

Trillium

Keeping Ontario Beautiful

Ontario Horticultural Association

Winter 2012/2013



Pictured above, District 15 Director Carole Spraggett and a young member from the Humber Child Development Centre in Etobicoke put the finishing touches on the District 15 OHA planting of a Queen's Diamond Jubilee commemorative bur oak. This tree will be part of the transformation of the property into a nature focused playground. This will be the first phase in the creation of a new teaching and learning environment for Humber's Early Childhood Education students as well as for students and faculty in other programs.



Now Available on GardenOntario.org:

- [2012 Society Annual Information Report \(due February 1st\)](#)
- [2012 Volunteer Hours form](#)
- [2013 Competition schedules](#)
- [Resolution form & procedure for Convention 2013](#)
- [Youth 'Help' Grant Form](#)
- [Horticultural Service Certificate form](#)

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President's Message

Over the past fourteen years, since I became an Assistant Director in District 4, there have been many changes in the OHA. At that time, societies had little contact with the Association. We communicated largely by mail and were urging each society to get someone on their executive who could send and receive emails. Now most communication is done by email. We have an informative and very useful OHA website, www.gardenontario.org, which carries the *Trillium*, provides a resource bank for societies, and offers space for society websites (for the best of which there is an annual award). Your Society Annual Information Report and Volunteer Hours Form can be completed and submitted online. This year OMAFRA would like each society to download, complete, and submit the Annual Society Report and Grant Application electronically. Details of the OMAFRA report and grant application were distributed, via email, the first week of November.

This past year the OHA celebrated the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, followed by commemorative bur oak trees (or red maples) being planted on public property in each district. I had the pleasure of attending the tree planting in Bobcaygeon on September 26, 2012. Last spring, the OHA decided to grant three \$500 OHA Jubilee Bursaries to graduate students at Guelph, York, and Lakehead Universities, respectively. These students are doing research in areas of interest to the OHA, such as pollination. Monica Parker, one of the bursary recipients, has since earned her doctorate.

This coming year, your society may apply for an annual award, up to \$500, for a Community Garden Project. The award will be applied for and granted in the same way as the Community Improvement Award. The forms and details of the award are available on the OHA website.

Inevitably the board changes each year, with the retirement of the Past President and various District Directors. As they step aside after years of valuable contribution, new Directors join a board that works well together and amicably shares tasks and ideas. I am delighted with the way Donna Hussey, Sandra Hartill, and Kathryn Lindsay have stepped up, bringing fresh approaches to our work. These fresh faces at the board need fresh faces in the societies. Look to your acquaintances in service clubs, church groups, parent and professional associations. Invite them to a society meeting or event, and we will all benefit in the coming year. Enjoy your gardens, your horticultural society, and the holidays!

John Sellers, OHA President, 2012/2013

OHA Nominations

The election of the Ontario Horticultural Association President, as well as First and Second Vice Presidents, is an important part of the Annual Convention. Usually, there is a normal progression into the President's chair. It is essential to have continuity in the flow of these offices. To be eligible for a position, one must be a past or present District Director or a past or present executive member of the Ontario Horticultural Association Board of Directors for a period of not less than two years. This person must be willing to serve and consent must be obtained before nominations can be considered.

Nominations for any of the above offices must be received on or before February 28, 2013. Please send the nomination to the Association Secretary Kelly Taylor. This nomination must be sent by Canada Post as there must be an original signature on the nomination.

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



Affectionately referred to as 'The Three Amigos', pictured above are, from left to right, OHA 2nd Vice President Jeff Blackadar, President John Sellers, and 1st Vice President James Graham.

Trillium submission deadlines for 2013:

- ❖ Spring issue – February 21st
- ❖ Summer issue – May 21st
- ❖ Fall issue – August 21st
- ❖ Winter issue – November 21st

Bravo Carol!

The OHA is so very proud of its immediate Past President **Carol Dunk**. On October 17, 2012 Carol was presented with the **Pollinator Advocate Award** at the Canadian Embassy in Washington, DC. Each year the North American Pollinator Protection Campaign (NAPPC) honours individuals who have contributed significantly to pollinator protection, conservation, and issue outreach. Carol was nominated by Kim Fellows of Seeds of Diversity as well as by Victoria McPhail of Pollination Guelph. With Carol's Pollinator Patch initiative, her presentations on Pollinator Patches, her 'Roadsides' booklet, and her website www.roadsides.caroldunk.com, it was no wonder that the NAPPC decided to recognize Carol with this prestigious award.

Mike and Carol outside Canadian Embassy in DC.
Inset – PAA award designed by James Randolph.



The OHA will continue to have articles in the five issues of **Ontario Gardener** magazine next year. OHA Directors have been invited to write articles for this year. I would like to extend an invitation to Horticultural Society members across the province to submit articles as well.

Submitted articles should be about projects done by societies and told in approximately 500 words with one or two high resolution jpeg photos accompanying the Word doc.

Submissions can be made to me at judithrogers@rogers.com with 'OHA article' in the subject line.

Judith Rogers

Nominations for Association Awards

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

Awards presented at the convention are:

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

Nominations, with supporting information, should be sent to:

Awards Coordinator Grace Esposito
130 Riverview Avenue
Woodbridge, Ontario
L4L 2L6

The deadline for receipt of nominations is February 28, 2013. The Awards Coordinator will forward the nominations to the Awards Committee for selection of the winning recipients. The Awards Committee is composed of the President (chair), two Vice Presidents, Past President, Secretary, Treasurer, Awards Coordinator, and Chair of the Past Presidents' Council.

Please give serious consideration to selecting people who would be worthy recipients of these prestigious awards.

Plant a Tree



The Ontario Horticultural Association is continuing its Tree Planting Grant whereby a Society or District of the Ontario Horticultural Association may apply for up to \$200 for a special tree planting. Up to **25 tree-planting grants** will be awarded in 2013.

The grant is to be used for the purchase of a tree to be planted in a community or public space. A request by a society or district outlining the species of tree to be purchased, where the tree will be planted and whether the planting commemorates a special event for the Society/District/Community should be sent to the Ontario Horticultural Association Awards Coordinator:

OHA Awards Coordinator, Grace Esposito, 130 Riverview Avenue, Woodbridge, ON L4L 2L6

The tree grants will be awarded on a *first come basis* after December 31, 2012, up to a maximum of 25 awards per year. Any society or district that receives this funding cannot apply again for three years. The awarded society or district has to complete the planting of their tree by the end of that given year. For example: if the grant is awarded in 2013 – the tree must be planted by the end of 2013.

Once approved, payment is made upon submission of an original receipt for the tree and a digital picture of the planting. The picture becomes the property of the OHA.

Begin a Special Project



As part of the ongoing support of member societies, the Board of the Ontario Horticultural Association annually awards **Special Project** grants of up to \$500 each for the use of societies toward the

completion of projects having a long lasting benefit to their society or community. The grant is to be used for planting materials such as perennials, trees and shrubs and **not** for the planting of annuals or for mulch, manure, compost or hard surface materials. When preparing your application, be sure to include information about the location and use of the project, a budget for the project, a planting plan, one or two photographs of the site, a list of plant materials to be used, and the estimated costs. Please keep your applications to a maximum of 6 pages.

The Ontario Horticultural Association will grant up to ten projects a year to a maximum of \$500 for each project with a limit of one project per society per year.

Any society that receives this funding cannot apply again for five years.

To be considered for a Special Project grant in 2013, an application form and the accompanying information should be completed and mailed to your District Director no later than February 28, 2013. Application forms are available on the OHA website at www.gardenontario.org or from your District Director.

New for 2013 OHA Community Garden Grant

The Ontario Horticultural Association encourages its member societies to create or contribute to community gardens whether urban or rural. OHA will award a grant of \$500 each to two societies to assist in the funding of a new community garden or the upgrading of an existing community garden.

A community garden is a plot of land, either publicly or privately owned, that is used to grow food for gardeners and/or the surrounding community. Either the whole space is communal or each member maintains a plot. Members share in the upkeep of the garden (work bees) and are encouraged to participate in the decision-making process and socialize with other gardeners.

Eligible expenses include costs related to site development such as the construction of raised beds, as well as soil, tools, and equipment purchases. Upgrading a garden may take the form of adding a washroom, a compost area, a water harvesting area, fencing or other installations that support the gardening activities of the members.

When completing your application, please include information about permissions to build a garden on your site, insurance waivers for participants, a budget, a plan of your project, and any partners in your project.

To apply, complete the Community Garden application form and mail it to your Director no later than February 28 of the current year. If your community garden project is awarded a grant, payment will follow a completion report including receipts and pictures of the completed project.

There is a time limit on the issuing of the grant. The completion form must be received by the OHA Awards Coordinator before December 31 of the next year. i.e. a grant awarded in 2013 must be received by December 31 of 2014. If a completion report accompanied by receipts is not received by this time, it will be assumed that the community garden project will not be completed and the grant will be cancelled.

OMAFRA Return & Grant Application Forms

Email notification has been sent to each Horticultural Society to let them know that the 2012 Annual Return and Grant Applications are available. **In the email each Society receives, they will receive a personal link to our ministry database, and it will take them directly to their personal on-line form.** The on-line form can ONLY be accessed from the link in the personalized email sent to the Societies.

From this webpage, they will also have access to the following forms that can be downloaded in either Word or PDF formats:

- 2012 Annual Return and Grant Application
- Guide to Completing the Annual Return
- Checklist
- OMAFRA / MNDM Regional Staff Contacts
- Audit Certificate
- Templates for Financial Statements
- Form for Electronic Funds Transfer (Direct deposit)

The due date for the OMAFRA forms is **February 1, 2013.**

If your society has not received the OMAFRA Return & Grant Application Forms, please contact Mike Park at 1-888-466-2372 x64161 or michael.park@ontario.ca

OHA Society Annual Information Reports

The OHA Society Annual information Report is **due to your District Director by February 1, 2013.** These forms are available through the OHA Website: <http://www.gardenontario.org/>. We would encourage you to complete the forms online and submit online to improve accuracy of information, reduce postage and printing costs and improved turnaround times. If you complete online, please remember to send your District Director an email notifying them of this fact.

Some things to consider this year when filling out your forms are:

- ***Include home addresses for your board including President, 1st VP, 2nd VP, Secretary, Treasurer, and Board Members.*** (This is a requirement of law, that anyone who sits on the board of a not-for-profit or charitable organization provides their home address. Canada Revenue requires it and so does OMAFRA & OHA)
- Society mailing address
- Address for *Trillium* distribution (email or hard copy)
- Correct membership numbers – must match OMAFRA forms
- New membership count
- Youth Leader contact information and email
- Society meeting dates and location
- Incoming Executive & Board (please list returning Executive & Board members as well)
- Date of your fiscal year end and date of most recent AGM
- Youth activities, educational activities, community work, scholarships and fundraising
- Summary Report (Not required in bulleted format this year)

OHA Society Volunteer Hours for 2012

Your volunteer hours' statistics are an important piece of the information about your society. They are an easy reference that illustrates how valuable your society is to the community. Volunteer hours can also be used as an analysis tool that will show you and your society where you are spending your volunteer time. The volunteer hours' information that you report is important to you, to your District, and to OHA.

Please return only **one completed form per Society** to **your DISTRICT DIRECTOR by February 1, 2013.**

Supporting a Youth program within your Horticultural Society

The question: How can our Horticultural societies build a relationship with the youth of our communities if we are unable to establish our own youth group?

The answer: Create partnerships with other existing community youth groups.

Case Study: Thorndale & Area Horticultural Society

The Thorndale & Area Horticultural Society has tried several times to establish a youth group. There are two primary reasons we have not been successful:

1. The lack of volunteers
2. Concerns about sustainability once established.

We are a small society consisting of about 70 members. Although we are small, we do have a very active membership. However, as is the case with many small communities, our members are also involved in other organizations within the community such as the local fair board, the VON, and the various churches. It is unfair and unrealistic to ask these members to further extend themselves to take on another task.

The Thorndale & Area Horticultural Society does want a youth group. We want to have fun with our youth while educating them. We talk to and listen to other societies that have youth groups and we are very envious of their achievements. It seems so easy for them.

To resolve the conflict of wanting a youth group and yet being unable to support one, the Thorndale & Area Horticultural Society has created partnerships with existing community groups. We provide the funds, content and some volunteer hours but the group that we have partnered with has the responsibility of managing the youth group and carrying out the program.

We have partnered with three groups so far this year, all within our community of Thorndale. They are:

1. Girl Guides
2. Thorndale Bug Club
3. Growing Chefs – Classroom Gardening Project for the West Nissouri Public School.

For the Girl Guides we did provide the volunteers for this activity. Two volunteers did a workshop with the group and we paid for the supplies. The goal of the workshop was to teach the Guides about soil and how to plant an herb garden in a container. We provided the Guides with two soil testing kits, one to use at the workshop and one to take home for their own garden. They also received supplies for the container garden. The participating Guides received their Gardening badge upon completion of the workshop. This workshop was very well received by the Guides and their leaders.

The Thorndale Bug Club is a youth group within our community that meets regularly and has a board of directors. Some of the activities at their meetings include bug related games and field trips to various creeks and forests to find and identify bugs. This past fall we donated a 'Monarch Butterfly Rearing Kit' to this group. We purchased this kit from the Cambridge Butterfly Conservatory. It is a comprehensive kit that allows them to watch the caterpillars turn into butterflies then they tag them before they release them. They then have the ability to track these butterflies via a website. This is a local club and all of their expenses are covered by the parents. Without our assistance the Bug Club would not have been able to purchase a kit. Our plan is to purchase this group a refresh kit next year. The Thorndale Bug Club came to one of our regular meetings and did a presentation on how the kit works and about their group. Learning is indeed a two way street! For more information on these butterfly kits visit: <http://www.cambridgebutterfly.com/conservatory/monarch-rearing-kits>

Our third youth activity this year is just at the beginning stage and it is a school program called: Growing Chefs – Classroom Gardening Project.

We are sponsoring this school project for a class in the West Nissouri Public School. We are providing the funds and Growing Chefs provides everything else. We think that this is an excellent partnership for our society. It teaches our youth about growing food from sowing seeds and nurturing the plants to eating their produce. This is truly an example of eating locally. Information on this programme can be found at the website below. <http://growingchefsontario.ca/programs/class-room-gardening-project>

In conclusion, the Thorndale & Area Society believes that partnerships with youth groups in our community are a great way to involve our society with our youth and highlight our community involvement. In addition to receiving donations from local businesses, we hold several fund raisers throughout the year in order to offset any costs. There are minimal volunteer hours required.

The benefits are great:

- ✓ We are involved with our local youth.
- ✓ Our society is appreciated for more than just taking care of public gardens.
- ✓ It allows the school to have additional activities.
- ✓ We are more visible to our community.
- ✓ Perhaps some of the parents and youth will become future members.

**Dian Chute, President
Thorndale & Area Horticultural Society**

4-H and OHA Youth Team Up



Togetherness is a good thing—at least as far as learning about growing and using that knowledge to grow giant vegetables goes. A group of 22 young people between the ages of 6 and 18 years make up the **Georgina-Brock Giant Vegetable Club**. Some are members of Ontario 4-H and some are OHA Youth.

Guided and mentored by **Dorothy Shier** and her colleagues, the group meets in spring and summer to learn about growing and to start their giant vegetables. They tend their vegetables all summer and compete in September for the tallest, longest, and heaviest veggies.

I had the pleasure of visiting them on their Achievement Day on September 23, 2012. What a great group! A local garden supply business, Pefferlaw Peat's, donated the space for the exhibition of gigantic excellence. Here are the impressive results of the competition:

Tallest Corn: Rebecca 14' 10 ½"

Tallest Sunflower: Adam 11'8"

Biggest Sunflower Head: Adam & Noah 19 ½"

Heaviest Tomato: Daniel 11lb 15ozs

Heaviest Onion: Devon 11lb 2ozs,

Heaviest Pumpkin: Katelynn 521 lbs,

Heaviest Carrot: Madelynn 2lbs 12ozs

Heaviest Field Pumpkin: Devon 44lbs,

Heaviest Marrow: Daniel 21lbs

Longest Corn Cob: Katelynn 11 ½"

Multi-headed Sunflower: Abbi 118 flowers

Watermelon: Adam and Noah 44lbs

At the end of the day some very happy competitors went home with ribbons and an envelope with some money donated by Farm Credit Corps – a good reward for all their hard work this year. Dorothy Shier and her crew do an outstanding job of combining OHA and 4-H Youth. It works for Georgina-Brock. Would it work for others? Probably.

If you're interested in how Dorothy did the job, contact her at dkshier@live.ca or call her at 705-437-1358.

Carol Dunk

Harriston Celebrates 60 Years

On September 10th Harriston and District Horticultural Society celebrated its 60th anniversary as a society in the local community. Over 100 members and special guests celebrated the evening. Charlie Dobbin, from the AM740 radio gardening show was the guest speaker. A highlight for the evening was the cutting of a special anniversary cake by the two remaining charter members. Pictured cutting the cake are Marian Remus on the left and Verna Wilkin on the right.



Photo by Sharon Weber.



OOPS!

In the last Trillium we told you that the police checks for Youth Leaders would be paid for by OHA. That statement is incorrect. OHA does not pay for police checks for Youth Leaders.

Youth Competition – Convention 2012

Class 1 – “My Favourite Fruit”

Ages 6 to 8

- 1st Lizzy Zinger, Guelph
2nd Johnny Zinger, Guelph

Ages 9 to 11

- 1st. Alexander Wagler, Wilmot

12 to 14 years

- 1st . Cassidy Wagler, Wilmot

15 to 18 years

- 1st . Shelby Wagler, Wilmot

Class 2 “Walk in the Park”

Ages 6 to 8

- 1st Carley Cressman, Wilmot
2nd Matthew Wulff, Guelph
3rd Flora Livingston, Wilmot
4th Taylor Macklin, Grafton
5th Jarod Medd, St. Marys
HM. Natasha Banks, Grafton

Ages 9 to 11

- 1st Alexander Wagler, Wilmot
2nd Sydney Stewart, Grafton
3rd Sarah Kinch, Wilmot
4th Amber Bloomfield, Grafton
5th Grace Wilson, Grafton
HM Jonathan Wulff, Guelph

Ages 12 to 14

- 1st Cassidy Wagler, Wilmot
2nd Nicole Brenner, Guelph
3rd Josie Lansley, Grafton
4th Hailey Lansley, Grafton

Ages 15 to 18

- 1st Shelby Wagler, Wilmot

Class 3 “The Floral Clock”

Ages 6 to 8

- 1st Raven Shulist, Grafton
2nd Lynsey Hicks, Grafton
3rd Eve Melvainin. Grafton
4th Olivia McClelland, St. Marys
5th Alex Slade, St. Marys
HM Lola Dickson, Grafton

Ages 9 to 11

- 1st Sydney Stewart, Grafton
2nd Amber Bloomfield, Grafton
3rd Alexander Wagler, Wilmot
4th Grace Wilson, Grafton
5th Marley McKenzie, Grafton

HM Jonathan Wulff, Guelph

Ages 12 to 14

- 1st Nicole Brenner, Guelph
2nd Josie Lansley, Grafton
3rd Cassidy Wagler, Wilmot
4th Danny MacDonald, Campbell
5th Maggie MacDonald, Campbell
HM Hailey Lansley, Grafton

Ages 15 to 18

- 1st Shelby Wagler, Wilmot

Class 4 “Tea Time”

Ages 6 to 8

- 1st Natasha Banks, Grafton
2nd Raven Shulist, Grafton
3rd Rowyn MacKenzie, Grafton
4th Tyson Doudle, Grafton
5th Meagan Geurts, Grafton

Ages 9 to 11

- 1st Marley MacKenzie, Grafton
2nd Sydney Stewart, Grafton
3rd Amber Broomfield, Grafton
4th Brooke Partington, Grafton
5th Belle Mueller, Wilmot

Ages 12 to 14

- 1st Matthew Aitkin, Grafton
2nd Josie Lansley, Grafton
3rd Chantal Mueller, Wilmot
4th Cassidy Wagler, Wilmot

Ages 15 to 18

- 1st Pia Hofmann, Wilmot
2nd Shelby Wagler, Wilmot

Class 5 “Rainbow”

Ages 6 to 8 - No Entries

Ages 9 to 11

- 1st Taylor Daymond, Guelph
2nd Haydon Starr, Guelph
3rd Alexander Wagler, Wilmot
4th Naomi Starr, Guelph

Ages 12 to 14

- 1st Nicole Brenner, Guelph
2nd Brenna Charlton, Arthur
4th Cassidy Wagler, Wilmot

Ages 15 to 18

- 1st Shelby Wagler, Wilmot
2nd Natacha Walsh, Wilmot
3rd Pia Hofmann, Wilmot

Class 6 - No Entries

Class 7 “Favourite House Plant”

Ages 6 to 8

- 1st Danica Zehr, Wilmot

2nd Lizzy Zinger, Guelph

3rd Johnny Zinger, Guelph

4th Lauren Gracey, St. Marys

5th Niamh Brenner, St. Marys

HM Kade Kroft, St. Marys

Ages 9 to 11

1st Sarah Kinch, Wilmot

2nd Jillian Unich, St. Marys

3rd Jacob Boyd, St. Marys

4th Emily Payne, St. Marys

5th Avery Aarts, St. Marys

HM Alex Var, St. Marys

Ages 12 to 14

1st Nicole Brenner, Guelph

2nd Joshua Bergel, Wilmot

3rd Cassidy Wagler, Wilmot

Ages 15 to 16

1st Shelby Wagler, Wilmot

Classes 6 & 7

Sponsored by Anna Peterson,
Past District 10 Director

Harry Wyma Fine Arts Award

No Entries

Don Matthew’s Award

1st Chantal Mueller, Wilmot

2nd Connor Johnson-Martin,
Gloucester

3rd Shelby Wagler, Wilmot

Maisie Bray Award

1st Wilmot

2nd Arthur

Ruby Bryan Award

1st Grafton

Frances Lemke Award

North Bay

Nothers Award -No Entries

Ruby Lobban Award

1st Wilmot

2nd Grafton

3rd Guelph Township

Due to the transition of Youth Chairs and changing from a Youth Chair to both Youth Chair and Youth Competitions Chair, there may be errors. Please let me know – Anna Peterson – agp3@quadro.net 519-284-0179



On a beautiful fall day at the Central Experimental Farm in Ottawa, on the front lawn of Agriculture Canada's Eastern Cereal and Oilseed Research Centre (ECORC), **District 2's** bur oak was planted to commemorate Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee.



District 4's QE II Diamond Jubilee bur oak was planted by the Bobcaygeon Hort Society, with OHA President John Sellers and District 4 Director Rose Odell in attendance.



District 6 planted its bur oak at the Royal Botanical Gardens.

OHA Celebrates the...



District 7 planted its bur oak at the Moorefield Terrace Seniors' Home in the village of Moorefield. The Maryborough Society was the lucky society to have this honour.



On National Tree Day, Wed., Sept. 26th, 2012, **District 5** celebrated the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II by commemorating a Burr Oak tree in the Aurora Community Arboretum. Pictured is Director Nancy Serrick.



The **District 9** bur oak tree was planted in the Doan's Cemetery in Port Colborne which is a designated heritage site. The ceremony was followed with a small reception that featured 'Queen Elizabeth Cake' with 'Empire Cookies'. The tea was Red Rose. 'Only in Canada they say...pity!'



On September 26th, members of the Bruce Station Horticultural Society, along with **District 13** Director Suzanne Hanna, conducted the official sod turning for their commemorative bur oak.



District 14 members planted their bur oak on the grounds of the Thunder Bay Community Auditorium.



District 16's bur oak planting took place with District Director Judith Rogers and OHA Past President Carol Dunk in attendance.



Parkhill Area Horticultural Society, **District 10:** A new oak tree added in Parkhill's Coronation Park in honour of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. This park was home to an oak that grew from a 1937 Royal acorn and in 2011 was carved with a tribute to Will and Kate's wedding!



The Wilmot Horticultural Society planted a bur oak at the Wilmot Recreation Complex. The society was selected to receive the tree by OHA **District 19.** An engraved plaque, also presented to the organization, identifies the tree and the occasion. It is attached to a rock supplied by WHS vice president Glenn Zehr and past president Ron Zehr.



District 8 planted its oak in the town of Goderich.



District 17 planted its bur oak on Sept. 26th. City staff, members of the Oshawa Garden Club, one of the city councillors, and the Mayor attended the planting at 'Brick by Brick Park', part of the Oshawa Valley Botanical Garden.



District 18's bur oak tree was dedicated at Tower Hill Garden on Sept 29th as part of the 'Doors Open' Parry Sound event. MPP Norm Miller and Mayor Jamie McGarvey did the honours. Madeline Hobson spoke on behalf of the OHA. Several Parry Sound Horticultural Society members were also present at the event, during which this contribution to the Tower Hill Heritage Garden was gratefully acknowledged.



District 1 Director Pat Stachon and close to thirty Cornwall Horticultural Society members, as well as some facility staff, gathered on the front lawn of Cornwall's Nav Centre to plant a bur oak tree on National Tree Day to commemorate the 60 years of Queen Elizabeth's reign.



Flying to the 2013 Convention in Thunder Bay?

WestJet has given OHA delegates to the 2013 convention a special discount on the regular price for a trip from Toronto to Thunder Bay. See the discount information and conditions below. This discount is handy but better still would be to watch for airline seat sales. The prices are sometimes very low. Here are the WestJet offer and conditions for those who will take advantage of the special discount:

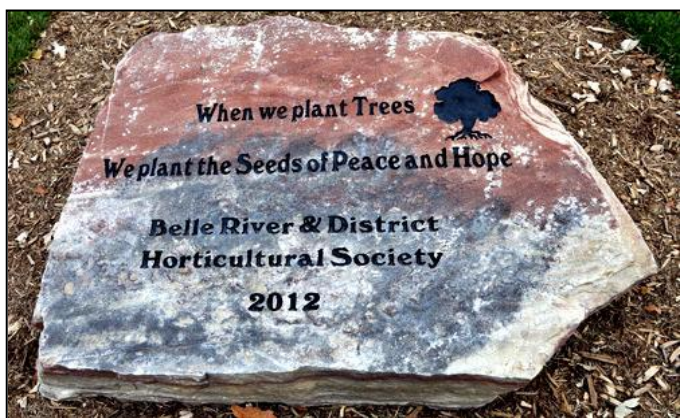
'We are pleased to confirm convention code CC7590 for the upcoming OHA Annual Convention being held from July 17 – 21, 2013. We are pleased to offer a 10% discount off our best available fare at the time of the booking (excluding seat sales and web fares). The discount is valid for WestJet flights into and out of Thunder Bay, Ontario. To book reservations using this convention discount code, contact the WestJet Groups Department at 1-888-493-7853. Between 0700-1730 (MST) Monday-Friday. The convention code CC7590 must be quoted at the time of booking. The discounted rates are available for travel up to 3 days prior and 3 days after your event. For travel outside of these dates, we will offer the best available fare at the time of booking. Please contact us at 1-888-493-7853 with any questions you may have and thank you for choosing WestJet to be part of your event.'

WestJet Airlines'

One More Oak!



On September 26, **District 11** Director Jenn Plaus made the trip to Belle River with a beautiful bur oak. The group planted it in Lakeside Park in view of Lake St Clair with the trees that are planted once a year in memory of loved ones. The sentiment on the stone pictured below was so appropriate for the occasion. The entire Belle River and District Horticultural Society executive turned out for the celebration.



District 18 News

After several major concerns in the past few years, the Powassan Horticultural Society installed their new Executive in October. Two new members, Melanie Alkins and Niel Malkin, willingly became the society's co-presidents. Cathy Tester was appointed treasurer and Susan Topham was appointed secretary. This is a very exciting new chapter for Powassan and I wish all of them every success in the future.

This year Argyle Horticultural Society celebrated their 30th anniversary, North Bay Horticultural Society celebrated their 50th anniversary and Bracebridge Horticultural Society celebrated their 80th anniversary. Congratulations to all!

Sandra Hartill, District 18

District 16 Judging School

The twenty students enrolled in District 16's Judging School completed their second session in May. Some of the students are pictured below creating their designs. *Photo by Russ Talbot*



Kirkton Kids



The **Kirkton Fall Fair** ran September 7 - 9. Our Horticultural Society sponsored a Straw Hat Decorating Contest for the children - two age categories: 4 - 8 yrs and 9 - 13 yrs. Although we planned for ten in each we ended up with 21 total (5 older and 16 younger participants). Cash prizes were awarded in each age category and all participants kept their created hats. From instruction to completion, the time allowed was 30 minutes. The Directors supplied all materials and a committee of Directors and some parents assisted the participants with materials and tools when needed. Children and adults reported a great event and lots of fun.

Doris Richardson, Secretary

District 11 Judging School Graduates



Back l-r: Anna McFee, Harry Wyma (Coordinator/Instructor), Deborah Newfeld, Lorri Wardell, Nancy Larriviere, Linda Clendenning, Sandra Pat-Willis, Walter Copeland, Sandra Rammelaere, Katherine Smyth, Margaret Dudley, Front row: Lina Andrews, Irene Wyma (Instructor Assistant), Kim Verhoeven, Marilyn Smiley, Jennifer Plaus (Southwestern District 11 Director).

**Ontario Horticultural Association Judging School Graduates
Southwestern District 11, August 2012**

Photo by Jeff Brown, Ridgeway Independent Newspaper.
Reprinted with permission.

A Busy Year for Longlac!

Our society had a float in the Summerfest parade, featuring many beautiful baskets and containers, which we 'borrow' from the neighbourhood. Several members scan and search all the yards. If a container is chosen, a small note is left behind to assure the gardener that the plant will be in the contest, and will certainly be returned after the weekend. We have prizes for the top three planters. All who partake in this little venture are very thrilled with the outcome.

Longlac also hosted the District 14 AGM on May 4 & 5. Fifty delegates from Atikokan, Thunder Bay, Geraldton, and Longlac were entertained with great music, delicious food, interesting workshops, and excellent camaraderie. All delegates received a hand painted wooden butterfly or dragonfly for their name tags. They thoroughly enjoyed the festivities, and most delegates returned home with wonderful prizes.

In the month of June, in the midst of fly and bug season, six gardens were planted around town. Annuals were placed at the Post Office, Rexall Place, Senior's Building, Tourist Info Centre, St. John's in the Wilderness Church, and the Historical building. Monies are sent to the other two churches to help them beautify their grounds. In November, we hosted a craft sale, where we raffled off many decorative baskets of donated items. We are very pleased with our year so far, with a total of 51 very supportive members. Pictured from left to right on the float are Anita Quirion, Lucille Saindon, Meghan Finlayson, Carol Poirier, Yolande Champagne, and Walt Hoffman.



**Carol Poirier,
Longlac Horticultural Society**



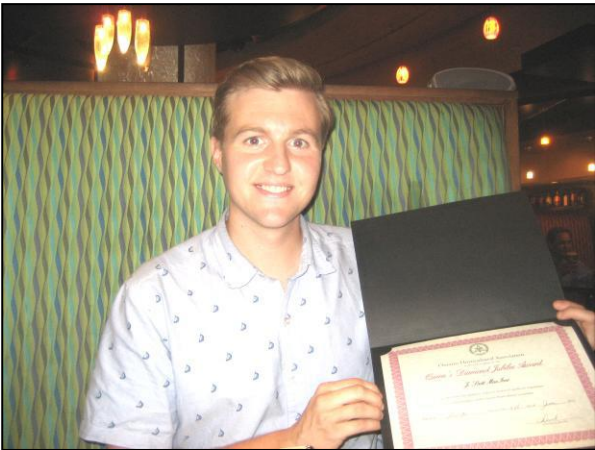
PlantWatch began in 1987 as the Alberta Wildflower Survey, becoming a national programme in 1995, based at the University of Alberta. Because of its success, Environment Canada and *Nature Canada* now partner with Master Gardeners, Vineland Research, Landscape Ontario, University of Ottawa, and Coordinators in each province and territory.

Participating in this exciting programme, we learn much about Canada's botanical diversity, while helping scientists track the effects of global warming and climate change. The project's selected plant species bloom every spring, largely in response to rising temperatures. However, some species flower almost a month earlier than a century ago!

Scientists believe climate change affects bloom times. They predict the greatest increases in temperature will be in Western and Northern Canada, while some parts of Eastern Canada may actually be cooling. Across Canada, collected **PlantWatch** information is creating an incredible data pool, recording local, regional, and national bloom times, enabling us to better understand our ecosystems; tracking changes that affect our climate and environment; learning *why* our natural environment is changing. *Imagine being part of that!*

Please join us. You **can** make a difference, one bloom, one volunteer at a time.

Cauleen Viscoff, Co-ordinator for Ontario PlantWatch
plantwatchontario@gmail.com
<http://www.naturewatch.ca/english/plantwatch/>



Scott MacIvor, a PhD candidate in the Biology department at York University, was one of the recent recipients of the **OHA's Queen's Diamond Jubilee Award**. The OHA is pleased to acknowledge Scott's achievements and to support his future studies. Scott is investigating how landscape and urban complexity limits diversity and foraging of wild bees in cities. His research interests are centered on how biodiversity-ecosystems service relationships of novel and constructed habitats, such as green roofs and gardens, and reconciliation ecology in architectural and landscape design.

The OHA Membership Growth Trophy

At the OHA Convention in Niagara last summer, District 2 Director Kathryn Lindsay presented District 9 Director Susan Lusted with the OHA Membership Growth Trophy. District 9 earned the trophy by having the greatest increase in membership in 2011.



Bokashi (ぼかし) Composting

When I returned from the OHA convention in Niagara-on-the-Lake, my wife Christine said “You’d better deal with the green bin, it’s foul.” While we compost most vegetable scraps for use in our garden, we use our city of Ottawa supplied green bin to collect organic items like meat and eggs that are more difficult to compost so that they can be composted at a central facility.

I had been away for almost a week and the temperature in the garage was hot. The smell of the green bin almost choked me. As chance would have it, a few weeks earlier, out of curiosity, I had purchased two bags of **Compostgenie Seeds**. The bag said the seeds would “Eliminate Compost Odours with Natural Probiotics”. I opened the bag and sprinkled what looked like sawdust upon the rotten mess in my green bin. I checked back a couple of days later and the bad smell was gone!

The Compostgenie Seeds contain bacteria that pickle organic matter anaerobically. The seeds are a mixture of bran, molasses, and seaweed which host the bacteria that ferment the organic matter. This technique comes from Japan and is called **Bokashi**. With Bokashi composting, organic matter is placed in layers in an airtight container and a handful of bacteria starter seeds are sprinkled on top of each layer. After a period of a couple of weeks, the fermented compost is buried under soil where it completes its breakdown.

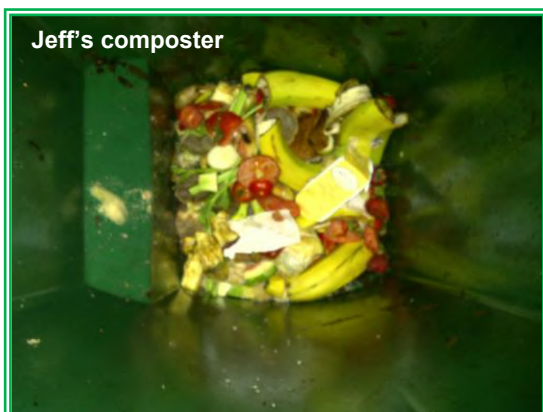
The benefits of Bokashi composting using a starter like Compostgenie Seed include accelerating the composting process and mitigating odours. Once you have a bacteria starter, you can make more at home using a recipe.

Compostgenie is a company based in Vankleek Hill in eastern Ontario and the Compostgenie Seeds are available at stores across the province. Please see their web site for more details- <http://compostgenie.com>

Two web articles about the process:

<http://cityfarmer.org/bokashi.html>

<http://greencalgary.org/resources/bokashi-composting/>



Jeff Blackadar
OHA 2nd Vice President

Coronation Oaks



Oaks were planted in 1937 to commemorate the Coronation of King George VI on May 12 of that year. Saplings and two acorns from oaks in Windsor Great Park were sent to cities around the Commonwealth for this purpose. Thus the name Coronation Oaks.

A recent article about a Coronation Oak in the Summer Trillium talked about one such tree that lived in Strathroy until 2010. This prompted me to report on the Coronation Oak at the courthouse in Stratford, Ontario that is alive and well! The Stratford Oak now has a trunk about 15 feet around before it branches at about 6 feet. The branches reach out about 40 feet. The leaves on this oak are medium size with curved lobes. I assume it is a white oak because of the form of the leaves.

It has always been said in Stratford that one could not generate another oak from the acorns. But the finding of small oaks with similar leaves in a garden about 100 feet away and the opinions of two separate foresters suggested to me that the acorns would grow. Perhaps in early years there was a failure to pollinate because there were no other oaks close by.

Over several years I have attempted to test the fertility by planting acorns. In each case until this year squirrels managed to take the acorns. This year I selected acorns that were undamaged and heavy enough to sink in a pail of water, and planted them just under the surface of the soil in containers in the house and outside under wire. I am delighted to report that acorns have started to root both inside and out. I have stored a number of acorns in a moist container in my fridge. If anyone would like some acorns or a rooted acorn if any are left feel free to contact me.

Harry Brightwell
Stratford H.S.
harryb@cyg.net

Bracebridge Society's 80th Anniversary

As one of the oldest horticultural societies in District 18, we were pleased and proud in May of 2012 to celebrate 80 years of horticulture in Bracebridge. At our general meeting on May 22nd we recognized some of our long-standing members, dressed in hats and gloves, sipping our tea from china cups, enjoying a specially decorated cake, and singing Happy Birthday. It was a party! We even addressed each other formally as they did in the 1930s, eg – Mrs. John Smith. That day we honoured all who have gone before us. Today we continue to be a 'growing' society in our community and salute the future of horticulture in Bracebridge.



Back row: President Thelma Marrin Front row: Life members Edna Gerritsen, Helen Parrett, and Laura Hawthorn

Thelma Marrin, President

Brussels Society's 'Communitree' Project



The Huron Arts & Heritage Network presented Brussels & District Horticultural Society (District 8) with \$100 for winning the online voting for the favourite Communitree. '**Communitrees**' is a county wide project in which community groups decorate a tree of their choice on any theme they choose. Pictures are submitted to the Communitrees website and the favourite is chosen by online voting.

This project was a fun way to promote our Society and village as the tree was decorated with hand painted gardening tools and artifacts which members collected, painted, and then placed on the tall spruce tree in the parkette on Brussels' main street. We are planning to be involved in this initiative again next year as our tree attracted a lot of attention for the Horticultural Society. Learn more about this project at www.communitrees.ca.

**Communitrees Project Committee,
Brussels & District Horticultural Society**

Schomberg Horticultural Society - How Did They Do It?

This year our membership increased by 21 new members...How did we do it? We were asked by our local paper to write gardening articles for its quarterly, Tapestry Magazine. It was a challenge but we were up for it. As President I did the first article "Gardening- A Passion or an Obsession?" My first paragraph was: 'Gardening can take many forms from a few herbs on the windowsill, a favorite houseplant, or a hanging basket and planter on the balcony, to a full size garden'. We were given two 24x32 cm full colour pages for each article. What a great opportunity for our society! For the next article I asked two of our members who had expertise in growing clematis and delphiniums to write how they grew them, helpful hints, etc. I wrote an article on roses to go with this edition, again using full colour photos from our gardens. The third article was from two other members on dividing perennials and how to plant bulbs. They also allowed us to promote our speakers list, plant sale, garden tour, and any other info that we wanted to let people know about. Our Program Director also wrote articles in our two local papers about our speakers - a short bio, which was far more interesting than just announcing the meeting. These magazines were delivered free to hundreds of mail boxes all around our community. We have a new subdivision and this was a great way for us to introduce ourselves and invite people to our meetings without any cost. Good luck to everyone on next year's membership drive. We will be putting our thinking caps on. What shall we try next?

Linda Jessop, President, Schomberg Horticultural Society

Demonstrating the Power of Horticulture – A Therapeutic Tool

International Plowing Match - Roseville, Ontario



Imagine being an avid gardener for part or all of your life and then ending up in a long-term care facility where you are not able to garden anymore. It happens quite frequently.

So many people don't understand the concept of Horticultural Therapy (HT), including health care professionals. Most people 'get' music therapy or pet therapy, but mention HT and they will stare blankly at you. While trying to explain the 'therapy' aspect, well, they just freeze! Why? Many people fear gardening. They think gardeners belong to some sort of mysterious cult. So then, how can horticulture be a viable therapeutic tool?

Imagine a tiny little girl with severe cerebral palsy, bent and motionless in a wheelchair – hold a beautiful pansy in front of her eyes and her eyelids flutter rapidly. Perhaps it's a woman in the last stages of Alzheimer's, engaged in the moment - the actual moment - as she plants an African violet. Maybe it's a prison inmate proudly showing off his prize tomatoes. All these are miracles that can be achieved through Horticultural Therapy, a *powerful* therapeutic modality. In particular, it is surprisingly effective with those populations who do not respond to any other therapy. HT transcends all diseases, physical and mental, in a non-threatening fashion.

The International Plowing Match (IPM) was a wonderful venue to demonstrate the *power* of horticulture. IPM took place on September 18 to 22, 2012 in Roseville, Ontario, where a Horticultural Therapy (HT) Display booth was featured in the Horticulture Tent. Many people were engaged by the HT Display. Numerous Canadian Horticultural Therapy Association (CHTA) brochures, along with CHTA's fact sheets were distributed. At my invitation, Karin Vermeer, former co-owner of Vermeer's Garden Centre & Flower Shop in Welland, Ontario, gave a presentation on HT on September 21st. A man in The Lavender Farm booth had told me he had questions about HT, but after Karin's presentation he let me know his questions had been answered. I handed out CHTA brochures to all the various presenters in the Horticulture Tent. To my surprise and dismay, none were aware of CHTA or HT, with the exceptions of Karin Vermeer and Mark Cullen, both members of CHTA, in Ontario.

Engaging the senses was achieved through wafts of Perpetual Pesto Basil and Prince of Orange Scented Pelargonium, savoury garlic chives, silky seed heads of ornamental grasses, colourful examples of programs; these experiences were all experienced by visitors, demonstrating the complex *power* of sensory stimulation for all populations.

Mitchell Hewson, the founder of CHTA in Canada, kindly provided me with an article about Homewood Health Centre in Guelph, Ontario, which I displayed at the Match. Meadow Acres Garden Centre, Petersburg, Ontario not only granted space for the HT Display booth at IPM, but also loaned me various elements and annual plant material to enhance the display. I was able to photocopy CHTA fact sheets and other handouts, including my "recipe" for an Ephemeral Spring Wreath, courtesy of The Village of Winston Park long-term care facility, Kitchener, Ontario. Since IPM provided a subsidy for attendance by school groups and with multiple schools taking advantage of this offer, I provided a handout specifically aimed at children. Much thanks to Cathy Desmond, CHTA's Newsletter Editor, for providing some beautiful contributions to the Horticultural Therapy Display booth, *and to all who lent a hand!* This was truly a collaborative effort in promoting Horticultural Therapy at the IPM, to the delight of all visitors!

Julie Krahule, Member at Large member4@chta.ca
Canadian Horticultural Therapy Association



The Oakville Horticultural Society has joined Facebook!
Be sure to 'Like' us and join the discussion. You can read up-to-the minute seasonal garden-related information posted by our members and share your photos and thoughts.
<http://www.facebook.com/OakvilleHorticulturalSociety>



Ontario Horticultural Association Memorial Book

Donor's Name and Address: _____

_____ Postal Code: _____

Name of Deceased: _____ Year Deceased: _____

If you wish a family member to be notified, please complete the following:

Circle title: Mr. Mrs. Ms. Miss Other:

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Postal Code: _____

Relationship to Deceased Person: _____

Mail with your monetary donation (minimum donation is \$25/name) to: Ontario Horticultural Association, c/o Marilyn Cox, 86 Church Street, R.R. #2, Keswick, ON L4P 3E9. For information, call 905-476-3000.

NOTE: If you wish to have the deceased person's name acknowledged at the convention, please notify the OHA Secretary (secretary@gardenontario.org). Funds from donations to the OHA Memorial Book Special Fund are available for memorial tree grants.

Nov. 2012

NOTE: No money needs to be sent if you wish to have a deceased person's name acknowledged at the convention. However, you must notify the OHA Secretary (secretary@gardenontario.org) not the Memorial Book Custodian. With your request, please include your district's number, if applicable. An electronic version of this form is available on the OHA website. www.gardenontario.org

A deceased person's name will be entered in the OHA Memorial Book if the Memorial Book Custodian (Marilyn Cox, 86 Church Street, R.R. #2, Keswick, ON L4P3E9) receives a Memorial Book Form (Nov 2012) and a monetary donation (minimum donation is \$25/name). For more information, call 905-476-3000.



ONTARIO HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION BUDGET 2013

REVENUES		
Membership Fees		88,150
Insurance	liability	19,500
	directors & officers	31,000
Sale of OHA Supplies		5,025
Web space sales		300
Newsletter		150
Donations/Supporters		4,800
Advertising		250
Special Projects	trsf fr restricted funds	5,000
Memorial Tree Plantings	trsf fr restricted funds	5,000
Funds transferred from investments		32,145
Miscellaneous Fundraising		6,100
NET OPERATING REVENUE		197,420
EXPENSES		
Equipment Acquisition	computers, software,	1,000
Meeting Expenses	Board Meeting Expenses	65,000
	Committee Expenses - i.e. social marketing, youth, constitution/by-laws, conservation, education, judge's registry, long range planning, funding,	
Other Meeting Expenses		8,695
District Expenses		15,600
Audit/Legal Fees		5,775
Bank Charges		200
Insurance	Liability	20,000
	Dir & Officer's Insurance	32,000
Mailing Costs/Print & Stationery		2,200
Secretary	Honorarium & Office Expenses	5,300
Treasurer	Honorarium & Office Expenses	8,700
Awards Co-ordinator	Honorarium & Office Expenses	1,500
Awards & Prizes		1,700
Special Projects Grants	grants to societies	5,000
Memorial Tree Grants	tree grants to societies	5,150
Youth Club Grants		500
Community Garden Grants	2 x 500 ea year	1,000
Scholarships/Bursaries/Awards		1,000
OHA Supplies	Supplies purchased	3,000
	Admin-Postage etc	1,000
Newsletter/Youth Newsletter		2,300
Annual Report/Yearbook		2,500
Education/Promotion/Publicity	includes improvements to website	4,200
Exhibitions, incl.storage		3,500
Fund Raising Expenses		600
NET OPERATING EXPENSES		197,420
NET INCOME (LOSS)		0



Calling all exhibitors and volunteers! Relieve the winter blahs, meet fellow gardening enthusiasts. Show off your green thumbs and creativity at the OHA's 21st Annual **Floral Design & Plant Competition** at the Successful Gardening show, February 21-24, 2013, International Centre, Hall 3, 6900 Airport Road, Mississauga.

Check out the show schedule at <http://home-show.net/successfulgardening/swgoha.htm> or <http://www.gardenontario.org>. New this year are novice classes in the design and the cactus & succulent sections. Also new this year are shortened volunteer shifts. Please contact Show Chair Heinke Thiessen at 905-820-4751 or heinkesg@gmail.com for more information or to volunteer.

Canadian Master Gardener Conference

at the Deerhurst Resort
in Huntsville, Ontario

Friday, April 5th to Sunday, April 7th, 2013



Featuring
'Evening Chats'
with Paul Zommit
and Martin Galloway.

3 Keynote Speakers
16 Breakout Sessions
All meals included in
registration fee!

Come
Grow
With Us

All are welcome at this horticultural event of the decade!

Don't miss the spectacular speakers, breakout sessions,
garden loot, and a chance to talk the garden talk.

Visit our website, www.mgointernationalconference.ca for details.

Early-Bird Gardeners Grow Better Nests!



2 Shows for 1 Ticket

- Gardener's Dream Marketplace
- Paradise Landscape Gardens

- Pool, Spa & Patio Pavilion
- Free Celebrity Expert Seminars
- Planting Party!
- Wheel of Gardening Celebrity Game Show



THURS - SAT 10am - 8pm SUN 10am - 6pm



Enjoy Canada's Largest Floral Design & Plant Competition



Celebrity Speakers: Frankie Ferragine, Albert Graves, Marjorie Mason, Arthur Skolnik, Denis Flanagan

BUY ONLINE & SAVE internationalhomeandgardenshow.ca

GARDENS
CENTRAL

pick Ontario

Get Growing
Early!



The Riverwood
Conservancy

SAVE \$5 OFF*



2 for 1 Admission
After 5pm
Free Parking

*Per couple. (\$2.50 per Adult Admission). Not valid with any other offer.

TRAIL - 11-12

fletcher

COACH TOURS

Specializing in group and individual travel to spectacular gardens and garden related exhibits. With many itineraries on file we are able to help you put together that wonderful day trip for your society. Give us a call and let's work together, to make your outing memorable.

Spring is coming! Spring is coming and so are the British!

The theme for the 2013 Philadelphia Flower show is "Brilliant". If you haven't seen this show, come on along. It is a truly amazing display of all that is the garden.



"Blooming Philadelphia"

March 3-6, 2013

A 4 day/3 night tour including guided tour of Philadelphia, accommodation at the Hilton across the street from show! Day Pass to the Philadelphia Flower Show, 2nd largest flower show in the world. Second only to Chelsea in England, Visits to Longwood Gardens, Buffalo Erie Botanical Gardens and loads more.

\$685.00 pp Dble

Travel insurance available upon request and is recommended. (Valid Passport required for US trips)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT **"Elaine"**

289 232-4436 or 1 855 232-4436 - email: info@fletchercoachtours.com



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