

Keeping Ontario Beautiful

Trillium

Ontario Horticultural Association

Winter 2018/2019



Included in this issue:

**2019 Convention Sneak-Peek
60th And 100th Anniversaries
OHA Awards & Grants Information
Web Site Update
New Vision Draft
Society News**

Editor: Malcolm Geast

editor@gardenontario.org

416-429-4719

President's Message

Vision: *To inspire, grow, share gardening*

Mission: *The OHA is a volunteer charitable organization that provides leadership, education and promotes interest in gardening and related environmental issues with horticultural societies and like-minded organizations*

Goal: *Provide recognition, awards and grants throughout Ontario*

Goal: *Develop and support programs in the areas of youth, gardening, environment, and conservation*

Goal: *Provide support and resources to horticultural societies*

Goal: *To encourage the development of new horticultural societies*

Above is the draft of our new vision, mission and goals for our Ontario Horticultural Association. I hope you have had a chance to voice your opinions of what we as a board have come up with to bring us into the twenty-first century. Our strategic planning committee have come up with a survey for all societies to fill out and send back. We need some specifics, such as percentage of women to men, age groups, youth involvement, etc., from our societies, to help us go in the right direction. The survey will be made available in early 2019. When you get it, please fill out the survey as best as you can, to help us. It will only take a few minutes at your meetings to do this.

I hope you have all had your annual general meetings with your directors and/or assistant directors in attendance to proclaim your new or existing executives. I welcome all of you to your positions and I hope you have a wonderful productive year. If you are preparing for new projects in your communities, please look over all the awards that are given out by the Ontario Horticultural Association in the yellow awards booklet. We are here to help you get that project started.

The new Ontario Judging Standards booklet will be available in the next couple of months. Final proofing of the printed copy will take place in January.

The updated OHA society report forms are now online on the www.gardenontario.org website. The society report form and the volunteer hours report have to be done by February 1, 2019 as well as the OMAFRA forms, which are also online. Please make sure that the secretary and treasurer are filling out the forms. These are very important 1) for the societies to receive their OMAFRA grant, 2) for the directors of the OHA to know what is going on in the societies in their district and to provide help if needed.

April Davies has been working hard to get everything up to date for our new website. Ann Urban and Co. who were doing the deep-down ground work quit on us and have put us behind in getting the website up and running. I implore you to have patience. Building a website that is user friendly is not an easy task and "things happen" to delay us.

I hope we have a better spring than we did fall as down here in the "Banana Belt" it was wet and cold, and I finally planted my bulbs on December 1. Have a good winter either here in the snow and cold or in the sunny south, whichever you prefer.

Katharine Smyth

President of the Ontario Horticultural Association



Please note that this newsletter is available with higher quality photos at
http://www.gardenontario.org/docs/trillium_news_2019-01_winter.pdf

Convention 2019

July 19-21

District 11

Windsor



Convention 2019, our 113th, is shaping up nicely. We will be staying at the Best Western Riverfront, where every room faces the Detroit River and looks across to Detroit, Michigan of the United States. We will park our cars in the garage behind the hotel and leave them there for the weekend. Breakfast is complimentary of the hotel. Our plenary sessions, competitions, seminars, lunch and dinners will be held at the St. Clair College for the Arts, which is a two-minute walk from the hotel in an enclosed walkway.

Bus trips are planned and will be posted on the website along with the details.

Plenary speakers will speak on climate change and the Great Lakes climate, growing for the world, truly green greenhouses, and young people making and selling their products.

Get your flapper dresses, beads, fascinators and Gatsby shoes and zoot suits ready for Friday night, when we will celebrate the Roaring Twenties-Thirties and Prohibition Days. You never know, maybe "Al Capone" will come and visit us.

The sky will be blue, the weather warm and toasty, and the vineyards, Point Pelee National Park, and Windsor will be ready for you to enjoy.

July 19-21, 2019 are the dates to mark on your calendar.

Make this weekend part of your vacation when you
"Come to the Deep South Where Everything Grows"

GardenOntario Web Site Update

April Davies, OHA Webmaster

Tis the season to be jolly, dream of dancing sugar plums, and share good times with family and friends.

That said, the new website is almost ready to go! Finishing touches are being added and the final stage of testing is ready to begin for Society webmasters so that they can test the website and enter their new Society pages and events. If you are a webmaster and haven't yet added your email address and phone number to the online questionnaire, please email me to get on the list right away.

The existing gardenshed.php is still the place to go to log in and report your Society's 2018 annual activities and volunteer hours. If you need a password or a copy of your existing log in, please email webmaster@gardenontario.org for help.

On behalf of all of us on the Web Committee, we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from our family to yours!

Cheers,

😊 April

webmaster@gardenontario.org

2019 - Let's Get Started....

HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE! *I am really looking forward to 2019!*

First, I want to thank you all so very much for all of the kind words and support that I have received in my new position. I really appreciate it.

Second, I can honestly say that I really enjoyed the opportunity to meet so many of you in 2018, but I hope to meet even more of you this year!

Third, my most important goal this year is to persuade even more of you to follow us on Facebook so that we keep you updated on all of the exciting things that are happening in our talented and vibrant community. We all know that pictures say more than words. We will be putting this to the test by sharing weekly gardening and related articles, how-to videos, live broadcasts, and much much more, so as to allow us all to be connected and to feel like a part of a much larger team. We will be working together with the shared objective of "Keeping Ontario Beautiful"!

I will need lots of help, so please send me your ideas and suggestions for the kinds of things that you would like to see, as well as anything that you have coming up in your societies that you would like the rest of our gardening community to know about (anniversaries, parades, gardens you are developing or maintaining, etc.), speakers you recommend, photos, etc. at joannerachfalowski@gmail.com.

Lastly, I would like to thank you all for your passion, hard work and dedication. Together, we are helping the OHA to make a real difference in so many communities across Ontario! You are AMAZING!

Looking forward to a great New Year,

Joanne Rachfalowski
2nd Vice-President



Ennismore Horticultural Society Year-ENDER

Gail Murray Smith, Secretary, Ennismore Horticultural Society

Ennismore Garden Club held its AGM this November 15th. Every year, the Directors host a turkey dinner for all the members to enjoy. The Directors decorate the arena hall for the supper. The Society supplies all the turkey and trimmings, while the members bring a side dish. Let me tell you the meal was delicious.

This makes our AGM an event NOT to avoid. After dinner, our President Helen Young conducted a short AGM. To help things run smoothly, we make a booklet for each member, with reports from each committee and event, a financial report, and the President's message. Pam Chellew, our District 4 Assistant Director, brought greetings and swore in the Board and Directors.

The highlight of the night was our guest speaker, Yutta Putzer, who is pictured here, and who we are thrilled to have as one of our members. Yutta gave us a wonderful and hilarious demonstration to craft this fabulous all-natural Christmas tree, which one lucky member won in a draw.

Twenty-two raffle prizes finished off the evening.

We try to make the AGM fun, and this year was no exception. A great finish for a successful year and a lovely way to start the holiday season.



Vickie Wiemer Memorial Tree Dedication

On September 29, 2018, in memory of OHA Past President Vickie Wiemer, a tree dedication ceremony took place at the Oak Grove at the Guelph Arboretum. A long-time member of the North Bay Horticultural Society and a past president of the Society, Vickie had served as the District 18 Director prior to becoming the OHA President in 2011.

In attendance were members of Vickie's family, Maureen Ranger (North Bay Horticultural Society Co-President), and several OHA board members and Past Presidents.



*Left to right: Shelley MacKenzie, Jack Ranger, Maureen Ranger, Katharine Smyth, Gary Brenner, Suzanne Hanna, Kelly Taylor, Rose Brown, Doug Wiemer, Carol Dunk, Alec Brown, Jim Mabee, Jessica Wiemer, Anita Romanoff, Rose Odell
Seated: Rupert Wiemer*

Kathleen Petrie

We are saddened to inform you that Kathleen Petrie, OHA Past President, passed away December 3, 2018 at the age of 87. Kathleen was born in Scotland just a few weeks (and miles) away from her future husband David. In 1960 she followed David to Canada, where they married and began a family in Etobicoke. Several years later, they settled in Blackstock where they owned and operated Analda Nurseries for 34 years. Kathleen returned to school while her boys were young and completed her degree in Horticulture from the University of Guelph.

Kathleen was a Charter Member of Pine Ridge Garden Club and was President from 1987 to 1990. She was also a Master Gardener, a member of several other horticultural societies in Ontario and abroad, and served on the Blackstock Fair Board. As well, with her interest in spinning, weaving and needlepoint, Kathleen was a member of Scugog Shores Spinners and Weavers Guild.

Kathleen was District 17 Director from 1993 to 1998, moving up to become OHA President in 2000.



A Horticultural Christmas in Bracebridge

Nancy Thompson, Bracebridge Horticultural Society

It was a miserable, wet, rainy, cold day on December 2nd when seven Bracebridge Horticultural Society members maneuvered a float in the Bracebridge Santa Claus Parade.

The theme was *A Disney Christmas*, so we choose Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs. This was Walt Disney's first full-length picture which came out in 1937. Our Society started in 1932 – close enough, we thought.



Clown suits were made by members for use now and for *Clowning Around in the Garden* over the summer. (We are hoping to lighten our image.)

Snow White's head and costume were loaned by the Bracebridge & Muskoka Lakes Secondary School Drama Department.

Candy was donated to give out; music was played; and no one caught pneumonia.

Total cost: 82+ volunteer hours and \$0.00.



To get the best results, you must talk to your vegetables.

Prince Charles, HRH Prince of Wales

What do Trumpeter Swans and Birdhouses Have in Common?

Nancy Thompson, Bracebridge Horticultural Society

The OHA District 18 Fall meeting and workshop that was hosted by Gravenhurst Horticultural Society on September 29th featured a presentation about trumpeter swans and wren house building.

Representatives of Horticultural Societies from Argyle, Baysville, Bracebridge, Callander, Gravenhurst, Huntsville, Magnetawan, North Bay, Parry Sound, Powassan and Sprucedale attended.

Susan Best, a volunteer with Ontario Trumpeter Swan Restoration, gave an interesting and informative presentation. Trumpeter swans are quite docile when not protecting their young and may even be fed whole corn from your hand. Trumpeters are the largest swan in the world with a wing span of up to eight feet. The last recorded trumpeter swan, in Ontario, was shot in 1886 at Long Point.

Species at Risk legislation was introduced in 1979. By 1982, Harry Lumsden, a Ministry of Natural Resource biologist, began a captive breeding program that has led to the reintroduction of these magnificent birds. With the help of eggs imported from Alaska and Wisconsin and 23 cooperative farmers, one as far north as Callander, there are now some 1,000 trumpeters in Ontario. Many of these lovely creatures over winter near Washago. More information can be found at www.wyemmarsh.com.

By afternoon, the hall resounded with the sound of hammering and happy chatter as pre-cut birdhouses were assembled under the deft instructions of Gravenhurst Horticultural Society members Pat Wright and Tina Stone.

A little business, a few jokes, a good speaker and construction of a wren house – what more could we want? Thank you, Gravenhurst HS, for all your hard work.

Right: Gravenhurst member Janette Wilcox, with her finished bird house



Below: Drew Hogg, from Magnetawan provides assistance



Above: Gravenhurst President Pat Wright, almost finished with construction

Right: Tina Stone (centre) helping Trudi Killin and Sharon Slater with their wren houses



A Busy Year for the Erin Horticultural Society

Dawn Roberts, Secretary, Ennismore Horticultural Society

For the Erin Horticultural Society, 2018 was a busy and rewarding year. The members have enjoyed several different and interesting speakers. Noteworthy are Brenda Sutherland who spoke about "Hellebores", and Mark Garbutt, a professional wildlife photographer, who wowed attendees with a slideshow on plants and animals from his travels to Africa.



Erin Horticultural Society President Jenny Frankland and EHS member Jeff Hall at the Niagara Parks Butterfly Conservatory

Two workshops were held this year and were well-attended and enjoyed by all participants. The first, in May, was to plant a container with fresh herbs. The containers, soil and herbs were supplied. The second workshop was held in December and had a winter/Christmas theme. Weathered boards were supplied, and the idea was to either staple or glue decorations, ribbon, pine cones, etc. to the board or with a stencil provided paint a saying on the board. The third option was to paint a snowman or a Christmas tree onto the board. Everyone had so much fun making their personal creation. A small fee was charged for each workshop to cover the cost of material.

The bus tour this year was to the Niagara Parks Butterfly Conservatory and took place in April. Everyone enjoyed seeing all the many varieties of butterflies and the lush, unusual plants in the conservatory. The day was, unfortunately, rather chilly and rainy. Therefore, the picnic lunch at Queenston Heights was a rather hurried affair. The hope to see some spring flowers were dashed as there was only the odd daffodil in bloom. The trip was topped off with a visit to Mori Garden Centre, near Virgil, which everyone enjoyed.

Instead of holding one or two large flower shows throughout the year it was decided a couple of years ago to try holding four mini-shows in conjunction with a regular meeting. This has turned out very well. It has encouraged more members to participate and has resulted in four excellent shows. Many flower show awards were handed out at the annual Awards Dinner in November.

Chatham Horticultural Society

Chatham Horticultural Society members gathered at Sloan's Nursery & Christmas Trees near Bothwell in mid-November to create festive Christmas wreaths. With the wonderful instruction and guidance from the knowledgeable Sloan's staff, freshly cut pine, cedar, spruce and dogwood branches, natural decor and ribbons were crafted into beautiful and unique decor for our homes. It was a great evening enjoyed by everyone.



A Tree Named Hope

Stephen Hargrave, President, Grimsby Garden Club

This year, we are especially pleased that we partnered with the Town of Grimsby to bring a 20-foot Norway Spruce tree called Hope to grace the grounds of Town Hall. The tree was donated by Michelle Seaborn from her nearby farm.

On November 29, we participated in the first lighting of the Town tree. It is a special Christmas gift that will stand tall and proud for all to see and enjoy.

As the new President of the Grimsby Garden Club, I am encouraging all the volunteers and members to embrace the message of our newest town symbol - Hope - and look toward another productive and successful year of encouraging and nurturing the beauty of our town, Grimsby.

This coming year's Speakers Series will again bring a wealth of information for our members to add to their already substantial knowledge of all things gardening in an entertaining, social setting at the Livingston Activity Centre.

We are planning for the annual plant sale, a perennial favourite. It allows us to offer an abundance of plant varieties to enhance and beautify the gardens of Grimsby. We plan to again participate in this year's Home and Garden and Farmer's Market enabling us to reach out to everyone in town.

In partnership with the Town of Grimsby, we plan to hold the annual Trillium Program which recognizes the outstanding gardens of our town and awards a special thanks to those inveterate gardeners who lovingly care for the gardens that beautify Grimsby. And we have begun preparing for a Garden Tour for 2019, once again highlighting the beauty and excellence of our finest gardens.



Massey Walford 55th Anniversary Flower Show

Sheelagh MacDonald, 1st Vice-President, Massey Walford Horticultural Society

I hope you like this photo from our August 9, 2018 Flower Show at the Massey Legion. It was our 55th Anniversary so the Iris was figured prominently, and the benefits of ladybugs were a big part of our theme. We also held a luncheon, all food made by our members. We served over 65 people.

There were 63 paying entrants to our flower show, which was a record. The weather this year, along with the caterpillar infestation for the second year had us worried, but there were no worries on the day.



*Back row, left to right: Elizabeth Gamble, Klara Kluge, Margaret Clipperton, Fernando Espinosa, Silvana Espinosa (President), Margaret Ann Behm, Eileen Duncan, Vera Peters, Lorna Ferguson, Kirsty McCoy
Front row, left to right: Sanda Faucher, Sheelagh MacDonald, Keiran McCoy, Beth Emiry*

2019 OHA Awards and Grants

Nominations for Annual 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 Award
- Honour Roll
- Youth Project Award

Nominations, with supporting information, should be sent to:

Sharlene Desjardins
OHA Awards Coordinator
P.O. Box 2123
Deep River, Ontario K0J 1P0

The deadline for receipt of nominations is February 28, 2019. The Awards Coordinator will forward the nominations to the Awards Committee for selection of the winning recipients. The OHA Awards Committee is comprised of the President, the 1st Vice President, the 2nd Vice President, the Past President, the North/East Regional Representative, the South/West Regional Representative, the Secretary, the Awards Coordinator, and the Chair of the Past President's Council. Any decision of the Committee will be considered as a decision of the Board of Directors.

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 of the Ontario Horticultural Association may apply for up to \$200 for a special tree planting. Up to 20 tree-planting grants will be awarded in 2019.

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 outlining the species of tree to be purchased, where the tree will be planted, a permission letter from the township and whether the planting commemorates a special event for the Society/Community should be sent to the Ontario Horticultural Association Awards Coordinator:

Sharlene Desjardins
OHA Awards Coordinator
P.O. Box 2123
Deep River, Ontario K0J 1P0

The tree grants will be awarded on a **first come basis** starting January 1, 2019, up to a maximum of 20 awards per year. Any society that receives this funding cannot apply again for three full years. The awarded society has to complete the planting of their tree by the end of that given year. For example: if the grant is awarded in 2019 – the tree must be planted by the end of 2019.

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, hard surface or construction 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 eight 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 full years.

To be considered for a Special Project grant in 2019, an application form and the accompanying information should be completed and mailed to

your District Director who will forward it on to the Awards Coordinator no later than February 28, 2019. Application forms are available on the OHA website at www.gardenontario.org or from your District Director.

The completion form and accompanying documents must be received by the OHA Awards Coordinator no later than December 31 of the next year. For example, a grant awarded in 2019 must have all documentation submitted by December 31, 2020.

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 up to three 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 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 and accessible planters as well as tools, materials and equipment costs. 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 Grant application form and mail it to your District Director who will forward it on to the Awards Coordinator 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 **original** 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 2019 must have all paperwork submitted by December 31, 2020.

If a completion report accompanied by original 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.

Pollinator Project Grant

As part of the ongoing pollinator health initiative, the OHA will provide ten grants of \$200 each to eligible member societies to create habitat in the form of pollinator-friendly gardens or nesting sites on public land.

Eligible expenses include the purchase and installation of perennials and shrubs and/or construction materials and supplies for the creation of nesting sites.

To apply, complete the Pollinator Project Grant application form and mail it to your District Director who will forward it on to the Awards Coordinator no later than February 28 of the current year. If your pollinator project is awarded a grant, payment will follow a completion report including **original** receipts and pictures of the completed project.

The completion form and accompanying documents must be received by the OHA Awards Coordinator no later than December 31 of the next year. For example, a grant awarded in 2019 must have all documentation submitted by December 31, 2020.

Youth Help Program Grant

The Youth Help Program Grant provides Youth Clubs/Groups with financial support. Any active Youth Club/Group, in good standing with the OHA may apply for the grant. The grant may be used for programming, seeds, special events, supplies, etc. for the Youth Club/Group applying for the grant.

To apply for the grant, Youth Clubs/Groups must have submitted their activity report by June 1 of the previous year to the Youth Coordinator.

Grant forms are available on the OHA website at www.gardenontario.org. Any Youth Club/Group receiving a grant cannot apply again the following year.

Also available are applications for Horticultural Service Certificates, Judging/Exhibiting Service Certificates and District Service Plaques. Please consider all the volunteers in your society and community that help to keep your area beautiful and nominate a deserving individual or group.

Welland Horticultural Society Celebrates 100 Years

Lisa De Young, President, Welland Horticultural Society



2018 was the year that the Welland Horticultural Society celebrated 100 years.

A few years ago, like a few other societies in the OHA, the Welland Society was on the verge of disbanding. With grateful thanks and the willingness of Rick Demers and Cécile Letourneau, who stepped up and served for two years as co-presidents, the Society continues on, and membership is climbing. With the Society now working towards a more public face, it wanted to celebrate in style.

At the celebration, which took place on October 20th, the Society welcomed Mayor Frank Campion.

He presented the Society with a plaque, and thanked the members for all the hard work they have done. The city's park department created a city garden to help mark the occasion.

The main speaker of the day was an OHA favourite, Carson Arthur, who opened a lot of minds with his topic of *Adding Value to Your Home*. The cake was cut by the longest-standing member, Cécile Letourneau, who has been with the Society for about 30 years. The hall was decorated by many wonderful volunteers with many gourds that the Society grew specifically for the day. Everyone loved the event.

The Society finished out the year at its AGM doing something the members very much enjoyed: a hands-on workshop of Creating Holiday Swags. The Society is looking forward to the years to come.

Photos courtesy of Frances David



Bobcaygeon: Past, Present & Future

On September 21st, the Bobcaygeon & District Horticultural Society dedicated a sculpture to "Past, Present, and Future Gardeners". The sculpture was designed and assembled by Sandy Cogar (seen here sitting with the dog in her lap), and has been installed at the Bobcaygeon Municipal Service Centre. The dedication was read by Ruth McIsaac, President.



Fort Erie – Looking Back and Looking Forward

Ruth Vold Markle, President, Fort Erie Horticultural Society

This past year saw our Society in a happy place! We partnered with the Town of Fort Erie to plant trees, and were able to complete the task in November. We now have a total of eight trees planted, four on our part and four from the Town. We hope that this will help with the reforestation since our area is rapidly losing ash trees.

We also were able to maintain four outdoor spaces in the community as well as one community garden at the elementary Catholic school. We enjoyed planting 12 large containers for the Kinsmen pool and maintaining a perennial bed at the pool. The heat didn't bother us much and it seemed we received the rains at the right time!



We have set some lofty goals for 2019. We hope to help two students as they pursue their education in horticultural studies or as arborists. We also hope to begin a mentorship program with students and our members so that we can help the students learn and gain community hours. And we know our members are thrilled to share their wisdom with these growing minds!

Our final goal is to begin a community garden beside our pool and near our local library. We have eager students who want to learn to grow produce and we have parents eager to see the families learn to grow their own food. We love these partnership endeavours with the Town, the Library and the Kinsmen Pool. And we will continue to plant trees to help recover the loss of our tree canopy. All things considered, 2019 could be our best growing year yet!

I personally am so thankful to be part of a Society that loves to work outside and gives support to growing projects. I am so grateful to our members for their full support and enthusiasm for these projects and for their participation even on rainy cold days! Great team work...thanks for making the dream work...

Trillium Deadline Dates for 2019

Spring Issue - March 31

Summer Issue - June 15

Autumn Issue - September 15

Winter Issue - December 15

Articles for the Trillium should be sent in Word format or plain text. If you have a Mac, and would rather use Pages, I can also accept that. Photos and other graphics should be sent as separate files (i.e., not as part of a Word file), with a resolution of at least 1000 by 800 pixels. Full-sized original files will be happily accepted.

Email your articles to editor@gardenontario.org. If you're unable to send your material via email, I can also accept them via Canada Post at:

Malcolm Geast
201-1700 Eglinton Avenue East
Toronto, Ontario M4A 2X4
416-429-4719

Paris Horticultural Society's Busy Year

Margaret Collins, Paris Horticultural Society

Our group of friendly gardeners has had a successful year. The year begins with the induction of a new executive and ends with our annual Christmas dinner. In between, members of different committees are busy working on the plant sale and auction, the flower show, the garden tour, mystery tour, a summer excursion, monthly competitions and booking speakers. Each event takes the time and talent of our members who take care of everything from printing tickets, to having enough pots for potting parties, to acquiring gardens for the tour, to ensuring that the library has new magazines and books. Our program director has arranged for many excellent speakers again this coming year. Meetings begin and end with a social time with delicious treats prepared by volunteers and presented on a suitably decorated table.



The garden tour and plant sale, our biggest fundraisers, were both very successful. We were able to give a \$500 bursary to a Paris student to help with his college expenses. A bee house was built by members and installed in the fairgrounds garden that is designed and looked after by the members. Gardens at the Cenotaph and the Garden of Hope are also maintained and smaller gardens on boulevards received facelifts with new plant material being purchased.

We hosted the District 6 Fall Breakfast this year. After a delicious breakfast, speaker Kari Bishop of Paris gave an excellent presentation regarding her bees. Our secretary extraordinaire, Dave Collins, received the District 6 Service Award this year for his years of service and the many tasks he accomplishes. We look forward to new challenges in 2019.



Top: Rick Vernon and Doug Hanna at the garden at the fairgrounds.

Above left: 2018 Mystery Tour to the Burford Tree Nursery

Above right: Flower Show judge Jim Mabee with committee members Pat Moore, Patti Gladding (f), Serryn Stevenson, Roseanne MacKenzie and Mary Ellen Edgar.

Right: District 6 fall dinner. Doug Hanna, Dorothy Lanyi, Mel Osborne, Mary Collins, Bob Hasler, Dave Collins, Pat Hasler-Watts, Margaret Collins, Vi Stevenson, Nancy Burkholder, Linda Osborne and Gord Burkholder



A Bee House for A Bee City

Betty Mitchell, Past President, Lindsay Garden Club



We at Lindsay Garden Club, aka Lindsay & District Horticultural Society wish to follow up on the grand finale of our Bee Habitat that was described in the Summer 2018 Trillium. We thought it would be of interest to you to hear that we did follow through and have it erected in Lindsay's Mayor Flynn Park.

Promoted by the OHA Pollinator Initiative, and the highlight of our year, the idea for the habitat was kicked off by our January speaker, Field Naturalist and pollinators' advocate Susan Blayney who enlightened us on the fact that Lindsay, as part of Kawartha Lakes is the seventh Bee City in Canada, and the third in Ontario.

At our ribbon cutting dedication ceremony on October 11, we were fortunate to have in attendance I.E. Weldon Secondary School Woodworking Teacher, Peter Tamlin and student Ryan Dobbs along with Lindsay Garden Club members Lena Wilms, Heather Grassie, Donna McInnis, Betty Mitchell and June McCallum (who is also our incoming President for 2019). We were overjoyed to find the bees have already begun to use the Habitat. How great is that!



From left to right: June McCallum, Ryan Dobbs, Peter Tamlin, Lena Wilms, Betty Mitchell



Teacher Peter Tamlin and student Ryan Dobbs, who built the Habitat



Close-up of the Bee Habitat, showing some of the already-populated tubes.

Photos compliments of Lena Wilms



Nobleton & King City Garden Club 60th Anniversary

Kelly Lavis, Co-President, Nobleton & King City Garden Club

It was December 1957 when a group of gardening enthusiasts met in the Nobleton Women's Institute Community Hall to propose the forming of a local horticultural society and among those in attendance was St. Clair Tennant (OHA 1st Vice President).

In January 1958, Nobleton and District Horticultural Society, (NDHS was changed to Nobleton & King City Horticultural Society in 2002) came into being with 50 members already signed up. By the end of the first year, 185 members were registered; 75 of them regularly attended the meetings. Those meetings were chaired by the first President of the Society, Mr. John Neate.

Among those members who would play a pivotal role in the early years of the NDHS, were John Neate, Pearl, Muriel and Marion Mactaggart, Nellie Goodfellow, Mrs. Russell Snider, Cyril Flinders, Mildred Wensley, and St. Clair Tennant. Our longest-standing member, John Arnott, signed up with his family in 1958 at the age of 21. This year, he was awarded the 60 Years Service Pin at our November AGM.



John Arnott receiving his 60 Years Service Pin from Barb Downey, Nobleton & King Past President and District 15 Assistant Director

In 1958, the first winner of the Women's Institute (WI) Cup was Mrs. Muriel Mactaggart. This cup was donated by the Women's Institute and awarded to the member who accumulated the most points during the year's flower shows. To this day, the tradition continues. This year, the Woman's Institute ladies had the honour of presenting the WI Flower Show Cup to Nancy Hopkinson, who is retiring after many years of being Flower Show Coordinator.

Throughout 2018, the Nobleton & King City Garden Club has been proudly celebrating its 60th Anniversary through several planned events and projects, which have showcased its Garden Club.



There was a night of celebration and reminiscing on April 24th as our Club welcomed members, past members, friends and guests to their official 60th Anniversary Celebration. We were honoured to have Barbara O'Malley, OHA District 15 Director, come to give us her best wishes on this special occasion. Long-time members Lynda Rogers, Pat Harris, as well as fellow gardeners from the Schomberg Horticultural Society were also in attendance.

At our anniversary reception, our guests and members enjoyed viewing displays, posters and a video montage sharing memories and history of our Club's past 60 years, as we enjoyed coffee and a delicious flower-decorated cake. A special Flower Show with arrangements reflecting the theme of "60th Anniversary" were particularly lovely and uniquely creative.



The Women's Institute Cup was awarded to Nancy Hopkinson by Elizabeth Douglas and Franca Gaio-Mazzolin.

After many years' absence, our Club renewed its participation in the Nobleton Victoria Day Parade this year with a flower-decorated Truck to commemorate our 60th Anniversary. In conjunction with the parade, we enjoyed our popular fundraiser Annual Spring Plant Sale which was supplemented with a Children's Gardening Activity Table.

Our 60th Anniversary Garden Tour on July 15, in a successful partnership with Arts Society King, was well attended by Township residents and visitors from neighbouring York Region municipalities as well as Toronto and Mississauga. Visitors enjoyed the pairing of delightful artwork with beautiful gardens. This event was the result of many hours of work and contributions from many members of our Club.

In true fashion to our Club, a celebratory project of the 60th Anniversary Garden in Wellesley Park, King City was created. The garden was designed to attract pollinators, require minimal water and consists mostly of native plants. The garden was planted with 107 plants and shrubs and mulched by a crew of hard-working Club member volunteers on a very hot Spring day. We received a generous Community Group Grant and Sustainability King Grant from King Township which offset the costs entailed with three Anniversary projects; the Plant Sale, Garden Tour and Wellesley Park Garden. The Club is appreciative, acknowledges and thanks King Township for these grants.

Through the early years of our Club, there was a youth group which was made up mostly of children of many of the adult members. The youth group was active until the early 1980s. In the last few years, we have partnered with The Country Day School students to encourage interest in horticulture with our youth. Member volunteers assist the teachers in the outdoor education program with seeding, plant care and other related activities. Portions of the vegetable harvest have been donated to King's Food Bank or savoured at lunch in



the Dining Hall. This year, our Club received the Baker Award for our gardening initiative with youth at CDS.

There have been many accomplishments during the last 60 years. To name just a few, we have our signature garden at the Four Corners in King City, the rejuvenation of Nobleton's Cherry Park, and the naturalizing of the school grounds at the Nobleton Senior School in collaboration with the students and staff. The Society received an Award of Excellence from the Conservation Authority for the latter.

Many of these different garden projects, CNE flower booth design, interesting guest speakers and flower shows have been ongoing for so many years in different shapes or forms. Some activities have come and gone, some have changed a bit, many are still part of the fabric of our Society; all are part of the growing process.

We closed off our anniversary year with our AGM potluck and were honoured with the presence of many dignitaries such as the Mayor, Councillors, OHA District 15 representatives, and Woman's Institute ladies. We want to thank the many volunteers who have dedicated time and effort to a multitude of events and projects that the Society has been involved with throughout these 60 wonderful years. To many more!

At our AGM our new Board was elected.
 Left to right: Bonnie MacTaggart, Jane Haffenden, Judy Onorato, Gary Battaglia, Anna Santarossa, Lucille King (Co-President), Barb Downey (Past President), Kelly Lavis (Co-President), absent (Susan Beharriell and Jules Maule-ffinck)



2018 Convention - Creative Writing Competition Awards

In the section containing 2018 Convention competition award winners in the Autumn Trillium, the awards for Creative Writing were omitted. Those awards are listed below. Accompanying them is the Best in Show entry submitted by Ann Levison (Kingston Horticultural Society).

Class 1: Song – Name the tune and create lyrics “Gardening Rocks”.

- 1st – Linda Boyko, East York, D5
- 2nd – Joyce Hopkins, Parry Sound & District, D18
- 3rd – Tracy Bosley, Alliston & District, D16
- HM – Michael Woods, East York, D5

Class 2: Free Verse Poem - Using the Convention Theme: From Shore to Shield. Should be at least 8 lines long.

- 1st – Ann Levison, Kingston, D3 (*Best in Show*)
- 2nd – Christa Marton, Omeme & District, D4
- 3rd – Joyce Hopkins, Parry Sound & District, D18
(*Judge’s Choice*)
- HM – Shirley Sundberg, Lindsay & District, D4

Class 3: Narrative - Write about “The Old Apple Tree”. 500-600 words, double spaced.

- 1st – Tracy Bosley, Alliston & District, D16
- 2nd – Sylvia Grant, Guelph Township, D7
- 3rd – Willa Wick, Harriston & District, D7
- HM – Joyce Hopkins, Parry Sound & District, D18

Best in Show

Ann Levison, Kingston, D3 (Class 2)

Judge’s Choice

Joyce Hopkins, Parry Sound & District,
D18 (Class 2)

Number of Entries: 32

Number of Entrants: 18

Number of Societies: 14

Number of Districts: 11

Competition Chair

Sandra Mazur, District 14 Director,

From Shore to Shield

by Ann Levison

A masterwork of eternity, this terra firma of shore and shield,
formed before recorded time.

Mother nature, in raging temper, forever harnesses the power of
her creature lake, to punish you.

Gale-driven waves pound, lash and scour your defenseless shore,
constantly resculpting your primitive face, grinding rocks and
stones into sand

Trees on your fringe left like old bent men, stooped in silent
witness to your pitiless attacks.

Suffering is evident in the rock skin of your shield, deep scars
etched by giant glacial-nailed fingers.

Mother Earth took pity on your nakedness, covering you with a
blanket of forest, marshes and meadows.

Filled your deep painful furrows with cool lakes, smoothing
rivers and caressing streams.

Beguiling the human mind with lonely serenity and a thirst for
discovery.

But, in your rocky bowels, she hid the riches of precious metals,
to plumb the depths of human greed.

Your changing seasons transfix the eye with an infinite palate of
colours.

Winter white shivers. Spring buds green. Summer sparkles gold.
Fall trumpets red.

With the magic of Mother Earth’s touch, trilliums, trout lilies,
fireweeds and gentle ladies slippers bloom.

Shout their names aloud, a halleluyah for a miracle of survival!

Add to your amazing spectre the symphonic music of Nature: wind
howling across a frozen waste, the call of a loon on a warm
Summer night.

The howl of a wolf, the excited chatter of a chickadee, the
knocking of a woodpecker.

All this and more is woven into the majestic tapestry that is the
shore to shield.

Youth Activities News

The Garden of Eatin' – Day camp kids learn all about gardening

Lois Ann Baker/Cornwall Standard-Freeholder

Once a week during the summer participants of the SpArts program in South Glengarry take a little trip to the Glengarry, Nor'Westers & Loyalist Museum to learn all about gardening.

"Every Wednesday they come here for heritage gardening and modern gardening," said Wendy Wert. "Sometimes we use the heritage vegetables but it's basically just to teach the children the value of having a home garden."

The children not only plant and take care of the vegetables, but there is also a cooking portion of the day where the children cook and eat the vegetables they grew.

"Today they are eating carrots, cabbage, kale, tomatoes, zucchini bread and today we have a bee keeper who has donated some honey," said Wert. "It will be interesting to see how it will all come together."

Wert said last week the children had potatoes to cook, so they did a number of different recipes involving potatoes.

Kids at the day camp learn about planting, weeding, dead-heading and watering. They are also taught about insects, both good and bad, pollination, fertilization and the identification of trees, weeds and vegetables. The program is in partnership with the museum and the Green Thumbs Horticulture Club in Williamstown.

This Wednesday the children helped plant a maple tree. The tree is a replacement for a tree that was killed due to "whipper-snipper" damage. The original tree was planted last year in memory of the British Home Children who came to the area from Great Britain from 1880 to 1935.



Kids at the SpArts day camp in Williamstown had a morning learning all about gardening on Wednesday August 15, 2018 in Cornwall. The children helped Ian Kentell plant a new tree. (Photo: Lois Ann Baker)

"Every Wednesday we do the garden program," said Samantha Dexter, head councillor for the day camp.

"Wendy puts it together for us."

Dexter said the children are separated into four groups and each group visits a station, does some work, then switches to the next station.

There is usually a cooking station, a weeding type of outdoor work, there is usually a game and the last one depends on who the guest speaker is. On Wednesday it was beekeeper Terry Mercier.

"The kids love it," said Dexter.

"They like getting their hands dirty."

The above item appeared in the Cornwall Standard-Freeholder, on August 15, 2018. It is reproduced here with permission.

Wendy Wert is a long-time member of Williamstown Green Thumbs.

PEC Master Gardeners - Growing our Own

Ren Duinker, Prince Edward County Master Gardeners

In 2018, the Prince Edward County Master Gardeners initiated a contest for the best garden created and maintained by a child. It was open to all children 8-12 years of age who live in Prince Edward County. The children could grow whatever they liked, vegetables, herbs, flowers, or a combination. We encouraged the children to plant what they liked to eat or look at, whether it be flowers, vegetables, or herbs. The garden could be grown from seeds or seedlings that they either had bought or were given.

As well, the garden had to be designed, planted and maintained by the child, and throughout the summer they were to keep a journal of what they grew, when their seeds sprouted, when they watered or weeded, any bugs or marks (disease) they found, and anything else in their garden that interested them. They could make drawings or use photographs.

We sent out flyers and application forms to all the primary schools in Prince Edward County, all the local libraries, our friends at PEC Horticultural Society, all the garden clubs in our area, the 4H group, swim clubs, Reaching for Rainbows, the Salvation Army Pioneer Club, PEC Field Naturalists, and local birders. We spoke to anyone and everyone who might have a child or grandchild in the age group, and a page with all of the information was added to our website (pecmastergardeners.com). We also submitted an article for our provincial Master Gardener's newsletter (*Inside MGOI*, www.mgoi.ca) and received a lot of support from all of them. Our goal was to nurture children's natural curiosity and help create an interest in gardening. By getting them outside and interacting with the natural world around them, we hoped to guide them towards an appreciation and enjoyment of growing things and, who knows, maybe in the future, become a Master Gardener! We were also targeting parents, other family members, and friends, neighbours and shopkeepers who might be interested in becoming a Master Gardener.

The main branch of the library in Picton was the location of the awards presentation ceremony, which was held in October. The first prize of \$100 came from us, and the trophy was designed and built by a friend of the Master Gardeners who donated his time and expertise.

As to partnerships, a bookstore and a nursery each donated gift certificates, and the local libraries added information about the contest to their monthly newsletters and had application forms at their front desks. The local bookstore highlighted the award with a window display of Master Gardeners, using garden tools loaned to us by a local hardware. A coffee shop donated all the coffee and doughnuts for our awards presentation ceremony at the library, and a farm supply store had child-size gardening tools on hand for us during the contest. The local newspapers and the radio station helped us get the word out about the contest, and then many attended the awards ceremony and did follow-up stories about the winners. The radio station did an interview about the contest with one of our members in March and interviewed the winner on air in October.

The award was first discussed by three PEC Master Gardeners last spring. Barbra Stock, MG, came up with the idea for the contest, and a committee was formed, consisting of Barbra, Susan Warrack, and Ren Duinker. With an entry deadline for applications of April 30, a brochure for the parents was created, as well as a "Gardening Tips for Kids" sheet for the children. Both items were made available on our website. We asked a well-known local birder for advice on how the children



could attract birds to their gardens, information that was also put onto our website. Parents were required to sign a consent form for their child to take part in the CGA and to allow the use of photographs of their child.

Each child's garden was visited twice by two Master Gardeners, once in July and again in September. We interviewed each child at their home, and asked them a set of questions about their gardens. The knowledge these young gardeners showed, and their enthusiasm was very impressive. One participant who had taken part in the 4H Cloverbuds program was especially knowledgeable about all sorts of horticultural practices; we sent the 4H a note about her after our first visit in July. In order to make the process of choosing winners fairer, the visits were divided up among three Master Gardeners. Notes and photographs of each visit were used when deciding on the winners.

Judging by all the smiles at the awards presentation, we made the children very happy with their accomplishments and the recognition that they received. Many of the children attended and brought their families and friends with them, and many of them are looking forward to planting another garden.

At the awards presentation ceremony, each child who participated was given a certificate to recognize their achievement, and all the children's journals were on display. The winners were presented with a plaque and a prize, and the first place child had his name engraved on our trophy (which will be housed at the library until next year). Our oldest member, Joyce Young, 90, gave out the prizes and had a thoroughly delightful day with the children. More importantly, we brought



*Children's Garden Award winners with their awards:
Marinda de Villiers - third place, Kaden Koutroulides - first place,
Evan Graham – second place
Photo by Luke Hendry, Belleville Intelligencer, October 8, 2018*

our community together, involved people of all ages, and showed everyone the joys of gardening. We are a small group (19 members), but we proved to ourselves that we can have a big impact on our community while growing our own future Master Gardeners! Many of the children told us (and all the reporters!) that they will be having a garden again next year. We are hoping that a few of the children who participated in 2018 will be mentors for those who enter in 2019.

This project can easily be replicated by any horticultural group for very little money – we had a budget of \$300 from our group and we didn't use it all. It was a lot of fun and the children really enjoyed themselves and learned how much they could accomplish when they put their shovel in the ground and start gardening.

Do you have news about youth-related events that your horticultural society or garden club is involved with? Maybe you have some suggestions about activities or crafts that you can share with other societies. Send us your ideas articles, and they can appear in this space. As with other items for the Trillium, articles should be sent in Word format or plain text. Photos and other graphics should be sent as separate files (i.e., not as part of a Word file), with a resolution of at least 1000 by 800 pixels. Full-sized original files will be happily accepted.

Email your articles to editor@gardenontario.org. If you're unable to send your material via email, I can also accept them via Canada Post at:

Malcolm Geast
201-1700 Eglinton Avenue East
Toronto, Ontario M4A 2X4

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OHA Contact Information

OHA Officers

President	Katharine Smyth	president@gardenontario.org
1 st Vice President	Charles Freeman	vp@gardenontario.org
2 nd Vice President	Joanne Rachfalowski	vp@gardenontario.org
Secretary	Kelly Taylor	secretary@gardenontario.org
Treasurer	Jane Leonard	treasurer@gardenontario.org
Southern & Western Regions Representative	Rick Causton	district17@gardenontario.org
Northern & Eastern Regions Representative	Sharlene Desjardins	district2@gardenontario.org
Past Presidents Council Representative	Rose Odell	pastpresident@gardenontario.org

OHA Directors

District 1 - Dundas, Glengarry, Prescott, Russell, Stormont, Grenville and the eastern portion of the city of Ottawa	Candace Dressler	district1@gardenontario.org
District 2 - Lanark, Renfrew and the eastern portion of the city of Ottawa	Sharlene Desjardins	district2@gardenontario.org
District 3 - Frontenac, Hastings, Leeds, Lennox & Addington, Prince Edward	Penny Stewart	district3@gardenontario.org
District 4 - Haliburton, Northumberland, Peterborough, Victoria	Dianne Westlake	district4@gardenontario.org
District 5 - Toronto East, York Region East	Cindy Scythes	district5@gardenontario.org
District 6 - Brant, Halton, Hamilton, Norfolk	Catherine McGill	district6@gardenontario.org
District 7 - Dufferin, Wellington Counties	Kathy Bouma	district7@gardenontario.org
District 8 - Bruce, Grey, Huron Counties	Vicky Culbert	district8@gardenontario.org
District 9 - Haldimand, Niagara North, Niagara South	Marg Tanaszi	district9@gardenontario.org
District 10 - Elgin, Middlesex, Oxford, Perth	Shelley Mackenzie	district10@gardenontario.org
District 11 -Essex, Kent, Lambton Counties	Marg Laman	district11@gardenontario.org
District 12 - Cochrane, Timiskaming, North Nipissing	Anne Jamieson	district12@gardenontario.org
District 13 - Algoma, Manitoulin, Sudbury	Christine Marsh	district13@gardenontario.org
District 14 - Kenora, Rainy River, Thunder Bay	Sandra Mazur	district14@gardenontario.org
District 15 - Peel, York Region West, Toronto West	Barb O'Malley	district15@gardenontario.org
District 16 - Simcoe County	Linda Forster	district16@gardenontario.org
District 17 - Durham Region	Rick Causton	district17@gardenontario.org
District 18 - Parry Sound, Muskoka, South Nipissing	Carol Armstrong	district18@gardenontario.org
District 19 - Regional Municipality of Waterloo	Gary Brenner	district19@gardenontario.org

Other OHA Contacts

Awards Co-ordinator	Sharlene Desjardins	awards@gardenontario.org
Convention Registrar	Barb O'Malley	registrar@gardenontario.org
Historian	Malcolm Geast	history@gardenontario.org
In Memoriam	Marilyn Cox	inmemoriam@gardenontario.org
Judging School Coordinator	Jim Mabee	judging@gardenontario.org
Supplies	Rose Odell	gardenshopsupplies@gmail.com
Trillium Editor	Malcolm Geast	editor@gardenontario.org
Webmaster	April Davies	webmaster@gardenontario.org
Youth Chair & Youth Competition Chair	Catherine McGill	youthchair@gardenontario.org
OMAFRA representative	Helen Scutt	helen.scutt@ontario.ca

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Please notify Kelly Taylor, OHA Secretary, by email: secretary@gardenontario.org with the name and the District Number. (if applicable).