



Keeping Ontario Beautiful

Trillium

Ontario Horticultural Association Newsletter

Winter 2009/2010



Photograph by Marie Decker



Inside this Issue:

New District Banners

**Trees for
Tornado-Stricken Area**

2010 Convention News

New Youth Club Grant

No Mow-No Blow-No H2O

Orchid Society

Communities in Bloom

Holiday Eco-Ideas

**Society Milestones from
Across the Province**

Editor:

Linda Hugli
181 Garson-Coniston Rd.
Garson, ON
P3L 1G3

Phone: (705) 693-2476

Fax: (705) 693-5057

E-mail:

editor@gardenontario.org

President's Message

This fall, I had the opportunity to visit some of the societies in District 15 and I was delighted by the many horticultural society volunteers whose enthusiasm I witnessed first hand. Society meetings were well organized and speakers shared valuable horticultural tips.



At one of the meetings a flower show was held in which members displayed their skills in flower arranging. Members had an opportunity to "Show What You Grow" and creativity and originality were evident in the designs.

Colourful Containers for the Fall was the topic of Charlie Dobbin's presentation which I had the opportunity to attend. The use of interesting plant material added to the designs. As always, Charlie showed her talent in combining materials and presenting the information in such a way as to catch everyone's imagination.

I also had the pleasure of attending the Awards Banquet of the Roselands Horticultural Society while I was in the Toronto area. Trophies and plaques were presented, members of long standing were recognized, as were volunteers. Following a wonderful dinner, we were entertained by an *a cappella* quartet who delighted us with their singing. The event was well planned and again the work of society volunteers was evident.

I had the opportunity to attend the Fall Board of Director's meeting at the Kempenfelt Centre in Barrie on October 17th and 18th. These meetings provide us with an opportunity to share ideas, report on committee activities, plan for the upcoming convention and events, discuss financial matters, and renew friendships.

Since winter is upon us, I would like to leave you with this thought:

Every gardener knows that under the cloak of winter lies a miracle ... a seed waiting to sprout, a bulb opening to the light, a bud straining to unfurl. And the anticipation nurtures our dream.
Barbara Winkler

Kees Stryland
OHA President

From the Secretary's Desk

Our Carolinian forest garden provides thousands of leaves to be raked and put into the compost pile each fall. Our roses are still in bloom, fooled by the warmth of Lake Huron. However, the garlic is planted and our garden is now officially 'put to bed' in readiness for the upcoming winter season.

The Trillium winter issue contains many year end inserts of great importance for societies and they are as follows:

- **Adult Competitions:** Horticulture & Design, Art, Photographic Print, Publications, Creative Writing and Ted Reed Web.
- **Youth Club "Help Program" Application.** This program is being offered to the first 20 applications received after January 1, 2010.
- **Special Project** grant application form must be received by me no later than February 28th.
- **Horticultural Service Certificate** application and criteria to recognize and reward society members. There are many other awards available for worthy volunteers. Please see your Awards booklet, or check on our website for the details and nominate deserving society members for these awards.
- **Society Annual Information Report** should be forwarded to your District Director by February 1st, 2010. You will notice a few changes on this form to assist me with record keeping.
- **Resolution form and procedure** should be forwarded to me by February 1st.
- **2010 OHA Supplies List & Order Form**

I would like to remind you that the OHA Convention will be held at Georgian College in Barrie on August 13th & 14th, 2010 with the theme *Everything Old is New Again*. Registration information along with the 2010 Volunteer Hours forms will be enclosed in the Spring Trillium and will be on our website

The Plant a Tree program has been increased to 25 grants in 2010 for the first 25 society requests received after January 1st, 2010. The above inserts are available on our website at www.gardenontario.org

My warmest greetings for the upcoming season and every good wish for the coming year!

Janet Moyser
OHA Secretary

What Have We Done in 2009?

- § Provided 12 memorial tree grants for up to \$100 each
- § Provided 10 special project grants for up to \$500 each
- § Provided to the University of Guelph Scholarship Fund \$500 for a student in horticultural studies
- § Provided 'Tornado 2009' recovery donations to 4 societies totaling \$800
- § Established new youth grants to be introduced in 2010 for youth group funding
- § Published and distributed the Trillium Newsletter
- § Published and distributed the youth newsletter
- § Paid for and distributed awards to societies and their members
- § Assisted Loblaw by distributing the garden centre funds to societies
- § Updated the garden circle brochure
- § Published and distributed the annual report
- § Started working on a new annual report for donors/stakeholders.
- § Paid for participation, promotion and in some cases awards through numerous outreach programs including - Success with Gardening, Canada Blooms, Canadian National Exhibition, Communities in Bloom, International Plowing Match, Western Fair Farm Show, Conservation Council of Ontario, RBG & Hamilton Gage Park Mum Show, For the Love of Gardening, Get the Jump on Spring, Go Green Expo, Kanata Lawn & Garden Show, Stratford Garden Festival etc.
- § We pay for memorial tree planting for past presidents of the OHA at the Oak Grove in the Arboretum at the University of Guelph
- § Shared the cost and distributed 20,000 Conservation Council/OHA general and community partner cards
- § Published and distributed 15,000 'Roll out the Barrel' booklets
- § Published and distributed 40,000 OHA postcards for society promotion
- § Recognized qualifying donors with a luncheon
- § Provided 19 District Banners for use at shows and special events
- § Arranged and provided general liability and directors and officers' insurance coverage
- § Provided Treasurer Bonding Coverage in keeping with legislative requirements.
- § Continue to provide OMAFRA with insight into the needs of the societies
- § Hosted with the help of the wonderful volunteers of District 4 a successful, and more importantly, enjoyable convention with speakers, bus/boat trips, entertainment, competitions and awards!

WHAT IS NEW for 2010?

Budget for 2010 is included with this newsletter

- § 25 Memorial Tree grants up to \$100 each
- § 10 Special Project grants up to \$500 each
- § 20 youth group grants of \$50 each
- § We will continue with the good work and public service mentioned in our 2009 summation and with the assistance of the Organizational Advisory Board and the ongoing commitment of the District Directors, will strive to provide the most benefits for the least cost and to encourage all residents of Ontario to join a local horticultural society. If you succeed, we all succeed.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

In addition to all the good work you already do...

- § Encourage memorial donations, they support your memorial tree fund and have enabled us to increase the number of grants in recent years
- § Support the youth grants by encouraging someone or a group, to make a donation so that we can expand this new program
- § Nominate a deserving volunteer in your society for one of the awards
- § Apply for the tree grants, special projects and youth grants
- § Support the 2010 Convention: attend, enjoy the fellowship of people with similar interests, compete, make a financial contribution for a speaker or workshop, participate in the Annual General Meeting
- § Continue to support your local horticultural society!



Although your dues must be paid by December 31st, your cheque must be to me by December 15th for inclusion in the insurance policy.

Sharon Hill, OHA Treasurer

♪ Please come to Barrie in the Summer. ♪

Convention 2010

The 2010 Convention will be held on the campus of Georgian College in Barrie, Ontario. The campus is seconds away from Exit 102 on Highway 400. There is ample parking in the secure Georgian Residence parking lot. Park your car and leave it. Everything is within a short walk.

You're going to enjoy your stay in Barrie, but don't come alone. Bring your partner and stay in the Summer Suites - the student residence – right on the Barrie Campus and steps away from the meeting room and the competitions. Shopping and golf courses are close by for anyone not attending the Convention. Georgian College has given us a special price - \$65 for two bedrooms, a kitchenette, and a bathroom. You won't beat that anywhere. Georgian College is prepared to accept your reservations as early as December (705-722-5190 or <http://summersuites.ca/> - specify OHA group).



The format of this year's convention is three hours shorter than last year. In line with our theme, we've gone back to a two-day convention. In our history book, I found that as late as 1964, we were still having two-day conventions. The reason is pure economics. Convention space gets more and more expensive. That three hours would have cost us well over \$1000. We kept our costs

District 16 is pleased to host the 104th Annual Ontario Horticultural Association Convention in August 2010. Mark the dates on your calendar: Friday, August 13th and Saturday, August 14th. Registration forms will be in the Spring Trillium.

in line this year by excluding Sunday morning. Friday and Saturday mornings will be plenary sessions to conduct the business of the OHA and its members. The plenary sessions and all meals will take place in the very large gymnasium of the Student Life Centre. The gymnasium is so large (20,000 square feet) that we are

planning to divide it into two parts and include the competitions in the other half. You'll have just a few steps to walk to view the Youth and Adult Competitions and the wonderful Flower Show that has been planned.

Over the two days, there will be 12 different seminars available to you and 4 tours – including a cruise on Lake Simcoe. The other three bus tours include stops at garden centres, just in case there is a little something you must have for your garden.

For the symbol of this year's convention, *Everything Old Is New Again*, we have chosen a leaf from the ginkgo biloba tree – one of the oldest species of trees on earth. Even though the ginkgo is an ancient tree, it's a perfect tree to plant in 2010. The ginkgo is practically pest-free, tolerates most soils, and performs better than many newer species in an urban environment amid the smoke and grime of our cities. The theme fits the changing social scene in 2009. We advocate shopping locally and carry our own shopping bags. We're baking our own bread. We're sewing, quilting, and knitting again. Veggie gardening is back and so are heritage veggies and fruits. We use Grandma's remedies and solutions in our gardens: dishwater and vinegar instead of Cygon and Roundup. In many areas, we're turning back the clock. A two day convention fits....



Everything Old Is New Again.

Carol Dunk





OHA Wreath at RBG's 'Doorways to the Holidays'



Belinda Gallagher, Head of Horticulture at the Royal Botanical Gardens, invited me, as a representative of the OHA, to decorate one of the doors in their new 'Doorways to the Holidays' exhibit. Since the RBG is in District 6, we never miss an opportunity to support this OHA partner and national treasure!

One hundred doors were planned to be on exhibit in various areas of the RBG. As the doors were to be on display for at least three weeks, it was important that the materials consist of dried, artificial, or green material with a long shelf life. The doors were donated from various sources and consequently came in all colours and styles. On the days set for decorating, Nov 5th to 8th, the doors were put in place and participants were able to choose on a first come, first served basis. Beyond this information, we knew nothing of what types, styles, or colours of doors would be available.

In my usual fashion, I had marked the information in my day timer but didn't take much notice until Nov. 7th, realizing I had to have my wreath in place the next day! Not wanting to let Belinda down, I had to come up with something quickly. Being a floral design judge, I have a large collection of dried materials

in my basement waiting for an opportunity to be put to good use. Hence, I made a large grape vine wreath and decided it would look best with pieces of silver birch bark and an assortment of fungi that would endure the duration of the show. The wreath was given its marvelous depth through layering of the birch bark and fungi. Not knowing what styles of doors would be available, I was undaunted as I left for the RBG on Sunday morning. Much to my delight, there was a wonderful 'shabby chic' door with lots of peeling white paint that was exactly what I was hoping for! It echoed the theme of my design and I couldn't have imagined a better match for my creation. The purpose of these wonderful doors on display is to demonstrate to the visitors that no matter what type of door you have - indoor, outdoor, screen door, door to an apartment, or one that needs painting - all can be a welcoming sign in the holiday season. They have been strategically placed in amongst the plant material, corridors, Mediterranean Garden, and outside to greet visitors. It's absolutely wonderful and should not be missed!

Celia Roberts, District 6 Director

In 2009, Waterloo Horticultural Society held a writing contest on the theme, "My Most Memorable Garden Experience". The entries were numerous and most interesting with the winning essay being selected by a panel of outside judges. These articles have been appearing in the Society's newsletter. Below is Pam Poser's winning entry for which she received a one year subscription to Ontario Gardener.

*James Graham
District 19 Director*

My Most Memorable Gardening Experience

In our first home we got to know the most amazing neighbours, Carl and Merne. Every afternoon Carl would be out putting in his garden and we would talk over the fence.

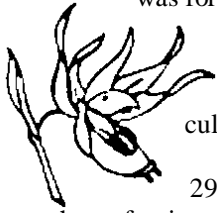
Every year Carl planted onions and tomatoes at the back of his garden. We learned many gardening tips and planted our own tomato plants. Carl would tease us every year that he always had the first ripe tomatoes. My husband Rick made a plaque, "The First Ripe Tomato of the Year Award." Carl won it that year and proudly displayed it on his recreation room wall. It gave us a challenge every year to win it back.

One summer, Carl sat outside checking to see if we had noticed his "very" red tomato. We called Carl over to let him know he had won. He started laughing and by the time he got to us he couldn't compose himself. Finally he confessed. He had gone to Dutch boy, bought a ripe tomato and wired it three days ago to his plant, hoping it wouldn't fall off before we noticed. He saw we had a tomato ripening and didn't want to lose his award!

Pam Poser

The OHA Welcomes a New Associate Member

The Orchid Society of the Royal Botanical Gardens was formed in 1980, when a small group of enthusiasts decided to form the society as a way to share their knowledge and to promote the cultivation of plants which were at that time still rare and exotic. Now in its 29th year, the society continues to draw those fascinated with these beautiful and exotic plants, many of whom started out simply seeking the cultural knowledge needed to re-bloom an orchid they received as a gift.



The society's mandate is to promote interest, knowledge, and culture of orchids and to provide a forum for its members for the exchange of ideas, knowledge, and experience in all aspects of orchid culture. One of the unique ways that this is accomplished is the ready access to a complete flasking lab at the RBG Centre, where orchid seeds are cultured in sterile flasks and grown on to mature plants.

In 1981 the fledgling society held its first orchid show at the Royal Botanical Gardens in Hamilton/Burlington - a great success which has been repeated at the same venue in March every year since. The show attracts people from across Southern Ontario, including hardcore orchid enthusiasts, plant lovers, neophyte orchid growers, photographers, and those in need of a touch of the tropics at the end of winter. Hundreds of flowering orchids in a rainbow of shapes and sizes grace the RBG Centre in dazzling displays that mimic natural settings or are more formally set, depending on the exhibitors' tastes. Other attractions of the show include lectures, video presentations, and the ever-popular sales room where orchid vendors offer their plants for sale.

The society membership numbers approximately 120 persons of all ages from various walks of life, whose backgrounds range from novice grower to expert. Meetings are generally held on the third Sunday of each month (except July), and are also open to guests who are interested in seeing how the society works. Most meetings include a guest speaker and/or demonstration, access to the society library collection of orchid books and videos, plant and supply sales, and a raffle. Go to the society web page www.osrbg.ca for details and access to our bi-monthly newsletter *Orchidata*.

Scott Milne
Past President, OSRBG

Convention 2009 Art Competition Results

Class 1 "Beautification" - oil on canvas - unframed

- 1st Sheila M. King, Kemptville
- 2nd Virginia Dupuis, Gloucester

Class 2 "Trees" a collage

- 1st Virginia Dupuis, Gloucester

Class 3 "Scenic Vista" - mixed media abstract

- 1st Kathryn Bury
- 2nd Sheila M. King, Kemptville
- 3rd Virginia Dupuis, Gloucester

Class 4 "Tranquility" - water scene including a canoe

- 1st Sheila M. King, Kemptville
- 2nd Virginia Dupuis, Gloucester
- 3rd Kathryn Bury, Guildford

Class 5 "Quaker Oats Grow Here" - coloured pencil

- 1st Sheila M. King, Kemptville
- 2nd Virginia Dupuis, Gloucester

Class 6 "Summer Selection" - pressed flowers

- 1st Joyce Bryon, Bobcaygeon
- 2nd Kathryn Bury, Guildford
- 3rd Sheila M. King, Kemptville

Class 7 "Apples" - acrylic or oil on a gallery canvas

- 1st Sheila M. King, Kemptville
- 2nd Virginia Dupuis, Gloucester
- 3rd Kathryn Bury, Guildford

Class 8 "In the Garden" - painting on wooden plank (framed)

- 1st Kathryn Bury, Guildford
- 2nd Virginia Dupuis, Gloucester
- 3rd Betty Knight, Fergus

Class 9 "Potted" - a flowerpot sculpture

- 1st Mary Ann Van Berlo, Gloucester



Best in Show: Watercolour - framed "Tranquility" water scene including canoe - Sheila M. King, Kemptville

Many Hands Make Light Work!



On May 30, the **Delhi & District Horticultural Society** started a major landscaping venture which created a new interlocking brick walkway at the Delhi Tobacco & Heritage Centre. Under the very capable guidance of one of our members, several hardworking society members (women outnumbered the men 15:3) showed up and paved a hardscape delight for all museum visitors to enjoy.

Last year, our Society obtained an Ontario Trillium Foundation Grant, held several fundraisers, and received generous donations from many local businesses to make this project possible. This funding was used to make the gardens wheelchair accessible and to revamp the existing herb garden and annual flower beds that were created and maintained by our Society over 25 years ago. Also, we received a generous donation of an in ground irrigation system that has eliminated the problem of our having to drag around a 200 foot hose!

Our society is very grateful to everyone who contributed to this great community project.

Donna Hussey, President

The Garden

There stands a garden very close,
I do not know the garden host.
I pass by it most every day,
How long it's been, I could not say.
When I go by, it makes me smile
And I am happy for a while.

The gardener must have toiled for hours,
To have so many lovely flowers.
I watch it change from spring to fall,
From bud to bloom, I see it all.
I savour every changing view
And wish I had a garden too.

**Linda Arseneau,
Sudbury Horticultural Society**

CiB Award Winners

On October 3rd, 2009 a team from the Municipality of Trent Hills, which covers the areas of Campbellford, Warkworth and Hastings, went to the Communities In Bloom Awards Ceremony held in Vaughan, Ontario and were awarded with the highest honour of 5 Blooms. Special mention was made on the plaque for Westben Arts Festival Theatre which presents classical music in a wonderful barn constructed in the countryside for this purpose and is physically and financially supported by many volunteers in our community. We were also presented with the Ontario Criteria Award for Floral Displays.

In 2008, after a time away from the program for six years, we were awarded 4 Blooms with special mention for Community Spirit and Volunteerism. We are grateful to our municipality, community, and our committee for the support received and for the countless hours spent to make this dream become a reality.

Rose Odell



Proud committee members after award ceremony held at Canada's Wonderland. L - R: Ryan Andrew, Rose Odell, Scott Rose & Mary Weilandt

Insurance Queries?

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



Youth Club “Help Program” Grant

This is a new program to encourage and provide Youth Clubs/Groups with financial support by the Ontario Horticultural Association. These grants are similar to the Tree Grants as the first 20 applications received by groups **in good standing***; post marked on or after January 1st 2010, will qualify. Youth Leaders are asked to fill in all information requested and mail to OHA Secretary Janet Moyser. An application form is included as an insert with this mailing.

The grant must be used for programming, seeds, special events, supplies, etc. for the group applying for the grant. Any group, receiving a grant may not apply the following year. The grants will be for \$50.00 each and cheques will be made payable to the parent society for use by the Youth Leader after return of Part 2 of the application. This program will run as a two-year trial program, with full evaluation for a continued program.

***NB:** For a Youth Club/Group to be **in good standing**, it must have submitted the Youth Club Activity Report to the Youth Chair by June 1st of the previous year.

Anna Peterson
OHA Youth Chair



No Mow!



No Blow!

No Mow, No Blow, No H2O!

District 6 and its members are extremely blessed to have the Royal Botanical Gardens located in the heart of our District. As such, we were pleased to lend our support to the RBG in its efforts to secure grant funding in order to launch a 'No Mow, No Blow, No H2O' initiative with sample gardens in the Laking Garden.

Through support from several groups, the funding was approved and the project was built and completed this year. The opening was a great success and a testimony to the efforts of Belinda Gallagher and her wonderful group of staff and students. District 6 was represented at the opening by members of Oakville, Bronte, Burlington, Milton, Mt. Hamilton, and Flamborough Horticultural Societies.

Belinda's appreciation of our support was evident in her speech. In our continuing efforts to help educate the public in the 'No Mow, No Blow, No H2O' method of gardening, we will hand out printed material to the societies in District 6 for distribution to their members. In addition, through our own outreach programs, we will be distributing the material to the general public. We are pleased to be participating in this endeavour.

Celia Roberts



No H2O!

Twelve Eco-Ideas for the Holidays

During the Holiday season we think of friends and family.

Give the Earth a present too by thinking of the environment.



1. **Buy a genuine Christmas tree** - Artificial trees can be difficult to dispose of, but genuine Christmas trees can be burned or made into compost. Christmas trees are not harvested from the wild. They come from tree farms and new trees are planted each year to replace what has been harvested. And remember to buy your tree from a local grower.
2. **Purchase a living tree** - Buy your tree with roots attached. A living tree can be planted outside next spring or donated to a local program or a school.
3. **Use LED lights** - Trade in the old style light bulbs for modern LED lights. LED lights use 80-90% less energy compared to old light bulbs. LED lights look so traditional that they conjure up memories of Christmases past.
4. **Avoid new shopping bags** - Take your bags with you when you shop for gifts. Afraid of being stopped for shoplifting if you carry your own bags? Attach your receipts to the outside of shopping bags with a paper clip or keep them handy in a pocket or purse.
5. **Eat locally** - Make your Holiday dinner a 100-mile meal. Choose foods from local sources. Visit your farmers' market for foods that are grown near you - root crops, free-range turkeys. Bring a taste of your community home with you in the shape of pies, tarts, and maybe a Holiday pudding.
6. **Give homemade gifts** - This year be traditional and make your gifts. A Yule log or centrepiece designed by you, jam, Christmas pudding, seasoning mixes – you name it. Use your talents and hobbies as a source of Christmas gifts. Handmade gifts are always treasured.
7. **Use fabric gift bags** - Fabric gift bags make beautiful, personal, and unique containers for gifts in any season. For the Holiday season they make your gift so special. They're re-usable and could even be made of recycled fabrics. Not only are fabric gift bags environmentally sound, but they also eliminate the need for scissors and tape! If you don't sew or don't have time, there are fabric bags for sale in many shops – or commission a friend to make them for you. Here's a website with a pattern and instructions for creating your own gift bag: http://www.craftandfabriclinks.com/ezgiftbags/easy_giftbag_pattern.html
8. **Give certificates** - Gift certificates are easy to give and the recipients can choose something they really want. For the gardener, a gift certificate from a local nursery is a much cherished gift. For the seed starter, Thompson & Morgan seeds will send gift certificates - http://www.tmseeds.com/gift_certificates.
9. **Give energy savings** - Another alternative is to give friends items that save energy, such as low-flow shower heads and fluorescent light bulbs, which use much less energy than incandescent bulbs.
10. **Give your time** - A gift of your time as a baby sitter, a baker, a doggy sitter, or an elder watcher may delight some of your friends.
11. **Give potential growth** - Purchase unusual bulbs or seeds to give to your gardening buddies.
12. **Give a goat** - Oxfam invites donors to "buy," among other things, a camel (\$175), a cow (\$75), a sheep (\$45), and more. Support Oxfam's programs in developing countries when you give a gift. Shop on-line at the Oxfam store: <http://www.oxfam.ca/>

There are many more eco-friendly things you can do. Think of the Earth this Holiday Season.

Carol Dunk
Conservation & Environment Committee

Plant a Tree!



The Ontario Horticultural Association is continuing its **Tree Planting Special Project Award**, whereby a Society or District may apply for up to \$100 for a special tree planting. A total of **25 projects** are available for these funds in 2010.

Although there is no formal procedure for applying for this funding, a letter must be sent via Canada Post outlining what tree is to be planted and indicating if this is a special event for the Society/District. These requests are to be sent to the OHA Secretary, Janet Moyser, 49 Blairs Trail, RR8, Kincardine, ON N2Z 0B3.

These awards are granted on a *first come basis* after January 1, 2010. Any society or district that receives this funding cannot apply again for three years. Awards are announced to the Directors at the spring board meeting and no further awards are given for the year. Once approved, payment is made upon submission of receipts. **Receipts must be received before the end of December, 2010.**

Special Project Application

As part of the ongoing support of member societies, the Board of the Ontario Horticultural Association has approved the establishment of a **Special Project Grant**. This grant is for the use of societies to assist them with projects having a long lasting benefit to the society or community, such as planting of perennials, trees and shrubs, or building permanent planters. This grant is not to be used for planting of annuals, mulch, manure, compost or hard surface materials. When preparing your application, do include lots of information, photographs, site map and list of plant material and estimated costs.

This Special Project Grant will provide ten projects a year to a maximum of \$500.00 for each project, with a limit of one project per society per year. This Special Project Grant will be reviewed annually. Any society that receives this funding cannot apply again for five years.

To be considered for a Special Project, the application inserted in this mailing must be completed and mailed to your District Director by February 28th, 2010. The application form is also available on gardenontario.org.

District Ten is Proud!

District 10 is very proud of its Judging School graduates. They are, from left to right, **Back:** Gertrude Willis, staff; Janice Maciver; Shelley MacKenzie; Natalie Catt; Richard Portinga; Tena Portinga; Liz Sangster; Pam Sangster; Dian Chute; Bernice Barratt; Pat Harlton; Kathy Filson, staff. **Centre:** Cindy Bilyea; Lynda Hodgins, staff; Darlene Irwin, staff; Anna Peterson, co-principal; Jim Mabee, co-principal; Marilyn Turner; Bonnie Innes; Lynne Galajda. **Front:** Nancy Abra; Roland Craig; Wayne Pfeffer; Denise Hodgins; Julie Riddell; Brenda Crawford; and Eve Vestergaard, staff.





The 2009 CiB Ontario Awards Results

Population	Municipality	Bloom Rating	Special Mention
1 – 5,000	Municipality of Red Lake	3 Blooms	CiB Committee Dedication Community Floral Beds
	Village of Glen Morris	5 Blooms	
5,001 – 10,000	Municipality of South Huron	4 Blooms	MacNaughton-Morrison Trail
10,001 – 20,000	Municipality of Lambton Shores	5 Blooms	Grand Bend Enhancement Westben Theatre Barn
	Municipality of Trent Hills	5 Blooms	
20,001 – 50,000	Town of Essex	5 Blooms	Colchester Historical School Featherstone Estate Vineyard Cornwall Recreational Path
	Town of Lincoln	4 Blooms	
	City of Cornwall	4 Blooms	
50,001 – 100,000	City of Niagara Falls	5 Blooms	MacBain Community Centre

National Edition

Population	Municipality	Bloom Rating	Special Mention
Over 300,000	City of London, ON	5 Blooms	London Tree Trunk Sculptures
55,001-150,000	Mun. of Chatham-Kent, ON	5 Blooms	Empowerment of Community Interconnected Heritage Destinations and Waterways Quality of the Municipal Floral Program
	City of Kawartha Lakes, ON	5 Blooms	
	City of Sarnia, ON	5 Blooms	
20,001-55,000	Town of Fort Erie, ON	5 Blooms	Recognizing Community Participation in Floral Displays
10,001-20,000	Township of King, ON	5 Blooms	Conservation of Farmland and Old Growth Forests Shoreline Restoration at Wharf
	Town of Gravenhurst, ON	5 Blooms	
	Town of Huntsville, ON	5 Blooms	Standards for Municipal Sustainable Development
8,001-10,000	Town of Minto, ON	5 Blooms	Trail Linkages
5,001-8,000	City of Dryden, ON	5 Blooms	“Dryden Blooms!” Neat & Tidy- Army Precision!
	Canadian Forces CFB Petawawa, ON	4 Blooms	

Interesting CiB Facts:

- Over 58 Communities from all across Ontario participate in the Communities in Bloom Program. Collectively these communities have an outreach with population of over 5,804,015 or to illustrate the magnitude of CiB members—that is a whopping 48% of the entire population of Ontario whose communities are involved in CiB!
- It takes 25 hours to drive from Niagara Falls to our most northerly participating community of Red Lake!
- In 2009 the smallest participating CiB community is Glen Morris with a population of 500.
- The largest participating Ontario CiB community is Toronto with a population of over 2,500,000.
- Several Communities have remained involved in the CiB Program since inception 15 years ago.

Remembering Stuart Robertson



Stuart Robertson, a long time gardening columnist with the Montreal Gazette and gardening expert on CBC Radio One out of Montreal, died September 23, 2009 of complications from pneumonia. Stuart was 65 years old.

We in eastern Ontario have lost a dear friend and gardening expert. He always told the horticultural societies to use any of his material. He also asked for dates of our meetings and special events and would publish these in his weekend column in the Montreal Gazette.

People who knew Robertson remember him as a true gentleman. His wife said in their nearly 30 years of marriage she never once sat down at the kitchen table without his first pulling out a chair for her. He was remembered as a generous person who shared his deep, broad knowledge of gardening with countless enthusiasts and friends. Simon Dardick, co-publisher of his two recent books, said; "I was so impressed with his knowledge and work ethic." Friends called Robertson gracious and dignified, a courtly, dapper man with Old World manners, but also a wicked, zany, and occasionally bawdy, British wit. They called him a doting husband and father, and a supportive friend.

Friends also called him tough. Robertson learned 15 years ago that he had non-Hodgkins lymphoma, a type of cancer of the lymph nodes. He fought it and when it returned a few years later, he had a bone marrow transplant. He did well for a long time but the last few years were very difficult, health wise.

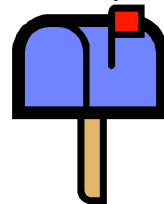
In recent years he wrote and illustrated two gardening books: **Stuart Robertson's Tips on Organic Gardening** in 2007, and **Stuart Robertson's Tips on Container Gardening** the following year. Stuart's first gardening column in The Gazette ran in 1981. His final column, which appeared September 19, 2009, read in part: "We're getting to the sad time of the year, when we have to start thinking about cooler weather and the end of the growing season."

As we prepare the Williamstown Green Thumb Horticultural Society yearbook for 2010, we will again be using Stuart Robertson as one of our contributors.

Mary Regan,
Williamstown Green Thumb Horticultural Society

If you have not received your quarterly Trillium, or supplies, certificates, information, or reimbursement which you have requested, it could be that you have not included a **complete, legible return address** on the paperwork that you have sent. Also, if your society's mailing address has changed, please inform **Janet Moyser:**

secretary@gardenontario.org
519-395-0227
49 Blairs Trail, RR 8,
Kincardine, ON N2Z 0B3



Trillium



Newsletter Subscription

☐

\$15.00 per year (4 issues)

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ 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.

The Single Most Important Way To Improve Your Soil

The single most important way you can improve your soil is by increasing its organic matter content. As organic matter decomposes, it provides many benefits for the soil. It feeds micro-organisms that aid plants and soil. It adds nutrients to the soil. Through production of humic acids, it breaks down plant matter. It improves soil structure so that it is easier to cultivate and easier for roots to penetrate. It provides better soil aeration. It gives soil a crumbly texture that retains moisture. By darkening the soil's colour, it also helps the soil to warm up faster in the spring.

Kees Stryland, President



OHA Banners for Ontario's 19 Districts

The Ontario Horticultural Association has given each of the 19 districts in Ontario its very own banner. The purpose of these banners is to make the general public aware of the presence of the OHA in Ontario. They are meant to be used at flower shows, teas, trade shows, AGMs, conventions, meetings wherever the local societies are invited to attend . Each banner is unique for the individual district in Ontario.

The funds from the Trillium Foundation made these banners possible. Past President Ken Fink worked on the design and delivered them to each director at the October Board Meeting.

Let's all keep the Ontario Horticultural Association alive and well in Ontario!



Ken Fink, OHA Past President

Get the Jump on Spring!

The first taste of the 2010 growing season will take place at the annual *Get the Jump on Spring* event presented by the **Toronto Botanical Gardens** and the **Ontario Horticultural Association District 5** on Saturday, February 20th from 10 am to 4 pm. The event will offer mini-lectures and demonstrations on everything from *Sumptuous and Seductive Succulents* to *Critter Management in the Garden*.

There will also be a floral design competition, free advice from Master Gardeners, and a chance to meet local horticultural societies and garden clubs. There will be an opportunity to buy plants and products for the garden from a variety of vendors. Admission is free, but a \$2 donation will give guests a chance at hourly draws for great garden prizes.

Vicki Stevens, East York Garden Club



OHA Helps to Replace Trees in Tornado-Stricken Ontario

The Ontario Horticultural Association has sent a total of \$800 to Durham & District Horticultural Society, Gravenhurst Horticultural Society, Markdale & District Horticultural Society, and Woodbridge Garden & Horticultural Society to help in the recovery from the tornados this summer. The funds have been delivered to the societies and will be used toward the purchase of trees. This will assist their communities in the replacement of trees lost during the storms last August.

The OHA Board, acknowledging the need to act quickly, had its first online vote to pass the motion to send cheques for trees to the societies involved as quickly as possible. The monies were sent to the societies, and it is the societies that will choose the trees and plant them. For all the plantings, there will be a small ceremony and pictures will be sent to OHA so that member societies may see the results of OHA at work.

OHA in action - working for our societies!

Carol Dunk, OHA 2nd Vice President



Happy 100th Milton!

It is only once in a lifetime that you get to celebrate a centenary and in 2010 the members of the Milton and District Horticultural Society will do just that. Centennial celebrations are planned for all year, beginning with the District 6 spring conference on April 24 2010 and continuing with a birthday bash later in the year.

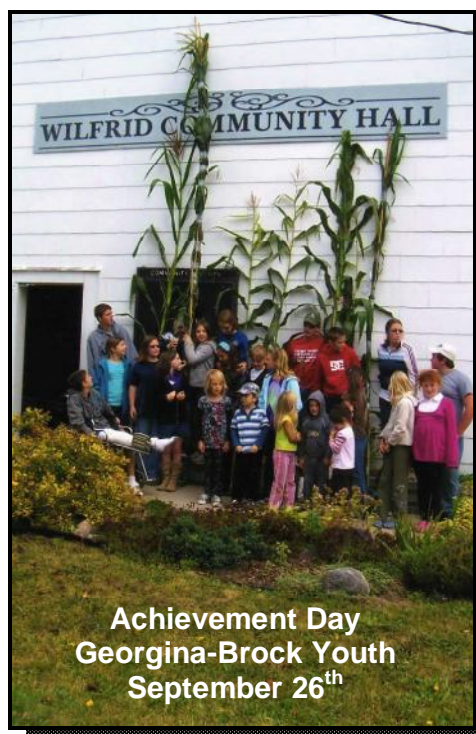
It is amazing what a small society can accomplish in one year - in one hundred years an indelible mark is left on the community. Beginning in 1910 the Garden Club, as it was then, met in the Temperance Hall under the auspices of the local druggist Mr. Higginbotham, Mr. James Dent, and Mr. J.M. Bastedo. They obviously did not have the problem of recruiting men for the board in those days as there seems to have been only one woman involved, a Mrs. Dewar. The dues to belong were \$1.00 and the membership topped out at 100. The first Lawn and Garden competition established that year had three categories: homes under \$1000.00, homes \$1000.00 to \$2000.00 and homes over \$3000.00! No mention was made of plantings or design. The prizes were three silver cups which have vanished in the mists of time - it would be lovely to find them in this centennial year.

Throughout the ensuing hundred years, with the exception of the period of the Second World War, the society continued, meeting in places as diverse as the Pine Street Union Hall, Halton Manor (a nursing home), and the Royal Canadian Legion Hall. Projects undertaken involved planting of trees and shrubs, the staging of flower shows, speakers on horticultural topics, and bus trips both local and out of province.

The more things change, the more they stay the same. Today the Society meets in the Milton Bible Church, has dues of \$20.00, and a membership of over 200. We have been involved with the design and maintenance of the Town Hall Gardens in the old jail yard at the Town Hall, the Library gardens, the Millennium Gardens (put together to celebrate the year 2000), two gardens at Allendale, a local long term care facility, and a garden at Deborah's House, a continuing care facility for young people. We have planted trees at many of the local schools and hold an annual Earth Day tree planting in memory of members who died in the previous year. We also hold garden tours and competitions, monthly flower shows, workshops teaching everything from flower arranging to tree pruning, and monthly meetings with a variety of speakers. We hold an annual plant auction to finance our activities and to offer a bursary to students continuing in horticulture, and we offer consultation and advice to members and non-members alike on a wide array of garden topics.

In the next hundred years we hope to continue and improve upon the activities we offer to the town, to our members and to the public in general. Anyone reading this is welcome to drop by to one of our gardens and see what an impact a small group of determined gardeners can have!

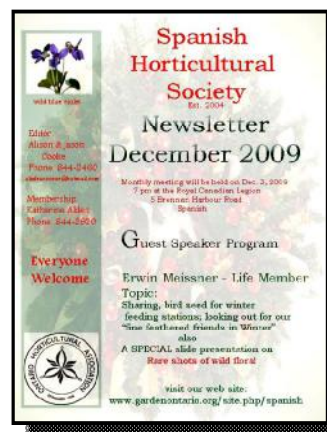
Jennifer Mirosolin



**Achievement Day
Georgina-Brock Youth
September 26th**

27 members of Georgina-Brock's youth garden club proudly displayed winning specimens from among their 108 entries. Classes included Tallest Corn, Largest Sunflower Head and Heaviest Tomato.

Spanish Society Launches E-Newsletter



The **Spanish Horticultural Society** of District 13, only six years old, has just published the first issue of its electronic newsletter.

Congratulations to editors Alison and Jason Cooke, as well as the group's enthusiastic membership, which has mushroomed from its 22 founding members to an impressive 232!

MacDougall Park Dry Stone Arch Bridge “Rebridging Our Past to Our Future”

It is with great delight that I wish to announce the completion of the above project taken on by the **Russell and District Horticultural Society**.

The bridge build was led by John Shaw-Rimington of the Dry Stone Wall Association of Canada. It was built by John and his staff as a teaching project for six students over a ten day period, the ten days of summer that we had in August of 2009. Materials used - stone, both local and from Madoc, ON – about 50 tons of it. Amount of mortar used - none. The stones are fitted together without the use of mortar. It is topped with three inch thick flagstone from north of Peterborough. Numbers of people involved in the build in one way or another – most of the village if you count those who brought a stone to go in the bridge, those who came to watch the build, those who came to bring lunch, or water, or ice cream to the builders, those who came to see the wooden arch form removed, and those who came to see the grand opening.

It inspired the writing of a new song set to the tune of the “Green Berets”, composed by the conductor of the Russell Senior Men’s Choir, Neville Brown and introduced at the grand opening of the bridge. The dedication “christening” was done by Norman Hadow of Scotland (dry stone builder to the Queen Mother at Balmoral Castle). Pure Canadian rye was used as it was a Canadian project. Cost of the build - about \$60,000 if you count the Geotechnical Assessment that had to be done in the summer of 2008 so that we could go ahead with the project. Amount of municipal money used - less than 10%. The project was finished on time and within budget, thanks solely to the fabulous volunteers who worked on the project. The value of the bridge, if it were not for all the donated goods and services, is closer to \$80,000.

Best thing about the bridge - do you have to ask? Just look at it! It looks like it has always been there. It looks like it belongs. It is a combination of structure and art. **It is the first dry stone arch bridge in a public park in Canada.**



Lindley McPhail
President, Russell and District Horticultural Society

Trillium Deadlines for 2010

Spring Issue – February 21st

Summer Issue – May 21st

Fall Issue – August 21st

Winter Issue – November 21st

2009 Annual Return Forms and Grant Applications

These forms will be **available by the end of November**, and must be received at the regional OMAFRA office by February 1, 2010.

This year the forms will be available on the website of the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs: www.omafra.gov.on.ca. The forms can be accessed electronically in three ways:

- a) fillable on-line,
- b) Word document that is electronically fillable, and
- c) PDF document to download and complete manually. Forms will be mailed to societies that wish to have hard copies of the documents.

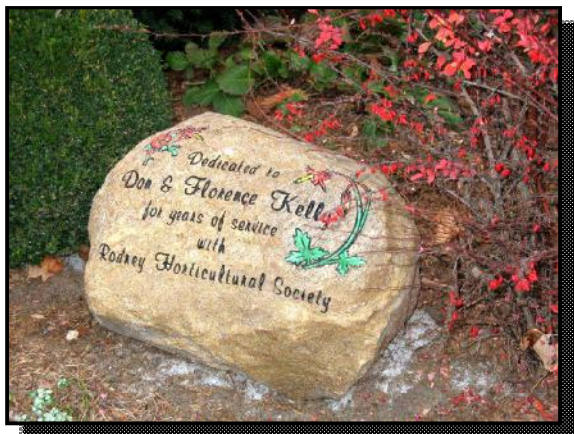
To expedite the processing of the 2009 grants, societies are invited to enroll in the **Electronic Funds Transfer** option. This means that grants will be sent to your bank account by direct deposit. Contact the OMAFRA office for more information. We also have a new general email address for correspondence with Horticultural Societies: AHOA.Admin@ontario.ca

For more information, please feel free to call:

Helen Scutt,
Agriculture Organization Specialist
Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food &
Rural Affairs
1 Stone Road West, 3rd Floor SW
Guelph, ON N1G 4Y2
1-888-466-2372 x63115 or 519-826-3115
FAX: 519-826-3567
helen.scutt@ontario.ca
www.ontario.ca/omafra

Rodney Honours the Kellys

A dedication ceremony was held at the Rodney Library on Nov. 16th, 2009, in honour of the Kellys. Since the **Rodney and District Horticultural Society** was organized in 1920, **Donald and Florence Kelly** have been its longest serving members.



A large engraved stone was placed in the library gardens to honour the Kellys for dedicated service to horticulture in Rodney. Many members and friends, including District 10 Director Anna Peterson, attended the ceremony. The library gardens were designed by Peter Jocius, of New Glasgow in 1975 and maintained by Don and Florence for 26 years, along with their other horticultural duties.

Don and Florence moved from Port Credit to Rodney in 1953. Don became a director in 1954 and continued working for the society until ill health curtailed the physical work. Nevertheless he continued to support the society's work and horticulture in general, until he passed away on April 5th, 2004.

Florence soon followed Don on the board and worked for the society in many ways until moving to a London Seniors residence last year. Florence also worked at the district level as secretary and received the OHA District Award in 1996 for her many years of work on behalf of the society and District 10. Combining their efforts, this couple volunteered over 100 years of service to horticulture and *Keeping Ontario Beautiful*.

Anna Peterson
District 10 Director

Espanola Society Celebrates 60 Years

2009 has been a notable year for the Espanola Horticultural Society in Northern Ontario's District 13 – this was our 60th anniversary! In 1949, a committee of the Espanola Lions Club spearheaded the movement to create a horticultural society in town. Since then, the society has been a part of the fabric of Espanola, working to beautify the town, promoting interest in horticulture with flower and vegetable shows, and keeping members informed with regular presentations related to all things growing.

Our anniversary year started with a special display of memorabilia at the public library, followed in May by a celebratory dinner that was very well attended. On the same day, a native red maple tree (*Acer rubrum*), acquired through the OHA's Tree Planting Special Project Award program, was planted, with OHA President Ken Fink officiating.

In August we held a garden tour where we paired an artist or artisan with each featured garden. This was extremely well received. We endeavoured to engage the public of Espanola with sunflower and carved pumpkin competitions and had moderate success with these - enough to consider making them part of our yearly events.

All in all, 2009 has been a year to remember. Our society is healthy and looks forward to many more exciting years.

Sheila Pope



Ontario Horticultural Association Budget 2010

REVENUES		
Membership Fees		92,187
Insurance	liability	19,990
	directors & officers	30,941
Sale of OHA Supplies		7,180
Web space sales		140
Newsletter		600
Donations/Supporters		9,750
Advertising		500
Special Projects	trsf fr restricted funds	5,000
Memorial Tree Plantings	trsf fr restricted funds	2,500
Miscellaneous Fundraising		6,700
Retained Earnings from Conv 09		5,000
NET OPERATING REVENUE		180,488
EXPENSES		
Meeting Expenses	Board Meeting Expenses	45,500
	Committee Expenses - i.e. social marketing, youth, constitution/by-laws, conservation, education, judge's registry, long range planning, funding, etc etc.	12,470
Other Meeting Expenses		17,600
District Expenses		8,000
Audit/Legal Fees		200
Bank Charges		18,500
Insurance	Liability	31,000
	Dir & Officer's Insurance	2,600
Mailing Costs/Print & Stationery		7,300
Secretary		8,200
Treasurer		1,700
Awards & Prizes		9,200
Special Projects	Loblaw, Oak Grove @ U of G and society grants	2,500
Memorial Tree Plantings		500
Scholarships/Bursaries/Awards		6,000
OHA Supplies		3,600
Newsletter/Youth Newsletter		1,500
Annual Report/Yearbook		1,000
Education/Promotion/Publicity		2,430
Exhibitions, incl.storage		200
Fund Raising Expenses		
NET OPERATING EXPENSES		180,000
NET INCOME (LOSS)		488

The Agricultural and Horticultural Organizations Act

What it Means for your Society

This factsheet is intended to provide general information for Ontario horticultural societies and should not be considered as a substitute for private legal counsel. Passages in *italics* are quotes from the legislation.

Name of the Act:

The proper name of the Act is the Agricultural and Horticultural Organizations Act, R.S.O. 1990, chapter A.9. The Act has not been amended since the Revised Statutes of Ontario 1990 were published.

The Agricultural and Horticultural Organizations Act (the Act) is the legislation that provides legal status and direction for agricultural societies, horticultural societies and agricultural associations in the province of Ontario.

History:

The Act came into effect on December 15th 1988. It replaced the Agricultural Societies Act, the Horticultural Societies Act and the Agricultural Associations Act. All societies that were established under these earlier pieces of legislation were continued under the Act. The Ontario Minister of Agriculture and Food is responsible for the administration of the Act.

Legal Status:

The Act provides for every organization to be a “*corporation without share capital*” (section 3). Organizations incorporated or continued under the Act are sometimes called “not for profit” corporations. This means that the activities of the corporation shall not be carried on for the purpose of gain for its members and any profits shall be used in promoting its objects. The operation of not for profit corporations is also subject to the provisions of the Corporations Act, RSO 1990, c.C. 38 that don’t conflict with the provisions of the Agricultural and Horticultural Organizations Act. The parts of the Corporations Act that specifically apply to horticultural societies are Part III (Corporations without Share Capital) and Part VII (Corporations, General).

No Compensation for directors, officers or members

The Act provides that “*no compensation shall be paid to a director, officer or member*” of a horticultural society other than the treasurer, secretary or secretary-treasurer (section 13). This section also provides that a society may pay “*reasonable expenses incurred*” by its directors, officers or members in the performance of their duties. If a society has paid staff other than its secretary, secretary-treasurer or treasurer, such employees can not be officers, directors or voting members of the organization.

Benefits of Incorporation:

Incorporation provides your organization with status as a separate legal entity, distinct from its members. A corporation may enter into contracts (including employment contracts), own land, sue and be sued. This corporate status provides the officers, directors and

members of the organization with limited liability. This means that individual members are not personally liable in certain instances, for the corporation’s debts and obligations. This does not mean that members of an incorporated organization are not responsible for the actions of the corporation however it does provide a level of protection for the membership. Many granting institutions will only accept grant applications from incorporated organizations.

Objectives of Horticultural Societies:

The Act outlines the objectives for horticultural societies as follows (section 36):

“*The objects of a horticultural society are to encourage interest and improvement in horticulture,*

- (a) *By holding meetings respecting the theory and practice of horticulture;*
- (b) *By encouraging the planting of trees, shrubs and flowers on public and private grounds;*
- (c) *By promoting balcony and community gardening and outdoor beautification;*
- (d) *By arranging field trips, contests, competitions and exhibitions related to horticulture and awarding prizes;*
- (e) *By distributing seeds, plants, bulbs, flowers, trees and shrubs;*
- (f) *By promoting the protection of the environment;*
- (g) *By promoting the circulation of horticultural information through any media;*
- (h) *By promoting the benefits of therapeutic horticulture; and*
- (i) *By stimulating an interest in the study of horticulture.”*

Not every society will be engaged in all of the activities listed in clauses (a) to (i), however, all societies should be engaged in activities that encourage interest and improvement in horticulture.

Expenditures Restricted

The Act states that a horticultural society shall not spend more than half of its total annual receipts, (excluding grants or donations made for specific purposes) on any one of the objects of a horticultural society except for the planting of trees, shrubs and plants on public ground and the promotion of outdoor beautification (section 37).

Membership and Voting:

Membership in horticultural societies is open to anyone who pays the annual fee set out in the bylaws of the society (section 38). Members who are under the age of 18 are not eligible to vote at meetings of the society. This rule does

not prevent members who are younger than 18 from participating in discussions leading to votes.

Annual Meetings:

The Act states that a society must hold an annual meeting of its members and that meeting must be held within 15 months of the last annual meeting (section 10). Usually the annual meeting will be held at about the same time every year. The membership must be given at least two weeks notice of the annual meeting date, time and location.

At the annual meeting, the membership must elect a board of directors and appoint a treasurer or secretary-treasurer (section 11). The method of selection for these positions should be outlined in the by-laws of the organization. The by-laws may also fix the number of directors; however, the minimum number of directors allowed is three (subsection 238(2) of the Corporations Act). The retiring directors are required to present a report of the activities of the organization and the audited financial statement of the organization for the previous year (section 11).

Annual Reports:

By February 1st each every society is to provide the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food with a written report including:

- (a) *“A copy of the audited financial statement;*
- (b) *A statement of the number of current members;*
- (c) *A list of the directors and officers of the organization and their addresses; and*
- (d) *A copy of the annual report submitted at the annual meeting.” (if applicable) (section 15)*

Failure to comply with this annual reporting requirement may cause a society to be dissolved (section 18). The Ministry is required to make any of the information provided in annual reports available for *“examination by the public upon request”*. (section 15)

Security against loss:

The Act requires the board to annually ensure that the treasurer or secretary-treasurer has provided adequate security against any financial losses that the society might suffer (section 12). If there is a loss and the security is not adequate then each director is personally liable for the loss. The security referred to is normally obtained through the insurance policy, including bonding of the treasurer, purchased by the society.

New Societies:

The Act provides for the creation and incorporation of new horticultural societies in any municipality with a population of not less than 200. If the population of the municipality is greater than 25,000 there may be two societies and for each additional 25,000 in population there may be an additional society. Amalgamation of municipalities does not affect societies that have already been incorporated. At least 50 residents of a municipality must sign the articles of incorporation in order for a new society to be incorporated.

In a territorial district of northern Ontario only 25 residents are required.

Change of Name:

If a society wishes to change its name then the society must receive approval from the Minister of Agriculture and Food (section 9). An amendment form is available from the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs. Changes proposed by the board of directors should be ratified by the membership at the annual meeting or a special meeting convened for that purpose before being submitted to the ministry for approval. The words “horticultural society” must be included in the name.

Dissolution:

If, for any reason, a horticultural society is no longer able to carry out its objectives then it should be officially dissolved as a corporate entity. The Minister may dissolve an organization, provided that the membership has passed a resolution to that effect at a meeting of the members duly called for that purpose (section 19).

The Minister may also cause a society to be dissolved for failure to comply with the annual reporting requirements as outlined in the Act (section 18). The Minister must give the organization twelve months notice of the intent to dissolve the organization and the board has the right to prevent that dissolution by bringing the organization into good standing within that period.

Trustees:

If a society is dissolved, then the people on the board at the date of dissolution become the trustees of the assets of the organization (section 20). They will be held responsible for the assets and liabilities of the organization. With approval from the Ministry, *“they shall pay the debts of the organization and liquidate any of the assets for such purposes.”*

Ministry policy requires that any remaining assets should be disposed of in a manner that is compatible with the objectives of a horticultural society. That is, they should be used to encourage interest and improvement in horticulture in the community where the society was in operation.

Resources

Not-for-profit Incorporator’s Handbook, Ontario Ministry of the Attorney General
<http://www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/>

Fact Sheets on Effective Organizations, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
<http://www.omafr.gov.on.ca/>

The Agricultural and Horticultural Organizations Act
<http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/>

Contact **Helen Scutt**, Agriculture Organization Specialist, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, 1 Stone Road West, Guelph, ON N1G 4Y2, 1-888-466-2372 x63115 or AHOA.Admin@ontario.ca

Dear Santa,

I've tried my best to be good this year. I am a bit older and a lot wiser. You'll notice that none of the items on my list need dusting!

Here's my Christmas list:

Twelve loads of topsoil

Eleven sacks of wood chips

Ten packs of bonemeal

Nine bags of compost

Eight brand new hostas

Seven nursery visits

Six blue delphiniums

Five maids to clean

Four eager diggers

Three Austin roses

Two more dripline systems

And a husband with a healthy credit card.

And if you can, would you make the four eager diggers between the ages of 18 and 24?

Thanks, Santa



Dryden and District Horticultural Society's Agricultural Parade Float



**...to all members across Ontario
from your OHA Board of Directors.**

Stoney Creek – Keeping Ontario Beautiful

One of the goals of the **Stoney Creek Garden Club** is to help beautify the Community. On October 29th several members began a rejuvenation of the two gardens at the Royal Canadian Legion property on King Street East in Stoney Creek. Stoney Creek Garden Club members were all smiles when the cleanup work was finished.



Pictured left to right: Marylee Sipos, June Enwright, Rene Chiment, Elizabeth Taylor, Gwen Allan, and Larry Kaulback.

The Cool Wet Summer



It's been a cool and **wet** 2009 in Simcoe! It was great growing weather for our annual Flower & Vegetable Show, popular (more than 50 youngsters!), Horticultural Juniors programme, local civic plantings, the brand new Community Gardens project, and the competition displays at our terrific monthly meetings.

On the other hand, wet weather also meant many challenges for both the Flower Show and the Community Gardens - dramatic dips in crops of tomatoes (blight!), peppers, squash, and other sun-loving vegetables.

