been possible without the show committee. All team players have an enthusiastic, positive attitude. They each have their own 'niche' and run with it. I'm so lucky to have the following people on the committee, and they all agreed to stay on board for next year's show if I remain chair. "Okay!" was my response.

We encourage you to visit the show, take part, and represent your society by entering. We promote all societies in our Association!

My respect and admiration to Ruth Bender, Lotte Brunner, Wendy Gay, Gera Koster, Heinke Zemancik, Dawn Teal and Barb O'Malley. I must confess, we have fun working together and are proud when we look at the show and how well it represents the Ontario Horticultural Association's talented members and affiliated groups. That's what it's all about, isn't it?

By the way, we are honoured to have our sister organization members from the Garden Clubs of Ontario enter our classes and judge our shows.

Job well done, team!

Liisa Wolfgram
Show Committee Chair



Daffodils for Niagara

In Niagara, and in the Town of Lincoln, spring is an especially beautiful time of the year. The blossoms of the peach, cherry, pear and apricot orchards attract visitors to see the long rows of manicured orchards abounding in white and pink blossoms. It is also in spring that the Carolinian forests of the Niagara Escarpment burst forth with the delicate green leaves that provide a backdrop for another attraction of the Niagara Peninsula – daffodils.



Daffodils (*Narcissus pseudonarcissus* aka narcissus and jonquil) thrive and abound in the unique ecosystem of the Niagara Peninsula – an ecosystem that is pampered by Lake Ontario and Lake Erie. And, in Lincoln, the Niagara Escarpment further enhances that delicate climate making it ideal for daffodils. The cool, moist springs that are created prolong the bright yellow blossoms and encourage strong growth of the plants. Under these conditions the bulbs flourish and multiply until they provide a sweeping panorama of bright yellow colour for our gardens, parks and woodlots.

It is by no accident then that the **Lincoln Garden Club and Horticultural Society** has embarked upon a daffodil planting project to help beautify the community it serves. Our Society has developed a strong relationship with our community. Our educational meetings are open to all. We support the horticultural program in our high school and offer bursaries to students. We also make contributions to Niagara College's outstanding horticultural program. Our members work closely with the town in the Communities in Bloom program, and we have a strong relationship with the Vineland Research and Innovation Centre where we hold our meetings. It is on the grounds of this Centre that we have worked together with the University of Guelph, the Town of Lincoln and the Rotary Club to establish the Millennium Forest.

The site for our daffodil project is in the woodlot of the Centre. They are being planted in a forested area containing rhododendrons, holly, and other plant materials introduced by this horticultural experiment station. The site is perfect. The deciduous tree canopy provides broken shade, the sandy loam soil has been enriched by rotting tree leaves and the three-acre site (visible from QEW) is accessible through a gated tunnel under the north service road of the QEW. It will become sort of a hidden garden - visible to many but accessible only to interested gardeners.

King Alfred daffodil bulbs were purchased from a local supplier in the fall of 2008. In early October, Society members planted 1500 bulbs in the first two beds. Three additional beds of 1500 bulbs will be established in each of the succeeding three years. With the cooperation of the groundskeeper at the Centre, the woodlot and the daffodil gardens are maintained.

We are looking forward to seeing the first results of our daffodil planting efforts during late April. Each year the display of daffodils will become more exciting as the bulbs multiply and become stronger. The additional plantings to be made in succeeding years will expand the gardens, and in time, the woodlot will become a panorama of yellow sweeping throughout the rhododendrons and holly of the woodlot.

Neil Miles

New OHA Memorial 'Bookkeeper'

Marilyn Cox has recently taken over responsibility for maintaining the OHA's **Memorial Book**. Marilyn is a teacher of young children and a member in good standing with the Ontario College of Teachers. In 1997, she received a 'service certificate' award from the **Lake Simcoe South Shore Horticultural Society**. She has been its treasurer for 30 years and continues to fulfil this position. Recently, she became a director of the **Greater Toronto Water Garden and Horticultural Society**.



Monetary donations and relevant information can be mailed to:

Marilyn Cox
86 Church Street, RR#2
Keswick, ON L4P3E9
Tel: 905-476-3000

Where are all the Butterflies?

Have you ever used one of those “Wildflower Mixes” to establish a butterfly garden in your backyard, yet by summer’s end little germination occurred and butterflies rarely visited? Why do these packages have such little success?

One simple answer is many seeds and plants sold from large distributors are imported from outside Ontario and have been extensively cross-bred to the point where nectar is often non-existent. Since native butterflies, birds and other insects have evolved senses that attract them to plants from their own natural habitat, imported cultivars do little to attract native wildlife. These plants from afar can not only be dead beat food sources, but may also harbor unknown pathogens that can threaten Ontario’s biodiversity.

Many popular garden plant species being sold in the garden trade are derivatives of native plants found in tallgrass prairie ecosystems. A better alternative to these cultivars is to go back to nature, and only use true native plants that you know are from your area of the province. They are adapted to your climate, soil and the wildlife you are attempting to attract.

The remaining prairie ecosystems in Ontario are estimated to cover below 1% of their original extent in the province and is the most rare and endangered ecosystem in Canada. Tallgrass Ontario (TGO) is a charitable organization working to protect prairie and related oak savanna habitat in Ontario. TGO is embarking upon a new initiative focused in promoting the use of true native species in gardens across the province. Using native plants in gardening has a multitude of benefits. Locally sourced plants will grow better in Ontario because they have spent thousands of years adapting to the provinces climate and they will provide nutritious nectar and seed for foraging animals, insects and birds that have evolved to feed on these plants.

For more information regarding the status of our Native Plant Sales program, please contact TGO.

www.tallgrassontario.org



Photo by Ian Cameron

Karen Alexander, Tallgrass Ontario



‘Time of Use’ Tip

Since I have had a Smart Hydro Meter installed, I am now aware of coming Time of Use (TOU) electricity rates. Overnight from 10pm - 7am is designated as the time for the off-peak rate. Since I grow plants in my basement under lights all winter, I have adjusted my light timers to be on over night and be off during 7 am - 5 pm while I'm at work.

I don't think the plants know that it's night time when the lights are on. This will reduce the amount of electricity I use during peak periods and may save me money in the future.

For more information about Time Of Use (TOU) visit https://www.hydroottawa.com/smartmeter/index.cfm?lang=e&template_id=357.

Jeff Blackadar
District 2 Director

Trillium

Newsletter Subscription

☐ \$15.00 per year (4 issues)

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_____, ON _____

Town

Postal Code

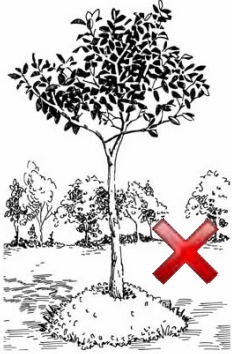
Make your cheque payable to the *Ontario Horticultural Association*, and mail to the OHA Treasurer, Sharon Hill, at PO Box 595, Bracebridge, ON P1L 1T8 Tel./Fax: 705-645-3552

Note: Please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope if you wish to receive a receipt.

Killing Our Trees with Kindness

Caring homeowners are putting their trees at risk by applying mulch improperly.

Mulching is one of the best things you can do for your trees. Mulches are materials placed over the soil surface and tree root zone to maintain soil moisture and protect the tree from mowers and weed whackers. Mulch also helps to control weeds and insulates the surface of the soil over the feeding roots of the tree. As an added advantage, the mulched area will give your beds a well-cared-for look.



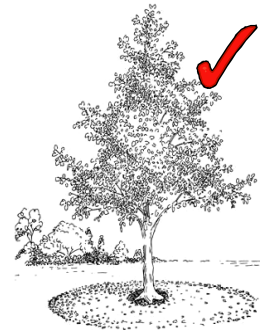
But mulching can be carried too far. More and more I see mulch piled up at the base of a tree in the shape of a volcano. Often the mulch extends several inches up the bark at the base of the tree. This deep mulch can lead to problems with your tree.

The root flare is the transition zone between the main stem and the root system. This point where the trunk meets the roots should be open to air. Mulch should never cover the root flare area.

A 'mulch volcano' (pictured at left) over the bark at the base of a tree softens the bark and opens the area to insect and disease problems. The nutrient-carrying conduits of the tree are just inside the bark. Once the bark at the base of your tree has been compromised by insects, disease or rodents, your tree will begin to die.

To avoid these problems, keep the mulch to a 2- to 4-inch layer in a doughnut-shaped ring (pictured at right), making sure the mulch is pulled away from the bark at soil level. The ring of mulch should extend out to the drip line instead of up the bark.

Remember, spread the mulch out; don't pile it up.



**Carol Dunk,
Master Gardener**

Insurance Queries?

Contact:

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

Helen Scutt,
Agriculture Organization Specialist

Ministry of Agriculture, Food,
and Rural Affairs
Economic Development Branch,
1 Stone Road West, 3rd Floor SW,
Guelph ON N1G 4Y2
Tel: 519 826-3115 Fax: 519 826-3567

E-mail: helen.scutt@ontario.ca

**The Ontario Horticultural Association
welcomes the following new
Directors who were elected at their
districts' recent AGMs:**

District One - Pat Stachon

District Two - Jeff Blackadar

District Three - Dr. Robert Simmons

District Five - Nancy Serrick

District Eleven - Jennifer Plaus

District Thirteen - Suzanna Hanna

District Seventeen - Sandy Rakestrow

Ontario Horticultural Association
Statement of Operations
Year ended December 31, 2008

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>STBI Restricted Fund</u>	<u>Total 2008</u>	<u>Total 2007</u>
Revenue				
Affiliation fees	\$ 95,154	\$ -	\$ 95,154	\$ 100,464
Convention (Schedule A)	87,628	-	87,628	74,427
Liability insurance premiums	53,170	-	53,170	58,152
Trillium projects (Note 6)	31,843	-	31,843	55,031
Donations	8,393	-	8,393	6,540
Sale of OHA supplies	6,284	-	6,284	6,770
Premium - net	-	5,488	5,488	9,575
Receipts from supporters	4,500	-	4,500	2,300
Investment income (losses)	1,919	1,882	3,801	2,968
Receipts from fundraising	2,656	-	2,656	5,264
Newsletter subscriptions	1,073	-	1,073	1,399
Advertising	50	-	50	863
	<u>292,670</u>	<u>7,370</u>	<u>300,040</u>	<u>323,753</u>
Expenses				
Convention (Schedule A)	94,409	-	94,409	69,224
Insurance	50,751	-	50,751	52,034
Meetings	42,149	-	42,149	46,723
Trillium projects (Note 6)	31,842	-	31,842	55,031
District and executive	14,917	-	14,917	16,361
Awards, bursaries and donations	7,546	-	7,546	2,221
Treasurer honourarium office	6,945	-	6,945	6,854
Secretary salary	5,757	-	5,757	5,500
Professional fees	5,136	-	5,136	5,674
OHA supplies and youth manuals	4,330	-	4,330	3,921
Newsletter	3,164	-	3,164	4,571
Education, promotion and publicity	3,066	-	3,066	2,372
Special projects	3,000	-	3,000	4,000
Printing, stationary and mailing	1,955	-	1,955	1,826
Development officer - non-trillium	1,324	-	1,324	896
Fundraising	601	-	601	810
Memoriam	1,227	-	1,227	737
Bad debts	1,008	-	1,008	1,892
Yearbook	933	-	933	1,107
STBI Administration	-	933	933	1,141
Exhibitions	735	-	735	4,246
Amortization	308	-	308	423
Internet and web site	207	-	207	1,550
Bank charges	126	-	126	489
Miscellaneous	1,156	-	1,156	427
	<u>282,592</u>	<u>933</u>	<u>283,525</u>	<u>290,030</u>
Excess of revenues over expenses	\$ 10,078	\$ 6,437	\$ 16,515	\$ 33,723

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

Takalo & Burt
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Ontario Horticultural Association
Statement of Financial Position and Fund Balances
December 31, 2008

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>STBI Restricted Fund</u>	<u>Total 2008</u>	<u>Total 2007</u>
ASSETS				
Current				
Cash	\$ 75,387	\$ 13,073	\$ 88,460	\$ 94,753
Receivables	27,093	1,566	28,659	16,633
Inventory	1,254	-	1,254	2,331
Prepays	4,861	-	4,861	6,910
Due to reserve fund from operating	901	(901)	-	-
	109,496	13,738	123,234	120,627
Investments (Note 3)	172,654	108,416	281,070	271,362
Property, plant and equipment (Note 5)	871	-	871	1,178
	<u>\$ 283,021</u>	<u>\$ 122,154</u>	<u>\$ 405,175</u>	<u>\$ 393,167</u>
LIABILITIES				
Current				
Payables and accruals	\$ 10,488	\$ -	\$ 10,488	\$ 17,663
Deferred revenue	42,502	-	42,502	39,834
	<u>52,990</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>52,990</u>	<u>57,497</u>
FUND BALANCES				
Fund balances, beginning of year	219,953	115,717	335,670	301,947
Excess of revenues over expenses for the year	10,078	6,437	16,515	33,723
Fund balances, end of year	<u>230,031</u>	<u>122,154</u>	<u>352,185</u>	<u>335,670</u>
	<u>\$ 283,021</u>	<u>\$ 122,154</u>	<u>\$ 405,175</u>	<u>\$ 393,167</u>

APPROVED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:

Director

Date

Director

Date

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

Takalo & Burt
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

**Ontario Horticultural Association
Schedule of Convention Income**
Year ended December 31

Schedule A

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Banquet and meals	\$ 33,329	\$ 27,773
Registration	30,360	34,225
Sponsorships	13,390	9,874
Concessions	5,444	1,450
Tours	<u>5,105</u>	<u>1,105</u>
	\$ <u>87,628</u>	\$ <u>74,427</u>

Schedule of Convention Expenses
Year ended December 31

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Banquet and meals	\$ 41,546	\$ 31,570
Space, signage and security	24,764	16,234
Program	15,607	9,629
Tours	4,569	3,573
Administration	4,504	3,657
Prizes	2,258	2,008
Registrar's honourarium	<u>1,161</u>	<u>2,553</u>
	\$ <u>94,409</u>	\$ <u>69,224</u>

The complete audited financial statement is available
in the resource area of the OHA website, gardenontario.org.

Do You Have Your e-Subscription Yet?

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 be added to the ever-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 email me with a request for 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.



Linda Hugli
Trillium Editor