

Keeping Ontario Beautiful

Trillium

Ontario Horticultural Association

Winter 2021-22



Photo by Don Taylor, Bath Gardening Club



Milkweed for Monarchs

"Milkweed leaves are the critical food source for a developing monarch caterpillar." Sue Nilsson, Bath Gardening Club



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Editor's Message



All of you are doing your best to keep me busy and... it's working. Thank you for your many wonderful submissions, varied, informative and well-written. The accompanying photos are great, too and "worth a thousand words".

On that note, the winter issue ought to have at least one winter picture rather than a thousand more words so here is one I shot on a sunny winter day that shows one reason that Sedum is one of my favourite perennials.



With the gardens hibernating this winter, there is an opportunity to check that the website for your Garden Club/Horticultural Society is up-to-date. While doing so, please visit each others' sites for great ideas and inspiring pictures.

Here's hoping that 2022 brings joy, health and happiness to all of you and your loved ones.

Laura Masterson
editor@gardenontario.org

The *Trillium* is the quarterly newsletter of the OHA, (Ontario Horticultural Association).

This is **your** newsletter. It is for all members of all Horticultural Societies and Garden Clubs in Ontario in every district. If you want to know what is going on in gardening, it is in this newsletter. If your club/society has a special project and you would like to share the news, please send in a story and photographs.

What you need to know to send articles and photographs:

Submission dates for 2022:

- March 1 – Spring issue
- June 1 – Summer issue
- Sept. 1 – Autumn issue
- Dec. 1 – Winter issue

The deadline for the next issue of the *Trillium* is **March 1**, but submissions can be sent anytime.

Articles should be emailed 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 whenever possible. Full-sized original files will be happily accepted. These requests make it easier to work with whatever is submitted.

Articles can be emailed to:

editor@gardenontario.org

Laura Masterson, OHA Trillium Editor

Please note that, for photographs that include minors, signed parental permission must be given. You don't need to send the signed papers, but we do need to know that they exist.

When submitting articles and photos, please mention who wrote the article and who took the pictures so that a credit can be included. To avoid illegal copyright issues, please do not submit articles, artwork and photographs copied from the internet or elsewhere unless permission from the writer, artist or photographer has been given.

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The Trillium is the quarterly newsletter of the OHA, bringing you the latest news of what's going on in gardening in Ontario.

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<https://gardenontario.org/2021-22-winter-trillium/>



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OHA President's Report

Greetings from snowy Eastern Ontario.

Yes, winter is upon us and the spring, summer and fall gardening seasons have come to an end. It is always a little sad to wave "Goodbye" to those gardens we all worked so hard to keep beautiful but then, this break will also give us the incentive to start again next year with all of those plans for a better-than-last-year display.

As we bid "Adieu" to 2021, there are a number of things I would like to mention.

Firstly, a sincere "Thank You" to all of the members of each Society/Club for your perseverance and for not giving in to your frustrations. You held your heads high as you dealt with Covid-19 and all the variants and the restrictions, rules and legislation as well as other people's and your own personal comfort levels. It has not been easy to decide if you should have meetings or not; if you should hold events or not; where should you hold meetings and events; what format should you employ for the meetings and events and the list goes on. Many Societies/Clubs have found a safe way to at least attempt to have a somewhat normal year and some have just found everything too difficult to navigate. The one truly positive note from all of the Covid-19 influences is that, to my knowledge, there have been no outbreaks related to any Society/Club which simply shows that you, as a group, have been careful and cautious. WELL DONE!

Secondly, by now you are all aware of the fact that the Convention and AGM scheduled for 2022 in Guelph has been postponed until 2024. To say the least, it has been disappointing for the organizers and those who had planned to attend this event. An OHA Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held in 2022. Stay tuned for the confirmed date. The 2024 Convention will be in Guelph in July and I hope as many of you as possible will seize the opportunity and attend.

Thirdly, T-PON (*Transfer Payment Ontario*). Yes, we still have this tool that must be utilized for the OMAFRA Annual Report. The due date for Societies/Clubs to have held their AGMs and to have reported to OMAFRA was December 6th, 2021. This method of reporting is a provincial government tool and as such, we are all obliged to use it. I can tell you from having

spoken with a friend who works via a contract-based arrangement with the Ministry of Education, that the same problems and issues faced by Societies/Clubs are prevalent in other ministries. If you have any problems with the system, please, as has been said previously, contact your OMAFRA Regional Rep for help. To go along with this, I am advised by OMAFRA that the 2022 OMAFRA Report

will, in all likelihood, not be available in January as is the normal practice. OMAFRA will be contacting each Society/Club when the OMAFRA form is ready. Once it is available, please check the GardenOntario website as there is a step-by-step tutorial there to help with filing the OMAFRA form. Also, there will not be any Grant application section included on the OMAFRA form, as again, we have been able to secure the 2022 OMAFRA grant money early for all Societies/Clubs.

Enough of the gloom ...

I am happy to say that the new [Awards & Grants Booklet](#) and revised application forms are up on the website. It took much longer than anticipated to get this completed but hopefully Societies/Clubs will take advantage and look through the information and please consider nominating someone or applying for a Grant or Award. We thank everyone who brought forward ideas of change for the Awards & Grants Program.

Well, the new Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations Act (ONCA) is now in force. We are not sure of exactly how the new legislation will affect the OHA or the Societies/Clubs. Some of the Officers have attended and will be attending future seminars offered by Carter's Law in the hopes of better understanding how ONCA will impact us. Once we have a clear understanding, we will be disseminating information



Charles Freeman

to everyone. So, please, don't be in a hurry with any changes as there is a three (3) year grace period for everyone to implement any changes.

The OHA Annual Information Report, now known more informatively as, "The 20xx Historical Record of Horticultural Societies/Clubs of Ontario", will be available soon. This report is now recognized as needing to be much more than simply a list or record of what happened during the year. As an example, with Covid-19, there were questions about how a medical pandemic such as the Spanish Flu Epidemic may have affected the OHA and Societies/Clubs. Unfortunately, this important piece of history is sadly lacking as has been pointed out by OHA Archivist Malcolm Geast. The information may have assisted us all as we moved through this Covid-19 pandemic.

We are still working on dates for the District Treasurer and District Secretary Workshops. They will most likely occur in the spring of 2022. Hopefully by then, we will be able to offer these workshops which will be open to the people new to these respective positions. These people will then be able to assist any

Society/Club with regards to how to best facilitate the work at the Society/Club level.

Over the last few months, Louise and I have had the opportunity to attend a number of meetings and events and it has been exhilarating to see how the memberships are enjoying the fact that they can actually be together for these experiences. The expressions "How are you?" and "I have not seen you in quite a while" just hold a new significance when spoken in a face-to-face environment.

As you look to those traditional ways to decorate your homes or you have some new and innovative thoughts for the Christmas holidays and whether you celebrate the season or not, please remember to "Take Care and Stay Safe".

... and for those who celebrate,
MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY NEW YEAR to all

Sincerely

Charles Freeman
President, Ontario Horticultural Association



2022: Canada's Year of the Garden

Lois LaCroix, Co-President, Pelham Garden Club

Earlier this year, the Canadian Garden Council (GCC) proclaimed 2022 as Canada's "Year of the Garden". The year is intended to mark the centennial of Canada's ornamental horticultural sector and celebrate the 100-year anniversary of the Canadian Nursery Landscape Association's (CNLA). The year will mark Canada's rich garden heritage, celebrate the vibrant gardens of today and create legacies for a sustainable future. It is hoped that the year promotes products, services and experiences in a variety of sectors of Canada's garden family. The GCC is inviting various levels of government and corporate Canada to join the growing momentum of this world's first, unique celebration!

The Year of the Garden 2022 runs from January 1 to December 31, 2022. Cities and towns across the land are being encouraged to proclaim the Year of the Garden locally. Many activities will be planned within the community by landscape services, gardening businesses, retailers, growers and expert gardeners. You may join the celebration by signing up your garden as a Year of Celebration Garden.

There are also a number of activities that can be done locally such as to take action to impact climate change by planting shade trees, rain gardens, green roofs and food gardens that make a sustainable difference, recognize a 'garden hero' – that special person who inspires and leads volunteers in planting the love of gardens and gardening, learn about Garden Traditions such as the First Nations' knowledge of living in harmony with plants and nature and fascinating garden traditions introduced by immigrants from around the world, encourage children to learn about planting and growing sustainable gardens by discussing the "Plant a Garden in Every School" programme with local educators or recognize that special someone in the community who inspires and leads volunteers by planting the love of gardens and gardening. The year of the garden offers many opportunities to promote what we love. For more details see: <https://gardenscanada.ca/year-of-the-garden/>



Dear Societies/Clubs,

2022 is fast approaching and I hope for great things next year across Canada. There are many wonderful gardens to explore in this great country. My sister and a couple of her daughters, a few years ago, travelled from Tilbury through Ontario and Quebec to our destination – Reford gardens in the Gaspé. However, it was not a quick journey – we stopped at many wonderful botanical gardens and city gardens along the way starting with the Royal Botanical Gardens in Hamilton, onto the Toronto Botanical Gardens and so forth. All together, we visited 13 or 14 gardens, each varying in plants, flowers and garden sculptures, etc., ending up, on our return, at the Ottawa Experimental Farm.

If you are planning a trip in this great country of ours, make a stop to visit some of the fantastic gardens along your journey. You will be amazed.

Year of the Garden Grants Available

The Ontario Horticultural Association is giving out two Year of the Garden Grants, only for 2022. If your society/club is thinking about a special garden at a hospital, seniors' residence, school, etc., please go to gardenontario.org/resources/grant-application-and-reporting-forms/OHA-grants-available-for-societies/OHA-year-of-the-garden-grant-application-form-2022. The criteria are there.

And especially remember to honour those "Garden Heroes" in your communities.

The OHA is making plans for a garden calendar for 2023 to showcase what the societies and clubs in each district has done in 2022. I am hoping the calendars will be available in the late fall of 2022. Information will follow as criteria etc. is finalized.

What is the Year of the Garden 2022?

From January 1 to December 31, 2022, the **Year of the Garden 2022**, a Centennial Celebration of our horticulture sector, will commemorate Canada's rich garden heritage, celebrate today's vibrant garden culture and create important legacies for a sustainable future.

Planning is already underway for a year of exciting **Live the Garden Life** activities, celebrations, special events and promotions that will take place in communities, schools, businesses, public gardens and backyard gardens in all parts of Canada.

- **Join the Celebration.** It will be easy to sign up your garden as a **Year of the Garden Celebration Garden**.
- **Learn from experts in the field.** **Canada's Garden-Family** – thousands of plant growers, product manufacturers, retailers, landscape service providers, garden clubs, public gardens and affiliated businesses will be sharing their knowledge and expertise to help you **plant a garden in your life**.
- **Take advantage of special promotions and events** that will be offered by local Garden Family members to help you with garden projects during the **Year of the Garden 2022**.
- **Be inspired** by garden experiences found in public gardens across Canada. View landscapes that represent different regions, climate zones and purposes, for fun, and to help you plan your own backyard garden sanctuary.
- **Be amazed and inspired** by beautiful examples of private landscape excellence designed, installed and maintained by Canadian landscape professionals.
- **Check out the Year of the Garden Calendar**, a dynamic document that will keep you updated on what's happening when, where and how to connect.
- **Learn about Garden Traditions** such as the First Nations' knowledge of living in harmony with plants and nature, early "European-style" gardens and their importance at historic sites like Annapolis Royal and Québec City, and fascinating garden traditions introduced by immigrants from around the world.
- **Discover Canadian Garden Moments.** Important personalities and their achievements have helped to shape today's rich Canadian garden culture and why horticulture heritage matters.
- **Plant a Garden in Every School** is an important learning opportunity for every child and for future generations. Get the kit and learn about the many programs available to help schools plant, grow and maintain sustainable gardens.

- **Share and learn by becoming a member of a garden organization.** Find out what garden clubs, horticulture societies and others are doing in your neighbourhood and discover the fun of sharing your passion for gardens and learning from others.
- **Lend a hand to transform where you live** by taking part in volunteer opportunities in your community to help with community gardens and enhancement of your community with plants and gardens.
- **Recognize a Garden Hero.** Every community has a special person who inspires and leads volunteers in planting a love of gardens and gardening. Why not recognize their passion and hard work by nominating them as a Year of the Garden 2022 Canadian Garden Hero?
- **Find Work Opportunities.** Canada's Garden Family is seeking people interested in a satisfying and prosperous career in the horticulture industry.
- **Learn How to Make the Future Environment Friendly.** Gardens are one of the most effective ways for Canadians to individually impact climate change. Find out about how planting shade trees, rain gardens, green roofs and food gardens can make a sustainable difference.
- **Get a Garden Prescription.** Discover the many benefits of plants and gardening can have on your health and well-being.

It's not too soon to begin thinking about how you might **Plant a Garden / Put Some Garden in Your Life** during the **Year of the Garden 2022** at home, work, school or club in your community or even on while on vacation!

Encourage your municipality to proclaim 2022 as the Year of the Garden. Download the invitation and a proclamation template to forward to your councillor or the Mayor and Ideas to Engage Your Municipality, here: [Year of the Garden 2022 – Invitation to Municipalities.pdf](#), [Template – Municipal Proclamation of 2022 as Year of the Garden.docx](#)

How will you Celebrate the Year of the Garden?

Keep an eye on this website to follow the development of the Year of the Garden 2022 and celebration opportunities.

Plant Red – Celebrate the Year of the Garden 2022.

Plant Red and Show Your Canadian Garden Pride Campaign.

WHO: Inviting all Canadians to plant something red to express their Canadian garden pride and joy during the Year of the Garden 2022 Celebrations.

WHAT: Across Canada, the goal is to see the land awash with gardens featuring red, Canada's colour. Flowers, fruits, shrubs, vegetables – just plant the seeds! From parks to playgrounds, front yards, back yards, balconies, baskets, boulevards, barrels and planters, wherever there's an empty space, there is room for a plant, to join the celebration of the YOTG 2022!

WHY: The **Plant Red and Show Your Canadian Garden Pride Campaign** is a rallying point that is simple, inclusive, easy, and fun with a positive outcome for whoever participates. After all, the gardens and gardening have contributed and continue to contribute so much to our life and who Canadians are.

WHEN: In 2022, anyone and everyone, including municipalities, organizations, schools, churches, colleges and universities, clubs, businesses and individuals can participate by planting red and showing their Canadian garden pride. Share photos of what you have planted on YOTG's social media platforms with the hashtag **#PlantRed**.

WHERE: Everywhere in Canada, indoor or outdoor. Inviting all Canadians to join Canada's biggest garden and gardening celebration, the Year of the Garden 2022!

Katharine Smyth
Past President

Gananoque Horticultural Society

"Make Gananoque More Beautiful"

The History of the Gananoque Horticultural Society

By Joan MacKinnon

Photos by David Charles

The Gananoque Horticultural Society marked its 100th anniversary in 2020. During the planning phases for a year that was to be filled with anniversary events, former Society president Joan MacKinnon suggested that she write a history of the Horticultural Society. With her background in history and genealogy and having worked at a number of historic sites, this type of social history was right up her alley. She began researching the history of the Society using primarily the microfilm of the Gananoque Reporter newspaper held in the local library. In addition, she and Director Lynda Pilkey gathered together the many historical records and photographs held by a number of members, with Lynda sorting them by date into files. Together they were able to build a list of the 34 individuals who have served as president of the Society over the last 100 years.

By January 2020, when the Society held a special pot luck dinner, Joan had compiled the history of the first fifty years of the Society and presented a slide show at the event. Research continued until the Pandemic hit in mid-March, the library closed for in-person use and the challenges of providing services for members made it very difficult to continue work on

the project. However, Joan continued other types of on-line research and contacted many descendants of former presidents and other individuals who had been very involved in the work of the Society. Her experience as a genealogist was essential in tracing descendants who could sometimes provide old photographs. In the end, she located photos of all but one former president J.F. McGuire, who was only president for a couple of months in 1942. She was also fortunate in locating a number of photographs of local gardens from the 1930's to 1950's, a period when such photos are rare. Over 250 illustrations have been included in the volume with four pages of colour photos.

The history starts with the first Gananoque Horticultural Society which was actually an agricultural society in all but name. It existed from 1885-1896 and held 10 fairs during that period. Despite having hundreds of categories for judging animals, farm products like grain and corn and ladies' work, there were never more than two categories for floral displays during that period. Ultimately, a combination of bad weather and lack of interest caused the demise of the first Society.



*Joan MacKinnon and Town Councillor
Dennis O'Connor*



Joan MacKinnon at book launch

When the current Society was formed in 1920, its motivations were very different, focusing on its motto of "Make Gananoque More Beautiful". At that period, Gananoque was an extremely industrial town known as "The Birmingham of Canada" so the Society worked to create attractive 'plots' around town, encourage manufacturers to plant gardens beside their factories and plant trees. In many ways the history of the Society is the story of the town, as the Society was involved in such activities as creating gardens at the three Town gates, at the Town Hall, at the ends of the main bridge across the Gananoque River, encouraging gardens at the schools and planting trees beside the streets and near the schools. With the exception of the two Pandemic years, the Society has held flower shows every year. The author has emphasized the work of the Society around town and has included several hundred short biographies of the individuals mentioned in the history.

The book is approximately 260 pages in length, divided by decade with the exception of three chapters

about the Gananoque Horticultural Society Park located at the corner of Main and Mill Streets. This Park is believed to be unique in Ontario as it is owned by the Society and completely run by volunteers. It is a beautiful garden oasis near the waterfront, enjoyed by residents and visitors to town alike.

"Make Gananoque More Beautiful" – The History of the Gananoque Horticultural Society was launched with an event on October 30 at O'Connor Gallery, sponsored by owner Dennis O'Connor. Two lovely floral arrangements were provided by member and Director Lynda Pilkey. All of the approximately 60 attendees were masked and socially distanced. Sales totaled about 50 copies at the launch and over one hundred copies had been sold by mid-November.

The history is available by contacting the Society at: gan.hort.soc@gmail.com or from Beggar's Banquet Books on King Street in Gananoque for \$24.99 plus shipping.

Thorndale & Area Horticultural Society District 10 Service Award 2021

Dian Chute, District 10 Director

The District Service Award recipient for District 10 for the year 2021 is Marilyn Turner of the Thorndale & Area Horticultural Society.

Marilyn has been an active member of the Thorndale & Area Horticultural Society and was a founding member when the society was established in 1995. Marilyn has held several different positions and has also been on the Board. She has led many committees where her vast knowledge is willingly shared. One committee that Marilyn led and is well known for is the Thorndale Memorial Rose Garden which started off as a weedy pile of dirt and now is Thorndale's showcase garden with many roses, spring bulbs and a memorial walkway. Marilyn not only led the development of this garden but taught herself about roses and then proceeded to share that knowledge and build a strong team that supports that garden today. She is considered our go-to person for any questions related to horticulture. Marilyn became an OHA certified judge in 2009. She has written, clerked and judged at many flower shows including local fairs. Marilyn has donated her time and knowledge by doing many workshops for other societies and for multiple Thorndale community events.

On behalf of District 10, congratulations, Marilyn for this award.

District 10 would like to thank all the societies that had submitted nominations for this award. The District is looking forward to 2022 submissions.



*Marilyn Turner holds her District 10
Service Award for 2021*

St. George Garden Club

Submitted by Sylvia Stafford Photos by Jenny Lynn Burch

Our 100th Anniversary Year Has Been Challenging...

But our executive has been working creatively to meet each challenge as it appears. Virtual meetings, social distancing in the gardens and field trips, online plant sales – these have all been incorporated into our calendar year.



Our scholarship award was presented to Katie Disher, a deserving young person, with the cheque presentation taking place in front of our new Anniversary Garden located at the arena in St. George.



A trip to the Lavender Farm in Ayr was a lovely reminder of how nice it is to see people in person, social distancing and all.



Two local artists created a lovely pewter apple blossom brooch and a glass fused garden stake which we used as a fundraiser and a remembrance of our 100th Anniversary.



Pop up seed sharing, tree planting in the local park, tending to the downtown planters and garden at the cenotaph, road cleanup and several interesting virtual speakers have kept our members well informed and involved in our club this past year.

Hosting the District 6 Annual General Meeting and Dinner had its challenges, but with everyone's hard work and thinking "outside the box", plans have been finalized and every one is looking forward to an informative day.

Our anniversary year might not have been what we wanted, but it has been a year of highlights, imaginative thinking, new skills and the continuing friendships of fellow gardeners.

Peterborough Horticultural Society

Donna-Marie Fennell, PHS Secretary and Newsletter Editor

It's been an interesting 20 months for the Peterborough Horticultural Society and I'm sure all of the horticultural societies out there share that sentiment. It meant we could no longer be with each other in person, enjoy live presentations by horticultural and gardening experts, share gardening problems and successes, tell garden stories to each other and indulge in a tea or coffee with or without that beloved cookie.

Pre-pandemic, our society's newsletters were primarily event-driven. There were articles about our popular Garden Show along with the student scholarships and community grants that the show allowed us to offer to our community. There were articles about our meetings and about other upcoming meetings and events. There was very little of actual gardening substance.

During the pandemic, this shifted by 180 degrees. The newsletter, written largely by board members, became an important form of communication and education, a source of enjoyment and laughter, a place to find a puzzle to solve and a "magazine" of sorts with all kinds of interesting and endearing pictures. It was proof that fellow gardeners were indeed still out there somewhere. With a new newsletter focus and our switch to virtual meetings, our membership numbers increased – 19 new members during the 1st wave (2020), and 33 in 2021! Thanks to the dozens of submissions from the board, we learned about composting, soil, growing flowers, plants and vegetables, invasive species, herbs and micro-greens, garden design, Monarch butterflies, winter seed sowing, forest bathing, bumble bees, benefits of keeping gardening records, chipmunks and so much more! Almost anything we observed could become a newsletter article.

Covid-19 sure put a frost on our pumpkins, but like the stubborn gardeners we are, we weren't going to let this keep us down. We adapted, learned how to "Zoom" and awaited our monthly Newsletter with bated breath. Hot tea was prepared, a cookie or 2 were placed on a plate and we all curled up to our laptops to read the articles from our own local "Gardening Gurus"! I could almost smell and feel the soil, hear the scrape of the shovel digging the holes for my plants and taste the tomatoes as they grew. We're already planning and looking forward to our next issues in January and February.

If you want to see the difference, compare anything in 2019 with March 2020 and onward. Here's the link: peterboroughhort.com/newsletters-and-links



Leaside Garden Society

Nora Campbell, Photo by Eileen Fitzpatrick



In anticipation of the holiday season, our creative design team has once again refurbished the urn our Society has dedicated to Bev and Dave Money at the entrance to the Leaside Public Library.

For several years, LGS members Margaret Rousseau, Eileen Fitzpatrick and Rick Hutchings have kept the urn seasonally attractive, to the enjoyment of the library patrons, the staff and all who pass by!

We also accomplished another very successful online AGM with the help of District 5 Director Valerie Liney, who installed our 2022 board of directors. LGS member Heather Gray gave us a wonderful presentation with her beautiful seasonal floral arrangements and intriguing tips for success. Margaret Rousseau, Karen Keay, Eileen Fitzpatrick and their team created a stunning virtual tour of members' gardens throughout the seasons.

Tilbury and District Horticultural Society

Joy Pearson Davis

Photos by Joy Pearson Davis



Our 90 year-old member Mike Lanoue is very proud of his mums. He still plants and takes care of his huge yard which looks like a park.

On September 29, one of our wonderful hort members taught us how to make hypertufa pots and leaves. We had fun and learned a lot. Mixing cement was lots of fun. We hope to use our creations next spring.



Sandra and Barb



Jan, Jone and Maureen mixing cement



The group busy at work



Sandra



Not quite dry yet, Joy's pot will look wonderful with succulents planted in it.

District 5 Executive Committee Excels

Cindy Scythes, District 5 Director

The unsung heroes of OHA are the people who sit on District Executives. These amazing people provide support, guidance and perspective to the District Director as well as to all the Societies within the District. They also help with issues or questions that come in to the District Director, depending on their expertise, and go to Society AGMs to help them install their Boards and bring greetings from OHA.

District 5 has Executive members who have been available to provide support and have my back for all the years I have been District Director and for many years before I joined the District Executive.

I would like to take this opportunity to highlight members of the District 5 Executive to publicly acknowledge their contributions:

This past year, June Morton retired after 20 years on the District 5 Executive Committee. June participated fully in District 5 meetings, all of our OHA outreach events and planned lovely bus tours as fundraisers for us to offer to District 5 Societies. District 5 thrived with her participation and knowledge.

Malcolm Geast has been on this Executive for over 15 years, has held various positions and provides us with many laughs, technology support, governance clarification and unsurpassed knowledge of OHA as their Historian. He is changing his status from Assistant Director to something we call Director Emeritus.

Dawn McEachern has been our Secretary for 10 years. Dawn takes the best minutes and has kept us organized by arranging for meeting space. She maintains contact information, the District Speakers' list, creates the information package for all registrants for our in-person AGMs and so much more.

District 5 Executive members Ellen Power, Dawn McEachern and Nancy Serrick received Ontario Volunteer Service awards for 10 years in 2020. Malcolm Geast, Gloria Broks and June Morton received Ontario Volunteer Service awards for 15 years in 2020.

I offer a very special thank you to my District Executive and wanted all of OHA to know about their remarkable contributions.

Goderich District Horticultural Society

Submitted by Betty Hendriks, President

This year has been a busy one for members of the GDHS. We now have a Little Free Greenhouse that allows people to drop off extra plants and pick up plants that have been donated. The Little Free Greenhouse is located at a busy community centre.

Members received a free garden sign that states "A member of the Goderich District Horticultural Society Lives Here". When people walk by these signs they often ask what the GDHS does which allows the member an opportunity to explain the GDHS role in the community.

When we were not able to meet in person, the executive met by teleconference. Since October, the executive and members' meetings have taken place in person. The number of people attending the meetings is limited by Covid-19 restrictions.

Since January 2021, articles about gardening have been submitted biweekly to the Focus Newspaper. Each month, a newsletter appears on the GDHS facebook page.

Native plants have been placed in several of the flower beds that the GHDS members care for.

As a community, Goderich is growing. Information pamphlets about the GDHS were dropped off to over 100 homes to make our new neighbours aware of the GDHS.

We have designed a new banner that features the forget-me-not flower as well as the octagonal shape that is associated with Goderich.

On Nov. 13, we had a successful winter greenery sale and raised over \$800.00.

We are looking forward to 2022.

Oakville Horticultural Society

Submitted by Myroslawa Lukiwsky

Written by Larry Urbanoski and Trish Bolton; Photograph by Larry Urbanoski



From Left: Trish Bolton, Sheelagh Rowland, scholarship recipient Garrett Nunn, Rob Welsh and Florenda Tingle

The Oakville Horticultural Society (OHS) established a scholarship in 2017 to expand knowledge of horticulture and related sciences and stimulate an interest in gardening for youth in our communities. It is an important component of the community programs that the Oakville Horticultural Society undertakes each year.

The \$1000 scholarship is awarded annually to an Ontario student pursuing a full time, post graduate, horticulture related degree at an accredited Canadian University. Acceptable courses of study include landscape architecture, plant science, biodiversity, ecology and environmental science including the impact of climate change.

Five scholarships have been presented to outstanding students to date. This year, the scholarship was awarded to Garrett Nunn, a PhD student at McMaster University. The following article highlights the award which was presented to Garrett by a number of OHS members on October 20, 2021:

The OHS Executive is pleased to announce that Garrett Nunn, who has undertaken PhD studies in Molecular Plant-Microbe interactions at McMaster University, has been awarded our scholarship for this year. A number of OHS Executive members were on hand to meet and present the award to Garrett on October 21, 2021.

The focus of Garrett's program is to study plants and various pathogens that affect them at a fundamental level and, in particular, the mechanisms of age-related resistance that plants may develop over time. The purpose of this research is to develop more disease resistant plants, including crops.

Garrett has built an impressive resume through his undergraduate and Master's studies at McMaster University. He is a very active and generous volunteer with particular interest in encouraging and mentoring students to enroll in plant biology programs. This interest extends to the Let's Talk Science program which encourages high school students to consider university level programs related to plant science. He has volunteered to maintain laboratory equipment, helped to develop safety programs for use in laboratories and contributed to the team focused laboratory projects undertaken at McMaster.

He has also shown his broader interest in community service through participation in the Biology Department EDI (Equity, Diversity and Inclusivity) programs initiated at McMaster as well as the Biology Undergraduate Curriculum Committee.

Garrett is an impassioned promoter of plants and plant science. This interest extends to his home garden and to inspiring his friends to grow gardens as well.

The Oakville Horticultural Society is pleased to assist Garrett with this scholarship to contribute to his studies and look forward to hearing about the progress of his research at future OHS meetings.

The Oakville Horticultural Society invites anyone who may be interested in this scholarship to visit the OHS website www.oakvillehort.org and click on the Scholarship tab to find out more.

Martintown & District Horticultural Society

By Fred Hansen and Margaret Camplin

Photos by Elaine Herrington



Photograph by photo contest winner Fred Hansen

Well, Fall has come and gone where we saw the beautiful changes in the trees and fall gardens. Before long, we'll see the glitter of frost and contrast of a winter wonderland – isn't Mother Nature wonderful!

Well, no surprise, our society of eighty-two members, along with many other societies, has not been spared from the negative impacts of the pandemic but we persevered and fought back. Some of the highlights of this year are:

- Advised with the planning of the floral aspects of the Cenotaph in Martintown which was completed in time for 2021 Remembrance Day;
- Continued to liaise with other local groups within our small community such as the Martintown Volunteer Fire Department, Historical Mill Preservation Society, Martintown Goodtimers and the Township;
- We had four members open their rural properties for viewing while still following Covid-19 protocols;
- We kept our members connected with the Society by continuing with our competitions: Peony, Summer Gardens, Fall Decorating and Christmas Decorating;
- Enthusiastically embraced the technology of Zoom, starting with our executive meetings and later expanding to our monthly general meetings where guest speakers shared their presentations;
- By adapting to this new technology, new doors were opened for the Executive and our members which allowed for greater sharing of knowledge. One such area was exploring photography with instruction, enlightening us on how to take that great garden shot. This made way to having a photo contest with photos submitted electronically, the winning photos being used in our up-coming 2022 Calendar;
- But best of all, we have been able to retain most of our members during this difficult time;

On a positive note, we continue to bring cheer within our community by installing Christmas lights on the Martintown Bridge and the Historic Mill in time for Christmas.

Stay safe and have a wonderful new gardening year.



Cenotaph at our park



Martintown bridge boxes



2021 Bridge Decorating

Kemptville Horticultural Society

By President Arline Rutter

Kemptville Horticultural Society Review of 2021

Most of our year was virtual with many excellent guest speakers. To this end, we were fortunate to receive a technology grant from OHA.

Our seed exchange in February was distanced over a three-week period and in lieu of a plant sale, members were happy to exchange perennials. Our Florissa fundraiser raised \$230.

We received a tree grant from OHA and planted a red maple in memory of Orville Sears, a member for 23 years.

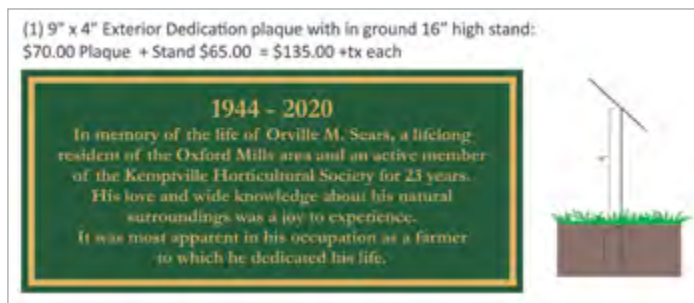


Photo of plaque courtesy of his widow Jean Sears.

A donation of \$200 was made to "The Highway of Heroes".

August 18th, what a treat to see so many of our members in person enjoying the beautiful evening at Kemptville College. It was great to listen to Horticulturalist Claude Smith's first-hand knowledge of all the amazing trees on campus. Everyone in attendance was able to partake of an excellent meal served outdoors by Catered Affairs. A KHS Bursary of \$500 was awarded to Taylor Zersch and she and her sister Abby were able to join us for the evening.



*Taylor Zersch and Arline Rutter
Photo by member Jim deVette*

Taylor is a student at Algonquin College in Ottawa which administers our yearly bursary. It is gratifying to know that we can assist local youth financially in pursuit of their education in horticultural-related fields.

Visits to members' gardens took place on Wednesday evenings from August 11th to September 1st and were very well received with everyone following Covid-19 regulations.

Our photo competition took place virtually.

Kemptville Horticultural Society has its own President's Award, a beautiful painting of our gladioli emblem which was painted and donated by Diane Partlo, a long serving active member/Past President. The painting is awarded every year to deserving member/members in our Society.

This year, the award was given to Greg and Lorraine Barrow, our Public Planting co-Chairs, who work tirelessly to ensure that the gardens around our Municipality always look their best.



Greg and Lorraine Barrow receive President's Award from Arline Rutter. Photo by member Dave Rutter.

An article written by our Mayor Nancy Peckford expresses the sentiments of many members of the public who benefit from the work done by Greg, Lorraine and volunteers from the Kemptville Horticultural Society:

Sometimes, we take the beauty around us for granted! As I returned yesterday from a quick trip, I was struck by how lovely Rotary Park is looking. It's a wonderful place to enjoy a coffee in the Big Chair or on the benches and soak in the Kemptville Creek and oasis of colourful flowers in Old Town Kemptville BIA (*Business Improvement Area*).

A HUGE THANK YOU to the volunteers of the Kemptville Horticultural Society for maintaining the beautiful gardens at Rotary Park. A special shout out to residents Greg and Lorraine Barrow who have worked alone, due to Covid-19, to ensure that the Park always looks amazing.

The couple joined the Horticultural Society in 2019 after they moved to North Grenville from Peterborough. This year, of their own accord, they also decided to clean up and replant the garden adjacent to the Municipal garden bed there and donate some time to the Giving Garden.

The Kemptville Horticultural Society has been part of our community since 1899 – that's 122 years of promoting and maintaining gardens in Kemptville. On behalf of the [Municipality of North Grenville](#), we very much appreciate all of the efforts for over a century now to keep Kemptville and beyond looking its best!

For all you garden enthusiasts – be sure to check out our photo contest! There are 5 categories – including one on landscapes (urban/rural) which could include neighbourhood gardens or farm fields. Check out all the details at www.northgrenville.ca/photocontest.



Photos by Jill Sturdy

Mayor Nancy Peckford, North Grenville

Callander Horticultural Society

Submitted by Brenda Jansen, President and compiled by Mary Lawrence, Photo by Leola Morin



*Past President Isla Reed
with her Trillium/Silver Fir Award*

In spite of the "Covid-19 Summer" we've all enjoyed, our society managed to accomplish several things.

Our Memory Tree Park, along the shores of Lake Nipissing, was kept up with the beds weeded and tidied. We are looking at putting up extra signage to explain how the park came to be in the early days of our society.

We assisted the town by having an evening work bee to plant the flowers in the town planters. They did well all summer.

We had hoped to have a "Geranium Tea" in the spring. We purchased 100 plants and were looking forward to that. Well, it didn't happen. We sold off all the plants to members and friends so all was well.

Our past President Isla Reed was awarded the Trillium/Silver Fir Award which consisted of a certificate and beautiful brooch for all the work that she had done for the Callander Horticultural Society and community. The Executive decided that we needed to prepare a surprise meeting to present the lovely silver brooch and certificate to her. She was totally surprised. Congratulations Isla.

We are looking forward to finally having a meeting in October, our own Brenda Jansen who will speak of Butterflies and New Bugs in her garden.

Our Annual General Meeting will be a dinner in November. We all enjoy the good food and socializing of this meeting as we get back to NORMAL!

Williamstown Green Thumb Horticultural Society

Esther Bryan, President

Photos by Esther Bryan



Williamstown, Ontario is known for having the longest continuously running fair in Canada.

However, maintaining that record with Covid-19 restrictions has been a challenge. To keep the Fair going, the event has been a Drive-thru Fair for the past two years. On August 7th, 2021, the Fair was 210 years old and the Williamstown Green Thumbs in District 1 produced a feature garden display as a centrepiece for the event. Our intrepid club volunteers brought in truckloads of flowers, vegetables, potted shrubs and trees, garden furniture, landscaping materials and accessories to produce a colourful 70 foot-long display. It featured a series of "garden rooms" each with a different theme. The whole display took on a magical quality after dark as it was lit with hundreds of tiny lights. What a wonderful celebration for all and best of all, the Fair record remains unbroken.



Celia K. Roberts

January 14, 1945 - December 20, 2021

A Fond Farewell

To An Incredibly Talented and Well-Loved Friend and Member of District 6

I first met Celia in the 1980's as our sons went to the same schools but I didn't get to actually know her well until 1998. Celia joined the Oakville Horticultural Society in the fall of 1997 and I met her when I joined in 1998.

We had many common interests and so became fast friends and seemed to do the same things – usually together. Celia's story began in Liverpool, England, where she was born and raised until age 8, at which time her parents Robert and Alma Roberts moved Celia and her two sisters Angela and Julie to Canada where they settled in Mississauga.

Celia became President of the Oakville Horticultural Society (2001-2003), ran the society plant sale for ten years and presented her garden on three separate garden tours in Oakville. She always had a great interest in horticulture and landscape design and so became an accredited horticultural Judge in 1996. She started and ran her own successful Interior Design business. Two of her particular accomplishments were the refurbishment of the gardens at Ian Anderson House, a cancer hospice, and the creation of a rooftop garden at the original Oakville-Trafalgar Memorial Hospital.

Her interests soon turned to floral design where she became well known for her lovely and dramatic arrangements. She became an accredited judge of floral design in 2000 and went on to help organize and run several large and small flower shows including those at the Oakville Horticultural Society, the Cloverleaf Garden Club of Mississauga (CGCM), the Ontario Horticulture Association (OHA) District 6 AGM flower shows, OHA Convention flower shows, The Garden Club of Toronto flower shows and "Successful Gardening" and the prestigious "Canada Blooms" show. Celia made her entry onto the world stage of floral design (WAFA) in fine fashion attending and winning a silver medal in Dublin, Ireland, and an Honourable Mention in Boston. She also had the honour of being asked to judge design at an international level.

On the leadership side, Celia moved on from local society president to being the District Director for OHA District 6 where she served for four years providing strong leadership and managed the OHA Convention flower shows as her mandate on the OHA Board. She also served as OHA District 15 District Director for one year.

Celia loved to share her talents and knowledge and went on to teach many classes at local garden clubs, Ontario Horticultural Conventions and at the Garden Club of Toronto. In the last two years, she mastered the art of teaching via Zoom. Celia was always kind and helpful to any new designer entering the fabulous world of floral design.

Her accomplishments include the following awards:

- OHS President's Award (2005),
- District Appreciation Award (2006),
- OHA Service Certificate (2011),
- CLGC President's Award (2014),
- OHA District Service Award (2012),
- OHA Exhibiting and Judging Award (2016),
- The prestigious OHA Award of Merit (2017), and she was a contender for the OHA Trillium Award in 2018.

Celia was a wonderful, giving woman with a strong personality and she used it well to better the world around her. She will be sadly missed by her partner David Humphries, her daughter Monique (Marc), her son Michael Vanderjagt, grandchildren Sydney, Jonathon and Jay Michael, and all her friends and co-workers in OHA District 6.



*Celia receiving the District Service Award in 2012
(Photograph E. Schleicher)*



*Celia in 2019 at a volunteer thank-you event.
(Photograph F. Tingle)*

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Decker

Bath Gardening Club

What's Happening in Bath

Submitted by Pat Chown

Photos submitted by Don Taylor and Bob Willis

The next gardening challenge: not undies but gardens of red flowers!

During our recent in person October meeting which was also conducted on Zoom, we welcomed Brad King, our OHA representative from District 3. Brad King announced that the OHA has decided that the theme for 2022 will be the "Year of the Garden" and, that RED is the colour of the flower that the OHA is hoping many gardeners will plant! Brad stated that if people plant RED flowers, they are encouraged to take a picture of their garden, send the picture to their local gardening club who will then submit the picture to the OHA. A pin will be placed on the map of Ontario to indicate where the red garden exists. We have been encouraged to try and acquire as many "pin markings" in our area as possible. This sounds like a challenge and we know Bathers are always up to a challenge! We are confident that the Bath area on the Ontario map will be covered with pins!



Congratulations to our Gardening Club elected Officers for 2022

President: Janice Firth

Vice President: Mike Janssens

Treasurer: Laurie Minorgan/Jane Ledingham

Recording Secretary: Jeannie Czesnick

Membership Secretary: Elly Warren

Publicity Secretary: Heather Bennett

Thank you to all of our officers, our Board of Governors, Committee Coordinators and to our members who participate in our activities. Countless volunteer hours by the whole team helps our Gardening Club to be a viable learning organization while maintaining a focus on Bath beautification.

October's Guest Speaker: Nancy Louwman

During October's meeting we were privileged to welcome Nancy Louwman from the Rideau 1000 Islands Master Gardeners to speak with us via Zoom. Her topic? Asters. Her presentation reminded us how beautiful asters are in our fall gardens and also how beneficial they are to the insect population. Asters thrive in all kinds of soil. Nancy provided information on a variety of asters some of which might be best suited for your soil conditions. Here are a few facts:

Plants in the "Asteraceae" family include: lettuce, daisies, sunflowers, chrysanthemums, asters, dandelions, goldenrod, coneflowers, thistles, artichokes, sunflowers, dahlias, marigolds, zinnias, asters, chamomile, chicory, sage, tarragon, ragweed, thistle, sagebrush and yarrow. There are about 350 species of asters worldwide, of these 150 are native to North America.

Butterfly and moth caterpillars are highly attracted to aster leaves as a food source.

Bumblebee Queens depend on the plants' fall blooms for energy just before entering their hibernation period. Monarch butterflies are often seen on aster blooms as they store up energy for their migration to Mexico.

The following are a few samples of asters that are native to our area: For this and more information check out: <https://www.inournature.ca/>

1. Calico Aster (*Symphyotrichum lateriflorum*) white flower, Aug-Oct **Growing conditions:** Part shade-sun, thrives in sand, loam or clay, moist to dry soil. **Height:** 2-3 feet
2. Large-leafed Aster (*Eurybia Macrophyllis*) light blue-white flower, Aug-Sept. **Growing conditions:** Part shade-sun, thrives in sand, loam or clay, dry to medium soil. **Height:** 1-2 feet
3. New England Aster (*Symphyotrichum novae-angliae*) purple, pink, Aug-Oct. **Growing conditions:** Full sun - Part sun, grows well in sand, loam or clay, moist-average soil. Tolerates dry soil but may look scraggly. **Height:** 2-5 feet NOTE: If the plant is becoming too tall, cut it back in June.
4. Smooth Blue Aster (*Symphyotrichum laeve*) lavender to light blue, Sept- Oct. **Growing conditions:** Full sun-light shade, grows well in sand, loam, or clay. Dry to medium soil. **Height:** 4 feet
5. Heath Aster (*Symphyotrichum ericoides*) white, Aug-Oct. **Growing Conditions:** Full sun-light shade, thrives in sand, loam. Dry – average moisture. **Height:** 1-2 feet

Asters do not need rich soil to prosper and many are drought resistant. These are perfect plants for the Bath area.

Nancy suggested that using a species name when shopping helps you to find the plant that best meets your planting/soil conditions.





Milkweed Seed Bombs - A fun way of helping our monarch butterfly population prosper

Sue Nilsson

Sue and Brian Nilsson are considered by some to be the monarch butterfly ambassadors in Bath. We are grateful that they have given their time and expertise to raise awareness of the need to maintain and also replenish milkweed to keep our monarchs' population viable. Milkweed leaves are the critical food source for a developing monarch caterpillar. Since Sue and Brian have moved to our area, they have "saved" hundreds of monarchs by fostering them in their home, feeding them milkweed leaves as they grow and then releasing them back to the same spot where they were originally found once they emerge from the chrysalis. Construction projects, the misuse of chemicals and climate change, to name a few, diminish the habitats of all of our pollinators. Specific to the monarch, the growing area of milkweed is also reduced. For more info about pollinators and the importance of their work for our food system check out: <https://www.pollinator.org/>

So how can we help? Sue Nilsson presented a fun way to grow our own milkweed. Milkweed Seed Bombs! We know that creating "bombs" is becoming a favourite project for gardening enthusiasts all over North America.

Here is the recipe:

3 parts compost material

2 parts dry clay (for the clay, non-clumping kitty litter can be used or subsoil clay from your yard)

A sprinkling of local milkweed seed (about 1/5 of a part)

Method: Mix all ingredients well while dry then add just enough water to form a ball. Divide this mixture into smaller balls and allow these to dry for a few days. Now you are ready to go! Where do you put these milkweed seed bombs? In or on your garden, toss them on an abandoned field (*with permission*).

When do you plant?

Fall: after a few frosts so seeds do not start to germinate.
Winter: while snow is on the ground so that seeds will cold-stratify before spring arrives.

Spring: after the frost has passed

How do you plant the bombs? Toss them on the ground. They do not need to be planted in soil. With a little water, compost and sunlight, the bombs will begin to germinate.

For more information, check out: (<https://www.saveourmonarchs.org/blog/milkweed-seed-balls-101>)

Note: Bombs can be made with many native seeds so instead of only making milkweed bombs, try Joe-Pye Weed and other wild flower seeds.

More helpful tips are found in the following link: (<https://www.communityworkshopllc.com/goodstuff/2021/how-to-seed-bombs>)

Photos and Front Cover Photo by Don Taylor



Bugtel, Pallet Art and Memorial Grove Update

Janice Firth Photos by Don Taylor

During the summer, the Gardening Club renovated the Bugtel in the park behind the fire hall. This renovation was completed as a result of a generous grant from Lafarge, one of our Club's valued corporate sponsors. Native plants were selected for our Bugtel garden and boy, did they thrive! The flowers attracted a number of insects and the gardens were literally humming with insect activity. To help visitors identify the native flowers in the garden, Bonnie Freidenberg, one of our local artists, graciously used her pallet art skill to illustrate all of the plants growing in the Bugtel garden.

Work on the Bugtel area continued into the fall. To create our Memorial Grove, four serviceberry trees which were purchased through the LaFarge grant were planted by the Loyalist Township.

The gardens are now resting with the dead foliage and the Bugtel providing a home for the insects during the cold winter months. The Gardening Club is planning an official opening of the Lafarge Memorial Grove and Pollinator Garden in the spring when the weather is warmer.

November Christmas Workshop... 'Tis the season!

Thanks to Judy Hume and Mary Drinkwater, our Program Coordinators, twelve members of our Gardening Club got into the holiday spirit while making festive centrepieces and hanging baskets during our November workshop. The workshop leaders were Dawn Ford and Janice Firth. It was a magical afternoon of reconnecting with friends, sharing ideas and leaving the gathering still humming to the Christmas music that had been playing in the background.

Thank you to our organizers and to those who came out to participate in a fun activity.



Bath is gearing up for the holidays!

Many thanks to Laurie Minorgan for volunteering to head up the village decorating committee. Under her direction, huge red bows were made and tied onto dozens of wreaths and then placed throughout the village by the Loyalist Township. All of our planters and the garden at the Post Office are overflowing with greens and bows. The Gazebo and park areas in the centre of the village have been decorated in partnership with the Bath Lions Club. Now we are ready for the Carol Sing which, of course, wouldn't be complete without cookies and hot chocolate. Depending on the Covid-19 protocol, the Carol Sing is scheduled for December 5!



Working on Planters Photos by Don Taylor



Bows for Town Wreaths Photo by Pat Chown

Up and coming Gardening Club events?

Our Christmas luncheon will take place at the O'Conner Tea House in Deseronto on December 10th. And, believe it or not, it is that time of year when we start thinking of spring and planting our village gardens.



OHA Awards and Grants

Sharlene Desjardins, OHA Awards Coordinator

The Ontario Horticultural Association sponsors various awards and grants each year. Awards are presented annually during the Convention and throughout the year by the District Directors. Grants are approved in March and reimbursed throughout the year. The new downloadable and printable Awards Booklet is now available online at the [GardenOntario website](https://www.gardenontario.com). The booklet is designed to inform the members of the awards and grants available and the procedure to follow to submit a nomination/application.

Awards presented at the convention are:

- Silver Medal Award
- Trillium/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, 2022. 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, Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Past President, North/East Regional Representative, South/West Regional Representative, Secretary, Awards Coordinator and the Chair of the Past Presidents' 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 \$300 for a special tree planting. Up to 20 tree-planting grants will be awarded in 2022.

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's Awards Coordinator at the address above. The tree grants will be awarded on a first come basis starting January 1st, 2022, up to a maximum of 20 awards per year. This grant is available every second year. The awarded society must complete the planting of their tree by the end of the year. For example: if the grant is awarded in 2022 – the tree must be planted and receipts received by the Awards Coordinator by December 31, 2022.

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 or Environmental Project

New for 2022, the Ontario Horticultural Association is offering up to 4 Special Project/Environmental Grants of up to \$1000 each as part of the ongoing support of member societies. These projects must have a long lasting benefit to the society, community or environment. There are two subcategories on the application form and you must choose the one your society wants to complete. When preparing your application, be sure to include information about the location and use of the project, a budget for the project, one or two photographs of the site, the estimated costs and any other criteria required for the project you wish to undertake. Please keep your application to a maximum of 10 pages.

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

To be considered for a Special Project/Environmental grant in 2022, an application form and the accompanying information should be completed, sent to and received by the Awards Coordinator no later than February 28, 2022. Application forms are available on the OHA website at www.gardenontario.org.

To be reimbursed, the reporting form and accompanying documents must be received by the OHA Awards Coordinator no later than December 31st of the next year. For example, a grant awarded in 2022 must have all documentation submitted to and received by the Awards Coordinator no later than December 31st of 2023.

OHA Community Garden Grant

The Ontario Horticultural Association encourages its member societies to create or contribute to community gardens whether urban or rural. The 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 send it to the Awards Coordinator, who must receive it no later than February 28 of 2022. If your community garden project is awarded a grant, payment will follow receipt of a completed reporting form including original receipts and pictures of the completed project.

The reporting form must be received by the OHA Awards Coordinator before December 31 of the next year. i.e. a grant awarded in 2022 must have

all paperwork submitted to and received by the Awards Coordinator by December 31 of 2023. If a reporting form accompanied by original receipts is not received by this time, it will be assumed that the community garden project was not 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 \$200.00 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 send it to the Awards Coordinator who must receive it no later than February 28th of the current year. If your pollinator project is awarded a grant, payment will follow receipt of a reporting form including original receipts and pictures of the completed project.

The reporting form and accompanying documents must be received by the OHA Awards Coordinator no later than December 31st of the next year. For example, a grant awarded in 2022 must have all documentation submitted to and received by the Awards Coordinator by December 31st of 2023.

Youth Help Program Grant

To assist societies working with youth, the OHA will be offering up to 50 youth grants of up to \$75.00 each.

The Youth Help Program Grant provides societies that work with youth financial support. Any society working with youth and in good standing with the OHA may apply for the grant. The grant may be used for programming, seeds, special events, supplies, start up of a youth program, etc. for the society applying for the grant.

Updated youth grant forms are available on the OHA website at www.gardenontario.org. This grant is available yearly.

Technical Advancement Grant

The Technical Advancement Grant was introduced in 2021 to an overwhelming number of applications. This grant is awarded on a first come basis and in 2022 there will be six grants available of up to \$250 each. A society may only receive this grant twice with a three year waiting period between applications. The society may choose to purchase a web-based subscription or

technical equipment. We thank all the societies for doing their best to embrace technology during this difficult pandemic situation.

Youth Project Grant

We would like to bring the Youth Project Grant to the forefront for 2022. The Ontario Horticultural Association developed this grant to assist Youth Programs for their work on a public beautification/native/pollinator project. OHA outdoor signage and a grant of up to \$150 may be awarded annually to up to three Youth Programs/Clubs. Applications forms are available at the GardenOntario website. This grant may be applied for annually.

Year of the Garden Grant

New for 2022 **only** is the Year of the Garden Grant. There will be two grants awarded in 2022 for the Year of the Garden. These two grants are funded entirely

by donations from four Board Members/Officers. One grant will be awarded to a society in the North/East region of Ontario and one grant will go to a society in the South/West region. The grants are up to \$500 each and can be created at locations such as nursing homes, schools, hospices etc. They must be accessible. Please go to the GardenOntario website and check out the application for more information.

Also available are applications for Horticultural Service Certificates, Judging/Exhibiting Service Certificates and District Service Plaques. Please read the application form carefully and take the time to consider all the volunteers in your society and community that help to keep your area beautiful. Nominate a deserving individual or group for 2022.

District 6

Catherine McGill, District Director, Photo by Sandi Remedios



District 6 had a great showing again at the Hamilton Mum show, Oct. 22-31 at Gage Park, Hamilton. The Mum Show, as most people refer to the show, started in 1920 and has seen many changes over the years. A new theme each year has taken us through dramatic scenes of flowers, colours and displays with over 200 varieties of Chrysanthemums, and more than 100,000 blooms. District 6 had an unmanned table with most of the society/club bookmarks/info so visitors could find out information on the society/club closest to them. The show had over 339 people through in the first 2.5 hrs at reduced capacity and seed packages that were out for visitors flew off the table along with bee tattoos for the kids. Sandi Remedios who is an Assistant Director was kept busy stopping in to refill the table and we owe a big thanks to her for chairing our attendance at this event.

Pineridge Garden Club

Submitted by Helen Nicolaou Photo by Libbi Hood

The Pineridge Garden Club was delighted, at our October 5 Virtual Meeting, to host Guest Speaker Michael Erdman. Michael demonstrated 2 spectacular designs to adorn our Thanksgiving Holiday Table.

The first design showed our members how to create a "Traditional Mass Design" using a pumpkin as the Harvest Holiday Vessel. This design was to be viewed from all sides using rich fall colours of yellow, orange, red and a splash of purple.

For the second arrangement, Michael created a stunning Italian-Inspired "Modern Mass Design" for viewing from three sides. Displayed in a tall nine-inch complementary vase, he used five vibrant contrasting colours and textures.

Michael had purchased some roses but mainly he used locally found flowers, fillers and greenery collected from his garden and his walk. It was inspirational on how to

make use of seasonal blooms and shrubs.

Thank you Michael, for the list of flowers and plant fillers provided prior to our meeting to allow our members to work along with you as well as at our leisure in the following days. We were grateful for the tips and informative evening in design.

For the final meeting of the 2021 season on December 7, the evening will be hosted by Gail Cameron of Village Florist. This workshop will be held in person at the Nestleton Hall where our members look forward to the magic of the season by getting their hands busy designing a "Holiday Swag" filled with local fragrant fresh pine/spruce greenery. All precautions will be followed regarding Ontario Covid-19 requirements.

Wishing all the very best in health and happiness to all our gardening friends and families over the holiday season and in the New Year of 2022.



*Michael Erdman
Modern Mass Design*

Magnetawan Horticultural Society

Submitted by Nancy Thompson, Acting DD of District 18 Pictures by Nancy Thompson

The Annual General Meeting and first face-to-face meeting in 18 months was held on November 27. Eleven directors and Officers were duly installed by the visiting OHA Acting District 18 Director, Nancy Thompson.



*Harvey Soh,
The Vegetable Guy*

Harvey Soh, the Vegetable Guy, was thanked and presented with a bouquet of flowers for his work creating, supervising and working on the new Community Gardens.

As well as working in the gardens, Harvey distributed free veggies to many seniors and not-so-seniors in the area.

Harvey told of one elderly lady who said she would love some beans. She would only take 6 beans ~ "enough for two meals" she said.

Everyone wanted to pay for their lovely fresh vegetables but Harvey insisted that it was a community garden and the community should benefit. Well done, Harvey.

Julie Hozian also received thanks and a bouquet from President Barb Stewart. Julie had contacted all the area businesses and collected funds for the gardens. There will be a list of contributors (almost everyone) on a sign to be erected in 2022.

Plans for next year's garden include, perhaps, a pollinator garden along the edge and even a fence to keep out the deer.

As the youngest member Society (5th Anniversary in 2022) in District 18, Magnetawan is sharing some great ideas:

- They will be having their Facebook Bingo again with most profits going back into prizes.
- They supply the local school with materials and help making a craft.
- Using Facebook, this Society sponsors a 'Decorated Theme' a few times a year. People decorate a door, front of the house, or garden then take pictures, enter the contest and post on Facebook. The Society judges the photos and awards a \$20 prize. Great way to keep in touch and advertise their Society!

More info can be obtained from Barbara Stewart 705-387-0219 or maghortsociety@gmail.com



*Julie Hozian and
President Barb Stewart*



What's New at OHA Supplies

Rose Odell, Supplies Coordinator

Thank you to so many for the orders that I received in October. I guess some of the Societies/Clubs are finding inventive ways to meet with their members and present them with lapel pins and/or certificates to honour their years of service or for their work on the board. These items do create a sense of pride and I proudly wear my pins for all the positions I have held in my local community and as an Officer on the Ontario Horticultural Association Board.

I am excited to let you know of new items that the OHA has been working on.

GardenOntario Gorgeous Garden Door Hanger:

One new item is a GardenOntario Gorgeous Garden Door Hanger for Societies/Clubs to use to hang on the handle of someone's house that displays a lovely garden or yard in your community. It lets them know that their garden or yard was noticed by someone in a Society/Club in the area. On the reverse side of the card, information has been provided as to where to find a local Society/Club and lets them know some of the perks that are included in being a member of a Society/Club and the OHA.

A sample of these GardenOntario Gorgeous Door Hangers was provided to the Directors and Officers at the October OHA Board Meeting to share with the Societies/Clubs. If you would like to purchase more of the GardenOntario Gorgeous Door Hangers, they are available for purchase through the GardenOntario Vista Print page at the link noted below.

<https://gardenontario.go.customprintcenter.ca/Templates/6f206510-ddf7-4880-8a43-16e6919b6a6c>



We are working on an editable Society/Club Door Hanger where they can add their specific information on the reverse side. We will let you know as soon as the customizable Door Hanger is available for order through the GardenOntario Vista Print page.

OHA In Memoriam Donation Card:

The OHA has created an In Memoriam Donation Card that can be handed out to your local funeral homes, churches, libraries, law offices, Legions or any other places that may be appropriate. It is hoped that by offering these donation cards, the OHA may be considered when individuals are looking to make donations or earmark donations on behalf of someone. The OHA is a volunteer charitable organization that encourages interest in gardening and related environmental issues with horticultural societies and like-minded organizations by providing leadership and education. Charitable donations have a huge impact and together we have the power to impact our future. A small quantity of these donation cards were provided to the Directors and Officers at the October OHA Board Meeting to share with the Societies/Clubs.



Perpetual Calendars:

I have recently been given 7 Perpetual Calendars that were created many years ago. If anyone would like one, please let me know. They have a bit of history on the back page, and this calendar saves you writing the names of the special occasions on your yearly calendar. They are \$10.00 each. I can share a photo for anyone interested.

Note Cards:

And did you know that we have 4 photo options available for Note Cards? You can buy one package of 5 for \$5.00 or you can mix it up, or not, and get 5 packages for \$20.00. This gives you one package for free.

Beeswax Wraps:

I still have many Beeswax Wraps in inventory and would welcome orders. They make a nice gift for yourself or for a special occasion. Several patterns are available or we have a set that has the GardenOntario logo on them.



Share with Us:

I can see all of you, now that outdoor gardening is done, with your faces glued to the pages of the seed catalogues planning more exciting things for your gardens. We love to see what your plans are, how you care for houseplants, or how you start your growing next spring. If you have any tips or ideas to share, an article for the Trillium newsletter is always welcome.

GardenOntario Facebook Page:

We also love to see your posts on the GardenOntario Facebook page and try to answer any questions. We now have over 36,000 members! Thank you.

Happy Planning and Enjoy the Season

Rose Odell, Supplies Coordinator supplies@gardenontario.org



GardenOntario™
KEEPING ONTARIO BEAUTIFUL™

The **OHA Annual Information Reporting** for 2021 is now open on the gardenontario.org website. It can be found at <https://gardenontario.org/annual-society-entry/>. A login and password will be required to access the reporting area.

The LaSalle Horticultural Society

By Jan Dugdale, President Photos by Jan Dugdale

The winter chill is upon us and our gardens are all put to bed. It came a lot quicker than previous years and I'm sure a few of you are, like members in our society, still having to put a few things away, cover a few things and get the rest into the shed making sure to oil the wooden handles.

We had some great meetings finally together in one hall, socially distanced with hand sanitizer in close range. It was great to see everyone as we watched Barb Morden work her magic demonstrating how to make live arrangements for inside and outside the home. Our next meeting was also fabulous with another speaker, Chris Jacobson, who shared his experiences with homing and living with the cute screech owls in his neighborhood and yard. How fascinating to have them in your yard! Get more information on Chris at: "Megascops' Manors" on Google and Facebook.

November brought our end of year Christmas together complete with Secret Santa gifts and desserts, games and some great door prizes. Everyone left very happy. We also completed cleaning out our community garden and preparing it for spring.

Our society's special gift this year going into next year is giving \$25 worth of fresh fruits and veggies to our local food bank each week on Tuesday morning until we can again supply fresh fruits and vegetables from our community garden next summer. They are so grateful for our donations each week.

To finish our giving, we have donated two \$500 scholarships to Saint Clair college horticultural students to help with their future studies. We also have our "Light up LaSalle" campaign in which we give prizes to homes that decorate and liven up our community: three prizes for houses and one prize for a local business.

Well, Merry Christmas to all and to all a good 2022.



The hard working crew



The work never ends

Aylmer & District Horticultural Society

Kate Kent, President

The Aylmer & District Horticultural Society had some interesting activity; photo captures of nature and a little intervention including an article from Lesley Malcolm that was shared recently in our quarterly Newsletter...

Monarch Butterflies

Submitted by: Lesley Malcolm

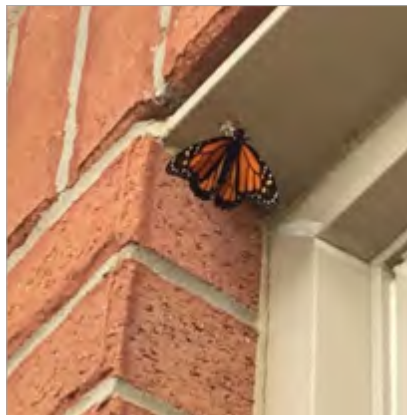
One lovely day in August, I was enjoying a visit from my daughter and grandkids. We watched a butterfly flying around my garden and several times landing on my pink-flowered milkweed. A little later, we went over to see if it laid any eggs. To our delight we harvested three eggs. I put the branches in water. My husband quickly transformed a small tabletop greenhouse into a butterfly enclosure. I kept the branches watered and waited patiently. Before long, I had my first caterpillar. Now the job was to keep my new friend supplied with food (milkweed leaves). A few days later, the other two eggs hatched. Two things I can tell you about monarch caterpillars, they eat a lot and poop a lot! Lining the bottom of the enclosure with newspaper was a good suggestion from my daughter. She and the grandkids raised 14 monarchs last year. One morning, I noticed the biggest 'cat' at the top of the enclosure. Before long it was hanging in a J shape and then forming its chrysalis. Chrysalis stage is usually about 10 days. Just before it emerges, the chrysalis turns an opaque black. Once emerged, they need a couple of hours to dry and straighten their wings. I was fortunate to lift one of the butterflies on my finger before it flew away.



More Monarch Butterflies

So nice seeing our members so interested in supporting the Monarch butterflies. Cathy Kasza captured these pictures of a chrysalis and a wonderful monarch butterfly.

Pictures submitted by Cathy Kasza



Christmas Gnome



Cathy Kasza's Christmas Gnome that she learned to make from Agnes Burroughs at a recent workshop that was enjoyed by all.



Hornets' Nest

Here is a picture of a wasp nest in my maple tree. The kids next door noticed it and their dad removed it for me. I understand there was quite a few of these around.

Submitted by: Roberta Wilson



Chicken Fungus

Discovered by Roberta Wilson while on a walk in the Springwater Woods just southwest of Aylmer.

Galt Horticultural Society

Lynne Goulet-Smith, 1st VP & Membership Committee Chair

The Galt Horticultural Society is fortunate to have Ferguson Cottage as our 'home base' where we are the caretakers of the cottage gardens and where we hold many of our activities on this historic property.

Galt Horticultural Society is staying connected with our membership...

- We continue to send out updates, monthly newsletters and holding our virtual monthly membership meetings with interesting informative speakers.
- We still have our monthly photo contests. Each month we have a different theme. The membership votes on their favourite photo and the winner receives their prize via door-drop-off or by mail.
- We are also continuing with our online auctions on our Facebook page. We are grateful to the local retailers who generously donated many fabulous items. Our membership and the public place their bids in the hopes of winning a treasure for their gardens.
- The GHS held a virtual plant sale in late September. Members were able to place their orders via email and pick up their plants at Ferguson Cottage, with Covid-19 protocols in place.
- The Galt Horticultural Society is thrilled to be part of the City of Cambridge – Winter Illumination 2021 Event, to be held from Dec. 1, 2021 to Jan 2, 2022. The community is invited to experience the magic of the season with more than 20 festive light installations and Ferguson Cottage will be on the list of light displays to visit. Some of our members recently got together to create beautiful decorations and displays in preparation for this event.
- For our final membership meeting of the year, we will be having our virtual Christmas Bingo Party. Members are invited to join in via Zoom, as we play bingo, award prizes and dress up in our ugly sweaters for all to see! We had a great deal of fun last year so we are going to do this again this year.
- On Jan 23, 2022, the Galt Horticultural Society will once again hold our Virtual Dream Garden Conference featuring Paul Zammitt as our speaker. We are hoping that many of our members join in to enjoy Paul's informative and engaging presentation.

During these challenging times, our society has managed to stay in touch... keep our membership engaged... have some fun... and stay safe.



Dunnville's New Lighthouse Does Double Duty

By Deb Zynomirski, President, Photo by Deb Zynomirski

In a world reeling from Covid-19 darkness and fear, it seemed a fitting project: a Lighthouse to be a beacon of hope. The Dunnville Horticultural Society's latest project didn't start out as such an icon, but it has certainly become just that.

The DHS Board of Directors had been struggling for years to come up with a viable solution to deal with the onerous maintenance requirements of one of its largest public gardens. Our East Bridge Bed was crawling with bindweed and its sheer size posed an imposing weeding task for whomever was brave enough to volunteer to care for it.

We had tossed around several ideas to reduce the maintenance footprint, including placing an old lifeboat in the bed to fill with flowers. This idea was nixed for two reasons: 1) planting more flowers in the bed didn't reduce the workload and this area would eventually be taken over by the bindweed as well; and 2) all the boats we looked at were either too modern looking or too large for what we envisioned. Another solution had to be found.

Our Past President Debbie Thomas, always full of great ideas, came up with a Lighthouse. The more we tossed around this idea, the more we liked it. It was also truly in keeping with the nautical roots of our town along the Grand River and close to Lake Erie. A Lighthouse it would be!

We viewed many lighthouses online and even a few local miniature models. A simple four-sided structure was designed. At fifteen feet tall with the five foot base sitting on a six foot square concrete base, this beacon would take up a considerable amount of garden space and be an imposing landmark as well.

The next hurdle was getting the project approved through our Haldimand County planning department. Since the Lighthouse was to be placed on Haldimand County property and close to an intersection, DHS had to go through an approval process with the Committee of Adjustments and site approvals with the Grand River Conservation Authority. This proved more difficult and time consuming than we first anticipated. The project began in earnest in 2019 and wasn't fully approved until fall 2021. Once the approvals happened, everything transpired quite quickly. We are grateful to Haldimand County for approving this project under their Community Partnership Program, whereby they foot the cost of 35% of the project build.

Our hero, a local craftsman who wished to remain anonymous, designed and built the structure out of regular planks and plywood. The exterior was clad in Hardie board and painted a striking Heritage Red with white trim. A mirrored faux "light" was affixed to the top to simulate a rotating light. With the location of the Lighthouse near a stoplight, we were not able to make it a functioning light for fear that drivers might be confused by it as they approached the intersection. No worry though, the mirrored top is every bit as attractive!

Within days of being erected, DHS received hundreds of positive posts on Facebook. Many people have come out to take their own photos and selfies with Dunnville's newest landmark. It has been gratifying to see our project bring joy to Dunnville's citizens in such a dark time.



Clifford & District Horticultural Society

Tree Planted In Memory of Barbara Harris of Clifford

Bonnie Whitehead, Photos by Bonnie Whitehead

Family and friends gathered at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 25 in the Rotary Park at the south end of Clifford to plant a tree in memory of Barbara Harris and her many good deeds to the Clifford & District Horticultural Society and the community of Clifford.

Society president Vic Palmer welcomed all saying, "Each year in celebration of National Tree Day, we honour a director who has passed away. The government mandated our actions, so a planting couldn't be held sooner due to Covid-19 protocols. I am pleased to see so many family and friends. Planted in memory of Barb is a Shagbark Hickory tree. It's hardy, can handle the shade and will grow to 50 or 60 feet tall. Trish and I are relatively new to Clifford, only living here ten years, so others knew her far better. Barbara always had a smile, a happy face, bustling to help out. We were made to feel welcome. This tree is a living legacy to her."

Barbara Harris donated hundreds of hours between 2007 to 2019 serving on the board: planning, planting and caring for community gardens; organizing the spring and summer flower shows; finding, introducing and thanking guest speakers; pitching in to Tidy the Town for Earth Day; attending District 7 meetings; participating in garden tours; baking and selling baking for the bake sales and canvassing for members. Barb was described as a sweetheart. She offered suggestions, ideas and words of praise. Her willingness to accept any task was a true blessing to her co-volunteers and the Society. Her volunteer hours reflected her dedication to the Society and to the community of Clifford. Her vibrant enthusiasm reflected her true joy of friendship and gardening. Our lives were truly enriched by Barbara Harris.

Brian Harris thanked everyone for their support, "It is appreciated." Brian and his sons Michael and David spread mulch over the base of the tree, then Brian added the sign in memory of Barb. After chatting and getting a closer look at the tree, the gathering left the park and headed to the Rotary Pavillion Park for a time of reminiscing. Refreshments were prepared by Karen Dowler, Jean Yenssen and Elaine Young.

Brian Harris brought along the certificate he received from the Saugeen Valley Conservation Foundation that said, "a tree had been planted in Memorial Grove in memory of Barbara Harris through the generous contribution of the Clifford & District Horticultural Society."



Brian Harris and family took part in the memorial tree planting in honour of Barbara Harris and National Tree Day on Saturday, September 25 in the Rotary Park. (l-r) Laurel Jaunzemis, Doris Jaunzemis, Jennifer and David Harris, Brian Harris, Michael and Judy Harris, Rose and Ray Harris, Andrew Jaunzemis, Karen Harris, Justin Graham and Meagan Harris, Holly Harris and Mat Ballagh, Mitchell Harris

Gloucester Horticultural Society

Article and Photos by Maria Sievers

Native Plant and Wildflower Garden at Madonna Long-term Care Home in Orleans

A group of GHS volunteers got together in the winter of 2021 (via Zoom, of course) and started planning a Native Plant Garden bed at this Orleans long-term care home, right at their front entrance.

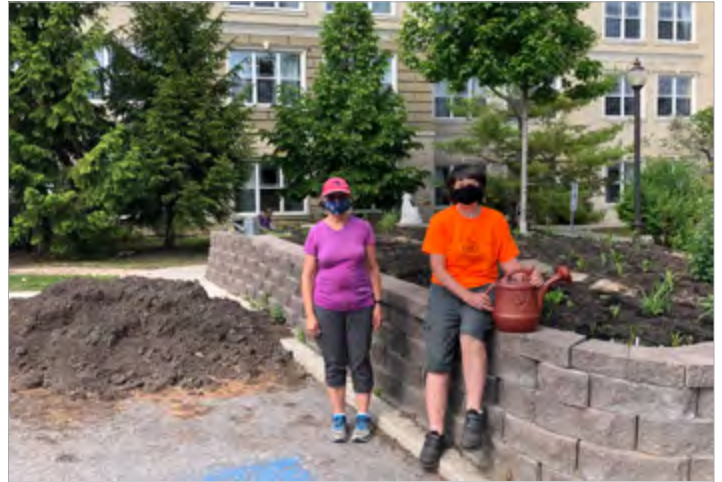
Over several Zoom meetings, a design was developed (which was adapted in the actual process later on), a budget established and a list of plants drawn up. An application for a special project grant was submitted to the Ontario Horticultural Association and we were approved for \$500! The GHS contributed another \$145 and we were able to go ahead with our plan.

Native plants in plug form were mainly ordered from **Connaught Organic Nursery in Cobden** whose owners, Grant and Dorothy Dobson, provided us with a full tray of about 50 plant plugs for free!

In early spring, we laid out a path with flagstones, donated by Laurie Loh's cousin, and started by planting a Saskatoon Serviceberry, a clump-forming shrub, as well as a Red Osier Dogwood, providing the first instance of some layering.

In May, our group of volunteers worked in two small groups – with masks and keeping appropriate distances – and planted about 280 perennials as well as donated annuals!

By summer, the bed had turned into a riot of colours and was abuzz with bees and pollinators! When we dropped by to water or weed, there was usually someone – staff or visitors – who thanked us and commented on what a lovely planting it had already



Here are a few pictures of the native garden bed GHS members planted at the Madonna Long-term Care Home on St. Joseph Boulevard in Orleans.



become. The nicest thing we heard was that residents looked out from above onto the bed and commented on how pretty, colourful and cheerful it is!

All in all, a wonderful community project which contributes a lot to the enjoyment for the residents and staff as well as to re-generating biodiversity.

Thank you to all the generous plant donors and to our dedicated committee: Ethel Stuart, Laurie Loh, Sarah Hand, Margaret Maclaren, Cathy Sparling and Maria Sievers.

And a big Thank You to the Ontario Horticultural Association (OHA) for their financial support!



Cosmos "Bonnie Henrie"



Hairy Beardtongue
(*Penstemon hirsutus*)



Madonna Native Plant Garden in August 2021

Photos by Maria Sievers



Pearly Everlasting
(*Anaphalis margaritacea*)



Northern Bush Honeysuckle
(*Diervilla lonicera*)



Canada Milkvetch
(*Astragalus canadensis*)

OHA Trillium - Winter 2021-22

Stratford and District Horticultural Society

Maureen Cocksedge

A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT MAUREEN COCKSEDGE:

In the AGM Report 2020, your Board wrote the following: *"There is little doubt that all of our members have been affected by this virus that has come upon us. We know that, at times, it seems that everything that was taken for granted has been taken away. Well, luckily for us, we know better. If there was ever a group that believed again and again that great things can and do come from very little – it's us. We know that if you plant it, it will grow."*



Iris Garden Photo by Sheila Phillips

Due to the pandemic, new interest in horticulture led to an increase in sales at garden centres and seed companies with a resulting shortage of supply and rising prices. Our members benefited from the free exchange of seeds and seedlings as well as two "give what you can" plant sales.

Our 2021 membership increased by 13%, thanks to extraordinary efforts of the Membership Committee and the ability to purchase membership by e-transfer. We hope the forty-five 2020 members who chose NOT to renew will come back in 2022. We look forward to seeing our 70 new members at upcoming meetings and events and encourage new members to renew for 2022. We look forward to many new faces volunteering at events and on Committees.

Efforts in 2021 to adapt to the new pandemic norms resulted in offering 5 Garden Chats and 5 Speakers by Zoom, thanks to Susan Kurtz who spent hours online to learn the new technology.

Once restrictions were lifted, we held Board and Committee meetings outside and offered 6 "Garden Strolls" in private gardens. By September, we were able to return to in-person monthly meetings following Health Unit requirements for proof of vaccination.

We are optimistic that 2022, the Canadian "National Year of the Garden", will be better than ever. In so many ways we are like plants; growing and adapting in ever-changing conditions... read on to discover our plans for this celebration. - *President Maureen Cocksedge*

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We urgently need more "techie" persons to step forward to help with the computer and projector at any of our eight in-person meetings and to record meetings by Zoom for those members who are not yet comfortable to attend. Please email sdhs1878@outlook.com if you can help us with this.

THANK YOU

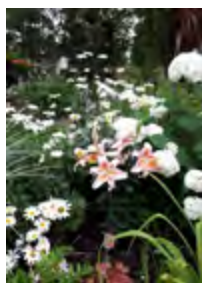
Every year, member volunteers join in, change volunteer positions, move away to other pursuits or retire. We usually thank them and acknowledge that the Society could not function without the support of all 234 members. This year, however, we want to acknowledge some extraordinary members who have contributed so much to our Society and Community, but who have chosen to move away from a more active role. Please thank:

- **Darlene Irwin** and **Bruce Wilkinson** for maintaining Queensland and Bonnie Richardson gardens as well as leadership roles with the Society.
- **Dennis Rawe** for maintaining the library garden and long-standing Board membership.
- **Owen Switzer** for maintaining the pergola garden and his Board work as Recording Secretary and other key roles.
- **Henry McVey** for the design and maintenance of the pergola gardens as well as past leadership roles with the Society.
- **Bernice Barratt** for floral design expertise and long-standing Board membership. Bernice has moved to District 10 as Regional Floral Convenor and Assistant Director, Perth and Lambton Shores.
- **Doug Reberg** for long standing Board leadership; he is the first to step up for many roles.

THE MOVE

In September 2021, the Board chose to move meetings to the Army Navy Hall. The Army Navy offered a much larger room, allowing double the capacity. Our members may also enjoy the food and beverage offered before or after our meetings.

- *Submitted by Maureen Cocksedge*



Iris Garden Photos submitted by Sheila Phillips

THE GARDENS

Garden Stratford (Stratford and District Horticultural Society) maintains the following Public Gardens:

- The Annual beds at the Dutch Memorial corner
- The Perennial bed in front of the Library
- The Urns in front of the Library and United Way Center
- The Iris garden on McLagan
- The Catherine East shrub garden off John St.
- The Bonnie Richardson garden on Queensland
- The Queensland Garden
- The Centre Street Garden
- The Churchill Circle
- The Pergola Garden on Lake Victoria



FEATURE REPORT: CHURCHILL CIRCLE Q4

The Q4 Churchill garden team members are: Jan Saul, Dot and Dean Carr, Barb Laflamme, Ron Nichol and Nancy Burnett.

Overall, it was a great year for the garden. We added more annuals in 2021 to create pops of colour throughout the year with zinnias, cosmos, snapdragons, geraniums and purslane.

Good snow cover in 2020 meant some snapdragons self-seeded and chrysanthemums came through the winter. We had a beautiful display of lupines in the spring which was followed with a massive aphid infestation. This resulted in removal of most lupines in Q4. We transplanted zinnias which provided a colourful display. We planted more Cosmos Sensation from seed. The foliage filled in the gaps and they bloomed in the fall. It was awesome to see the *Veronicastrum virginicum*, Culver's root, covered in pollinators or to watch the bumblebees crawl inside the flowers of *Chelone lyonii*, Pink Turtlehead, to pollinate.

Visitors to the garden commented how lush and full everything looked this year in all quadrants. Thanks to all team members for their contributions to the garden's success.

- Submitted by Nancy Burnett

OTHER GARDENS

The Queensland Garden this year received the benefit of some serious evergreen pruning and pathway improvement. Our new caretakers of this garden have done a stellar job. The Centre Street Garden thought it lost the weeping crab tree when it became completely defoliated only to have a full recovery from the gypsy moths. At the Pergola Garden, new caretakers kept the mature garden in check and added several new Hostas to the shade areas. The Iris Garden, maintained by a strong team, was spectacular in bloom in its season but has also received all season compliments. The Churchill q1, 2 and 3 showcased their own personalities this year more than ever with a strong show of colour and texture.

- Submitted by Susan Kurtz

FEATURE REPORT: LIBRARY GARDEN IN TRANSITION

Lorrie McFadden, Catherine Byvelds and Marlene Pomeroy have had a very exciting season in the Stratford Public Library Garden. The SDHS Board decided the garden was in need of a makeover and a 2-Year Renewal project began. This little seed began an interesting journey for the prominent Stratford Public Garden and one that required a strategic plan.

A Stratford Library Garden Renewal Committee was formed and met throughout the winter, spring, summer and fall, working closely with the maintenance team. It has really been a community effort with many great helpers assisting us when needed.

Our team completed a mapping and plant identification to record and often to research current plants, trees and shrubs. This would assist in determining which could be rescued and those that would be included in a fall plant fundraiser, which was held on the Library grounds. We continued to weed, water, prune and deadhead throughout this year. We discovered new plants, and the bare spots were populated with plants from the SDHS spring sale. It was very much an effort to keep things tidy and fight off the Japanese beetles.

A big dig was held September 21st and many volunteers stepped up to rescue plants which are now over-wintering until spring. Work has already started in preparation for the hard landscaping scheduled for this fall and next spring. We are excited to see the new pathways, plants and sitting areas develop. The struggle with the ivy garden will be no more! Watch this space.

We hear the garden sighing with the fading light, and regardless of the unusual challenges of this

gardening season, it has given pleasure and healing for many and will continue to do so in the promise of a 'new spring' in 2022. - Submitted by Marlene Pomeroy

LIBRARY GARDEN BACKGROUND

The library has been in its present location since 1903 and the garden has been looked after by SDHS volunteers since the mid 1960's. In particular, Darlene Irwin, Bruce Wilkinson and Dennis Rawe have been dedicated gardeners in the garden. The last full refurbishment of the Library Garden was carried out 30 years ago.

The Stratford Public Library is a busy, dynamic institution and plans to use its outdoor space for a wider range of activities than it does now. The Renewal Committee has considered the views of all the parties involved in the planning with funding coming from multiple sources. - Submitted by Susan Kurtz



BONNIE RICHARDSON GARDEN

Photos by Julia Hardy

CENTRE STREET GARDEN

Photos by Julia Hardy

VOLUNTEER CONTRIBUTIONS:

Another year in the Public Gardens at Stratford with unusual heat and rain creating a banner year for plant material and, in some cases, bugs.

Our garden volunteers, currently a core of about 30, work in teams by garden. They each contribute as and when they can and take great pride in their accomplishments. Consider joining this group next year for some outdoor exercise and comradery.

Public Garden volunteers put in 1169.5 hours in the public gardens this year. Another 322 volunteer hours were contributed to the Library Renewal project planning. The gardens we are trusted to maintain are at different stages of maturity. These gardens have the benefit of good bones given great original design by past captains and teams. However, every few years our society undertakes a larger renewal project, this year/next is the Library Garden.

- Submitted by Susan Kurtz

MEMBERSHIP REPORT 2021

This year has been remarkable with membership sales totaling 234 (72 new and 162 renewed.) I did note that many long-time members brought in new members. THANK YOU TO YOU ALL! Also, big thanks again to Flowers on York and Stratford Blooms who really increased our sales and again will be selling 2022 memberships. Information on where and when to buy will be noted in emails. As always, discounts for members will continue at our current 8 merchant locations. Should you wish to help out with membership sales/recruitment, we can always use more help. Contact me: email: marihoffman@cyg.net

Again, I ask that you do renew your membership and encourage family, friends, and neighbours to join our great and very knowledgeable Society.

- Submitted by Mary Hoffman, Membership Convenor

Yearly memberships remain a bargain at the price of \$15.00 each. You can purchase 2022 memberships now!

SEED DISTRIBUTION PROJECT



We sent a copy of our 2021 seed collection event(s) catalogue out via email, on our Facebook page and in Doug Reberg's monthly newspaper column offering free seeds to the community. With this method of distribution, we were able to deliver 554 packages of seeds to a total of 69 participants. ***Thanks to all of those who helped out with seed harvesting, cleaning, packaging and delivery activities. Our Club's members made light work for this fun project.***

Do you have seeds you would like to share during this spring give away? Please email amainland@quadro.net

WORKSHOPS/EDUCATION

Our first workshop of the year was held Sunday, February 28th. The topic was on Indoor Seed Starting and the instructor was Maureen Cocksedge. We had a total of 12 participants who were introduced to how to get our seeds off to a good start for spring.

Our second workshop of the year was held March 14th. The topic was on how to make a Mini Cold Frame for \$10.00 or even for free with found objects in your recycle bin. This was a fun workshop where we talked about how to start veggies, herbs and flower seeds (both annual and perennial) in various types of containers and how to maintain them starting in January or February through until spring. It is a quick and easy way to get your garden off to a great head start or grow greens throughout the cold season.



Our 3rd and 4th workshops of the year were held in September and again on Oct. 6th: The topic covered was Saving Annuals for Annual Savings.

Both workshops had the same information shared during our September General Meeting presentation, however the workshops were more hands-on.

- Info & Photo Submitted by Alice Mainland

PLANT SALES 2021 AKA

"GIVE GET AND GROW/ PAY WHAT YOU CAN"

This year, Covid-19 again presented challenges to our mandate to make plants available to people in order to beautify our community. However, thanks to extra efforts from many volunteer members, we were able to hold two plant sales following Covid-19 protocols. We called the spring event "Give Get and Grow" and the Fall event "Pay what you can" and people were very generous.

The spring sale was conducted on a "contactless" basis, with people ordering from an online plant list, available by email and on Facebook. Volunteers then phoned or emailed customers to arrange pickup times at three locations. Over 100 varieties of annuals, perennials, vegetables and herbs were on offer. Kudos to Athlone, Willow and Devon homeowners who were on duty for the distribution!

Thanks to loosened Covid-19 restrictions, the Fall event was in-person at the public library, partnering with the library's "Garden Culture Day". Over 150 people attended, purchasing plants and gaining valuable horticultural information from the Master Gardeners on hand to help.

Where did the plants come from? From you, our members, of course! For the spring sale, you raised seedlings, split tubers and rhizomes and dug mature plants from your gardens. There was one notable plant rescue thanks to Ann P. Special thanks for giving multiples of plants goes to Ann P, Anna, Barry, Bernice, Doug, Jane M, Jim, Larke, Nancy and Paula.



SDHS member Marlene digs plants from the Library Garden for Sept. 25 Plant Sale at the Library.

Unlike the spring sale, plants for the fall sale were dug from the library garden which is undergoing renewal. As well, the Plant Rescue group, Don, Janet, Jinny, Kathy, Lorrie, Mike and Susan dug hundreds of shade plants, mainly hostas, ferns and astilbe from a generous donor whose garden was to be repurposed. Thank you also to those who watered and transported those plants to the library.

Total volunteer hours for the planning, advertising, digging, potting, tending, transporting, selling, set-up and clean-up at both sales was a whopping 532 hours! Revenue from plant sales was 81% over target, totalling \$4,296.00.

Your Plant Sale Committee: Alice, Barry, Dorothy, Doug, Jinny, Julia, Kathy, Lorrie, Maureen

- Submitted by Maureen Cocksedge

OHA CONVENTION 2021 AND DRONE VIDEO

The pandemic caused the 2020 and 2021 Conventions, planned for London in July and hosted by the 22 Societies in our District, to become a virtual event. As for our part, Garden Stratford designed a "Stratford" page on the web platform. This included videos provided by the Stratford Festival and Tourism Stratford (Destination Animation). As well, we provided door prizes of Convention "hoodies". Thanks to the generosity of Andrew and Jeff at LittleBig Creative, our page featured a drone video of all Stratford public gardens. Five of our Board members represented our Society at the virtual AGM.

COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM



Barry Krauter's garden was selected as one of the Stratford Communities in Bloom gardens for 2021. They were very surprised when Cindy Carlton arrived at their door with a sign and a certificate recognizing the number of native and pollinator plants in the garden as well as the many annuals and perennials which Barry grows from seed. They noted Barry's generosity

in sharing both seeds and plants with friends and neighbours. Barry hosted a late summer Garden Stroll for club members and "undergardener" Bev Symons' many roses were also in beautiful bloom. Hint: Barry's seeds will be available at the 2022 seed exchange.



- Info & Photos submitted by Bev Symons

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Our 2020 AGM was held in November by Zoom, with guest speaker Dr. A. Mok from London Orchid Society. In 2021, General Meetings were held with 5 by Zoom then two in person once restrictions were lifted. Generally, around 50 people registered for Zoom and 50 attended in person at the Army Navy Hall in September. Kudos to Susan Kurtz who learned Zoom and hosted all the virtual talks as well as Board and Committee meetings. Recordings of speakers were not always possible due to copyright, storage capacity and technical issues.

Featured speakers were:

- All American Selections: People, Plants & Places - Connie Bijl, Wm Damm Seeds
- Gardens of Scotland - Heinke Thiessen
- Going Native to Restore Diversity - Elizabeth Spedaliere, Master Gardener
- Growing Veggies in Small Spaces - Cheryl Losch
- An Introduction to Rain Gardens - Vanni Azzano, Upper Thames Conservation Authority
- Saving Annuals for Annual Savings - Alice Mainland
- The Fall Garden and Winter Interest - Julie Dorssers, London Master Gardeners
- Garden Chats moved to Wednesday evenings, by Zoom, until May 2021. Thank you to Stratford and London Master Gardeners.
- Bee, beaver, oak, and seastar: What could they have in common? - Leslye Glover
- Gardening Advice from a Bumblebee - Carolyn Schmidt
- Time for the Veggie Garden - Jim Fitzgerald
- A Walk in the Woods - Don Farwell
- Who's there? Under Stories - Leslye Glover
- Harvesting Cannabis... Legally - Julie Dorssers

- Submitted by Maureen Cocksedge

PLANNED 2022 EVENT SCHEDULE (dependent on Covid-19 restrictions)

Jan. or Feb.: Seed Starting
February: Seedy Sunday (potentially this event could be postponed until April)
Feb. or Mar.: Propagation
March: Seed Starting & Propagation at the Local (Dependent on Covid-19 restrictions – Live Facebook event)
May 28: Plant Sale
Summer: Special Event for National Year of the Garden
July: Garden Tour
September: Local Foraging Tour or Garden Demonstration
- Submitted by Alice Mainland

From meager beginnings in spring can lend itself to a strong fall finish if given the chance!

GARDEN TOUR ANNUAL REPORT

After cancelling the Stratford Garden Tour for the past two summers, we hope to be able to organize a tour for July of 2022. We believe some of the home owners who would have been on the tour in 2020, before we had to cancel, will be willing to participate in 2022. We need to finalize the date but it will likely be early in July and will be on a Sunday. More details to follow. We will need to be flexible in our preparations as there is a good chance that Covid-19 protocols could still be in place. If all goes well, we hope to be able to present a tour of about 8 Stratford properties in 2022.

- Ron Nichol for the 2021 garden tour committee

EXHIBIT AND FLORAL DESIGN

There were no activities due to Covid-19. We hope to have a design workshop in 2022 but need a volunteer with design expertise to take the lead. Please email sdhs1878@outlook.com if you can help us with this.

BURSARY PROGRAM COMMITTEE

There were no applicants for 2021 bursaries. This may be due to Covid-19 but we will hope for the best for next year.

DISTRICT 10 REPORT

Garden Stratford is a member of District 10 of the Ontario Horticultural Association. As hosts, District 10 cancelled the 2021 in-person Convention/AGM in London due to Covid-19. Instead, a virtual Convention was held in July. Every Society had a web page to feature gardens in their area, there were six online bus tours and 16 notable speakers. The presentations were available to registrants for 6 months after the event

which was hosted by Western University Conference Services. Kudos to the organizers for this first-of-its-kind virtual event.
- Maureen Cocksedge

SOCIAL MEDIA – MEMBERS ONLY – SDHS GARDEN STRATFORD PLANT EXCHANGE

This Facebook group started in 2020 and now has more than 50 members. It allows members to share and exchange plants and plant-related ideas. Photos of plants and gardens are also welcome. So far, a variety of plants have found new homes through members exchanging them.

- Dorothy, facilitator of Members only group

SOCIAL MEDIA – PUBLIC – SDHS'S OPEN FACEBOOK PAGE

We did not have as much traffic on our Facebook page this past year, however, there was a reasonable amount of activity. The majority of the page views happen in February to March for our free seed giveaway, then next during our Plant Sale event "Give Get Grow" in May and the next most active posting was during the Libraries Garden Culture days and the plant sale by donation held this past September.

Our page now has just over 800 followers compared to close to 600 followers in 2020. The majority of our new followers joined during the plant sale's "Give Get Grow" event.

- Alice Mainland, SDHS Facebook facilitator

NOMINATING COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

Karen Van Baren and Doug Reberg were Garden Stratford's 2021 Nominating Committee.

Marty Clarkson, Doug Reberg and Owen Switzer will retire as Board Members at the end of 2021. Lorrie McFadden will join The Board.

Our search continues for at least two new board members. The office of Recording Secretary is currently vacant. The Board extends its thanks to Jinny Macdonald who came out of retirement to serve as Recording Secretary pro tem in later Board meetings of 2021. *- Submitted by Karen Van Baren & Doug Reberg*

BOARD MEMBERSHIP:

Our thanks to Marty Clarkson, Doug Reberg and Owen Switzer for their time volunteering with the board. Our warmest welcome to Lorrie McFadden.

Continuing as Board members in 2021 are Karen Van Baren (Treasurer), Dorothy Van Esbroeck (corresponding secretary), Susan Kurtz, Sheila Phillips, Maureen Cocksedge, Barry Krauter, Alice Mainland and Julia Hardy.

FISCAL REPORT

Thank you to auditors Mary Bondi and Bruce Wilkinson.

Bobcaygeon & District Horticultural Society

Carol Peters, Secretary



Members made wreaths in support of the Kawartha Settlers' Village Festival of Trees.

Photos by Carol Peters



One of our gardens in the Kawartha Settlers' Village lit up for the Festival of Trees.

Photo by Joyce Ingram.



On a special note, John Bick, a longtime member of the Bobcaygeon Horticultural Society, was awarded the United Nations International Volunteer Day award. Rob Blane, President presented John with a shovel with plaque attached stating his award.

Photos by April Scott

Orangeville & District Horticultural Society

Perseverance Through Pandemic

Article and Photo by Vivian Petho, Secretary/Instagram/Archivist

Since the world was upended with the arrival of Covid-19 two years ago, many of us have seen our families, friends, communities and societies shift the way we interact with each other. Despite the multiple challenges, resilience and perseverance have been a key factor in getting through it all.

The Orangeville & District Horticultural Society is a moderate-sized society with a membership of over one hundred. Through the early part of the pandemic last year, all our regular activities were shut down. We were not able to celebrate our society's 50th Anniversary. We could no longer have meetings in person as we traversed this new and scary reality of a global pandemic.

With time however, we learned to adapt to the new normal. We had a socially distanced plant sale with members arriving at separate times to purchase plants from our holding garden. It was an enormous success and we planned for the same for this year.

While feeling so isolated from everyone in our society and community, we refused to remain stagnant. The community gardens that we maintain for our Town added one more to the list. We now have eleven gardens that our gardening angels happily and cheerfully manage. During the time where everything was so uncertain, we know that our gardens made our community feel hopeful and optimistic for better days ahead.

Another new venture was our joining Instagram: orangeville_hort_society. Started in the late spring of 2020, we now have over three hundred followers from our local community and the world. A special highlight this year



was a reshare of a peony by Canada Blooms. We were so excited that our small horticultural society was being noticed on a larger scale.

Towards the end of last year, we started having our board meetings online. It was bittersweet, not meeting in person, but we made the best of it because our society still needed to function and be ready for the new year.

Our membership always looks forward to the excellent speakers that come to impart their wisdom. However, Covid-19 presented a challenge since we could not meet in person. Happily, modern technology was able to solve this quandary. At the beginning of 2021, we started hosting general membership meetings online and inviting speakers to do online presentations. Our members were excited to be able to have this great element return.

Since we were not able to have a traditional flower show at our monthly meetings, we had online entries judged and presented to the society via our newsletter. Again, it shows that ingenuity can triumph adversity.

One of the final benefits of our society is the publications that we produce. Our society's strongest bond revolves around our newsletter and yearbook. Both of our editors

work tirelessly to ensure that all the best of our society is shared with our membership. The wonderful people who work behind the scenes really are a key to the success of any organization.

Now at the end of 2021, we are optimistic for the future. In November, we were able to have our first in-person meeting with our membership. The people who attended really enjoyed being back amongst one another. We are looking forward to our annual awards and entertainment meeting in early December where we celebrate our year and look forward to 2022.

Covid-19 changed the world and we have all searched for a return to normal. Instead, we have had to shift focus and redefine how we see the world. The Orangeville & District Horticultural Society has certainly risen to the occasion and proved that perseverance through pandemic is what we all needed to weather the challenging times we faced.

Belmont and Area Horticultural Society

Submitted by Secretary Gail Gray

Written by Board member Kat Weekes and President Sandy Higgs

The Belmont and Area Horticultural Society have successfully raised funds for years by selling strawberries from a local farm organization in a barn just as you head into our town. We were there for several weeks during prime strawberry season. Our residents loved the convenience and the great strawberries and we made solid profits.

And then Covid-19 hit!

Selling strawberries was not a venture we could take on and we had two years without any fundraising. And then a brilliant member came up with the idea early this summer to sell Fall Porch Packages. We had to decide what to include to make our packages stand out in comparison to others. We decided the star of our package would be a hand made wheat sheaf. We are fortunate to live in a beautiful rural location and one of our members is a farmer who was growing wheat this year. She also had an old-school machine that would cut the wheat without crushing it. She donated a corner of her field and we got down to business. We had several "sheave bees" outdoors at their farm with members safely distanced and made 48 sheaves. They were hung in our president's barn to dry until fall. No cost to us!!!

Over the summer, we also made signs out of free pallet wood we collected. We sanded, painted and stencilled them with fall seasonal quotes. No cost to us!!!

As fall approached, we cut, dried and bundled cornstalks, again from a local farmer who donated as many as we wanted. We also cut corn tassels and made them into door swags with a pretty ribbon as an add-on purchase for our customers. No costs for the corn and minimal for ribbon.

Additionally, we purchased garden mums from a contact and huge boxes of unique pumpkins from the same farm who provides us with strawberries. Keeping it local!

We advertised on our newly created Facebook page and sold out 45 packages within a few days to Belmont and area residents and businesses.

We made arrangements with our arena staff in town and created a drive-thru pickup for our customers. We transferred all our materials to trucks and a farm wagon and transported it to the arena.

We were lucky to have a glorious fall day and happily loaded up each customer after they checked in and paid.

It required a ton of work, coordination and lots of communication with our customers via our wonderful secretary. We enjoyed working as a team while creating a great product which all our customers were thrilled to have and they knew they were supporting our organization. We were pleased with our profits and proved that even in times of adversity you can successfully fund raise!



*Volunteers on the day of the sale
Photo by Shelby Shain*



*Sample of Porch Package
Photo by Gail Gray*



*Wheat Sheaves Ready for Sale
Photo by Shelby Shain*

Schomberg Horticultural Society

Eleonora Schmied, Public Relations Director

The Annual General Meeting of the Schomberg Horticultural Society was held via Zoom on November 23rd. During this meeting, President Trish Maguire thanked all the volunteers for their dedication to the Society and for all the volunteer hours by the members during the year. Joan Rice, the retired flower show secretary, received the prestigious President's Award. Some of the noteworthy events the Society took part of and projects it undertook:

- Seasonal décor at the Centennial Garden at "the Gates to Schomberg" that delighted the community during these dire Covid-19 times: taking care of gardens in the community, 'Yellow for Hope Campaign', first ever "Virtual Garden Tour" of 4 members' gardens, photography contest, attending Remembrance Day Ceremony, monthly Zoom meetings with speakers and keeping the members engaged and informed with monthly newsletters and virtual flower shows.
- Elections were held and overseen by District 15 Director Barb O'Malley.
The Schomberg Horticultural Society proudly presents the executive members: Trish Maguire - president, Jill Watts-Hayward - past president, Janice Crone - 1st vice president, Barb Prince - 2nd vice president, Judith Henderson - secretary, Pat Janse - treasurer, Chris Somerville - flower secretary, Angela Rose - program director, Eleonora Schmied & Susan Zweep - public relations directors, Liz Macpherson & Sheila Kelly - social directors, Barb Niemeyer - garden tour director, Eleonora Schmied - garden tour committee co-chair, Kathleen Gorsline - plant sale committee chair, Mary Tzarik & Maria Ruksa - committee chairs at large.
- The winners of the photography contest were announced: Overall winner: Susan Zweep. 1st prize winners were: 'Let it snow' - Pat Earl, 'Blossom time' - Janet Orr, 'Down the garden path' - Susan Zweep, 'Fall Bounty' - Susan Zweep, 'Photographer's Choice' - Donna Parrish.
- A fun horticultural quiz entertained the attendees and a first ever "Virtual Garden Tour" of four members' properties concluded the meeting.

The executive members of the Schomberg Horticultural Society wish everyone a happy holiday season, a peaceful time with family and friends and a prosperous, healthy New Year.

Master Gardeners of Ontario Facebook Group



Eleonora Schmied, Public Relations Director of the Schomberg Horticultural Society

The Ontario Master Gardeners are ringing the alarm bell. There is tremendous concern about the invasive Jumping worm appearance in Ontario.

Plant Sale Best Practices to Stop the Spread of Jumping Worms

- Invasive Asian Jumping Worms (JWs) were confirmed in multiple locations in Ontario in the summer of 2021.
- Jumping Worms are a serious threat to our gardens and forests.
- There is currently no viable option for controlling Jumping Worms so it is crucial to stop them from spreading.

Stop the Spread in Your Garden

- Produce your own compost or leaf mulch.
- Purchase plants and garden products from reputable sources. Ask nurseries, landscaping companies and soil, compost & mulch providers if they've had JW issues. If they know nothing about JWs, then be concerned.
- While compost that was properly heated up should not have worms or cocoons, they can be contaminated via backhoes, handling etc.
- When visiting private gardens, botanical gardens or trails, arrive clean (shoes, tires) and leave clean removing all soil, debris.

Please refer to the latest information on the Master Gardeners of Ontario Facebook Group and the November edition of Inside MGOL, the Master Gardeners of Ontario Inc. (MGOL) newsletter at <https://www.mgoi.ca/>

Elora and Salem Horticultural Society Big 2021 Summer Project

Dawn McClure, President, Photos by Dawn McClure

Lead for the DSF Pollinator gardens and Lead for the care and maintenance of the Groves Healing Garden



I am absolutely thrilled to share these photos with you. Garden angels were at it throughout the summer and **Oh my oh my!** This Pollinator space is a haven for our six-legged friends.

Let me start at the beginning... March, 2021 and a phone call from a lady I'd never heard of... I'll paraphrase:

"You are the president of the Elora and Salem Horticultural Society (ESHS) and I want to hire the ESHS. A Healing Garden behind the hospital was put in last year (2020) and it looks nothing like the drawing I was given! I need you to get rid of those... grasses (bullrushes) and get some colour into that garden. It's a mess and I want to pay the ESHS to fix it and take care of it from now on!"

That's how I first met Deborah, Vice President of the Grand River Agricultural Society (GRAS), one awesome lady who gets things done! I've developed quite a respect for her this summer.

We worked things out and were blessed to receive a grant from the GRAS to put in a David Suzuki Foundation (DSF) Pollinator garden in return for taking on the care of and making improvements to the Healing Garden.

DSF Pollinator gardens began a few years ago as part of a nation-wide plan to set up butterfly migratory pathways for important pollinators. ***We rely on these birds and insects to pollinate up to 75% of the foods we eat!***

Deborah and I finally met on site June 9, 2021. We visited the Mono Pollinator Garden (set up in 2016) and strolled the huge healing gardens that surround the Orangeville Hospital. Full of tons of great ideas, and feeling a bit overwhelmed, we dug in and made a plan of our own. Since then, the ESHS volunteers have put in literally hundreds of hours to till and raise the flooded ground, creating 17 pollinator gardens with pathways. Many friendships have blossomed along the way. It has been a joy to work with keen gardeners as we got this project up and running. I've really enjoyed the fun, and the hard work, as we shoveled and weeded, planned and planted together.

Our Centre Wellington township greenhouses donated over 800 annuals to get colour into the gardens immediately. We brought plants from our own gardens, and bought perennials, bushes, seeds and spring bulbs from local nurseries. Daily, we saw more surprises – more plantings AND more butterflies. People walking the trail



that passes along the edge of the gardens, hospital staff, patients and visitors all checked in with us regularly to chat and praise the progress of our work. The local paper featured our progress. We heard more buzzing bees, too. YEAH!

This is what it's all about. Recently, we received a personal letter from the hospital CEO praising our efforts and thanking us on behalf of staff and patients. We are now listed on the Butterflyways pages of the DSF website. They continue to celebrate and share the accomplishments of over 1,000 new pollinator gardens that have sprung up across Canada in 2021 alone! And they graciously continue to provide resources and support to all the "Butterfly Rangers".

What an amazing project this has been. I am just thrilled. As president of our ESHS, I am also very proud to say that our membership has increased by 50% (to 75 members) in just a few short months! What a whirlwind summer yet, I wouldn't have missed it for the world!

What will you be doing in the summer of 2022?

Fall has put the gardens to rest yet, I often visit that garden on my way home, despite the cold and snow. It calms me and puts a smile on my face every time. I can hardly wait for spring.



Caledon Horticultural Society

Submitted by Catherine McGill

Youth Group Looking For Input

We started the group in May, 2018, just before school ended with plans to formally start in September. Unfortunately, due to circumstances out of our control, that was not to be. We finally got everything in order and were allowed to meet on November 3, 2021. The Mayfield Youth Garden Club meets in Room 10 every second Wednesday from 10:45 to 11:45, but usually goes to 12:00.

Here is our information and I would really be pleased if any youth leader would contact me.

Bobbie Bennett, President
Caledon Horticultural Society – District 15
Contact info: 905-838-3541 gscale@bell.net

Mayfield Secondary School Youth Garden Club
5000 Mayfield Road, Caledon, L7C 0Z5
James Kardash, Principal 905-846-6060

District 8 Service Award 2021

Christine Roberts, Secretary, Ripley and District Horticultural Society



Elaine Shantz receives the 2021 OHA District 8 Service Award from Vicky Culbert

Photo by Christine Roberts

What a treat to finally meet indoors and celebrate the accomplishments of one of our hardest working members, Elaine Shantz, recipient of the 2021 OHA District 8 Service Award.

Elaine has served her local society and District 8 with distinction since joining the Ripley and District Horticultural Society in 1997. Over membership spanning nearly 25 years, she served on the executive and led the society as president in three separate terms: 2003/2004, 2007-2009 and 2019/2020. These terms included instrumental involvement in the planning and execution of the 2007 provincial convention and the 2003 and 2018 District Annual General Meetings.

As Society President, her leadership was notable for its excellent organization and effective facilitation of meetings and she faithfully attended District board and general meetings.

Regardless of her involvement on the executive, Elaine's outstanding organizational skills and generous participation in fundraising efforts are essential to the financial health of her society. The success of the tea garden portion of the annual flower show is due largely to her efforts. For the past many years, Elaine has also spearheaded the annual plant sale in May and the bake sale in October providing much of the delicious home baking. Whenever a special event takes place, Elaine shoulders more than her share of the workload.

Elaine has been involved in several memorial OHA-supported plantings in the village of Ripley and maintains active stewardship of the trees.

She also served the larger District 8 community on the Board as Supplies Director from 2003 to 2008. Her responsibilities at District were to purchase and sell all District supplies to the societies and attend all District annual, general and board meetings.

Elaine Shantz has demonstrated effective long and dedicated service to her community, local horticultural society and the horticultural community at large and is a very worthy recipient of the 2021 OHA District 8 Service Award. She received the award October 20th in Ripley from former District 8 Director and current OHA Second Vice President Vicky Culbert.

Congratulations Elaine, your friends and fellow horticulturalists are so proud and grateful for all you do to keep Ripley beautiful.

Bees, Thee, Me and Other of Nature's Pollinators

Leslie Daniels, President, Thorold Garden Club

Photo by Leslie Daniels

Oh No... More Bees!

Had my first run in this season with a winged stinger... Not certain whether it was a bee, wasp or hornet. I really tried not to look that closely when my peripheral vision picked it out leisurely walking up the inside of my car window as I was leaving with Evan last night.

Now those who know me well will realize just how brave I've become since my reaction was to just grab my door handle, close my eyes and whip open the door, praying that the bee-wasp-hornet would feel the breeze and fly free... far, far away from – me... As calm as I think I reacted, it still took me a few minutes to



compose myself before we drove off, however. Evan patted my shoulder and said consolingly, as only an astute eleven-year-old can, "Well, seems like it is that time of year again, Grandma."

Actually, it is rare for me to think much about them in the spring as they are usually way too busy with the flowers and so leave me pretty much alone. I find that autumn is when they act stupidly and follow people around, old, drunk on the season and seeking the long-past spring of flowers and gentle warmth.

Regardless of my phobia, it is difficult to ignore the problems these insects are having the last few years due to man's use of pesticides and their numbers being drastically reduced. After all, we rely on them and other pollinators for our food supply. For many years, farmers have been using hives full of honeybees to help pollinate crops. However, a new study published in the journal **Science** has found that encouraging wild pollinators could be more effective.

Researchers examined the comings and goings of wild pollinators and managed colonies of bees on 41 different crops, ranging from coffee to grapefruit, almonds, cherries and kiwi fruit, in 19 countries around the world. What they found was that those crops pollinated by wild insects, such as bees, beetles, flies and butterflies, resulted in a much higher proportion of flowers forming seeds or fruits.

More visits by wild insects appeared to increase the amount of fruit that starts to grow by twice as much as an equal increase in visits by managed honeybees. This means farmers might get better yields, by restoring or conserving natural areas within fields to encourage wild pollinators rather than relying on honeybees alone.

Apparently, it is the greater variety of shapes of wild insects mingling in the flowers that spreads pollen more efficiently. Wild insects also visit among more plants and varieties, thus cross-pollinating them.

According to their studies, it appears that many crops, like some people, like it wild, varied and often. Oh, those scientists! They can have such a turn of phrase when it comes to sex amongst the plants...

So keep this in mind when planting your gardens next spring and leave a little nature in amongst your planted plots to host more natural pollinators and your yields too may increase...

Happy gardening!

NOTE: Evan is now a young man and 9 years have passed since I originally wrote this. The lessons and observations still hold true, so leave your dandelions in the spring and encourage Mother Nature's pollinators to come visit your own 'Garden of Eden'. You will not be disappointed!

Haldimand Horticultural Society

Submitted by member Barbara Wilson (acting publicity chair)



Volunteers of the Haldimand Horticultural Society have had a busy Spring, Summer and Fall maintaining their many gardens throughout the community. Three native red maples were planted this Fall: one Autumn Fantasy Maple at the Caledonia Kinsmen Park and two Red Pointe Maples in the York Park. A pollinator garden will be added to the Burke Estate Park in Caledonia in the Spring.

The Annual Christmas Workshop was popular again this year with all spots filled. Participants created beautiful pots for their Christmas urns.



Urn workshop, Remembrance Day wreaths and planting of tree photos taken by HHS member Sharon Slack.



A wreath sponsored by the HHS was placed at the Hagersville Cenotaph at the Remembrance Day ceremony on November 11th.

Our monthly meetings have resumed in person and are held the 4th Thursday of the month (not December or July) at St. Paul's Anglican Church in Caledonia. All are welcome.

For more information: haldimandhorticulture@gmail.com

Insurance Queries?

Contact:

Shawn LaPalm

Non-Profit & Charity Insurance

The Co-operators

1-888-712-2667

shawn_lapalm@cooperators.ca

Additional information regarding the OHA insurance plan
can be found at:

<https://gardenontario.org/resources/#insurance>



OHA Contact Information

OHA Officers

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1st Vice President
2nd Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
Past President and PP Council Representative
Southern and Western Regions Representative
Northern and Eastern Regions Representative

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Vicky Culbert
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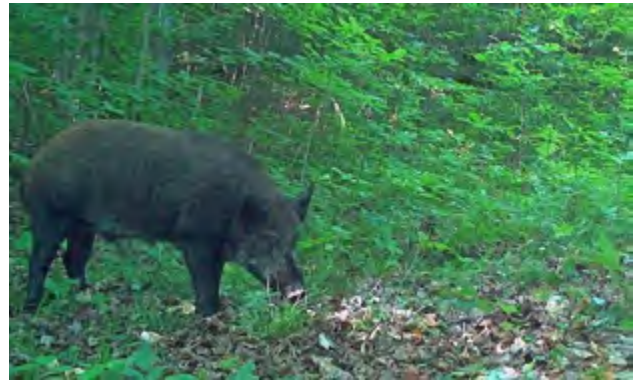
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Wild Pigs

District Director Dian Chute, Thames Valley District 10

Did the title of this article get your attention?

Are you wondering why there would be an article on wild pigs? The reason is the Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry has updated the Invasive Species Act and wild pigs are now on the list of invasive species. As horticulturalists, we are concerned and care about our environment. These pigs have been seen in both rural and urban areas of the Province. This is an example of what a typical wild pig looks like.



Picture credit: NDMNRF

There is more information related to wild pigs at:
<https://www.ontario.ca/page/invasive-wild-pigs-ontario>

Here is a short list of what damage they can do:

- preying upon native plants and wildlife
- competing with native wildlife for food, water, and space
- rooting into the ground with their tusks and snouts to dig for roots, tubers, bulbs, worms, insects, slugs, and snails
- trampling and wallowing which can cause erosion, impact water quality and degrade natural areas
- spreading disease to wildlife

The Government of Ontario has also recently updated the invasive species list to include the following:

The following species are now Prohibited in Ontario

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| • Marbled crayfish | <i>Procambarus virginalis</i> |
| • Red Swamp crayfish | <i>Procambarus clarkii</i> |
| • New Zealand mud snail | <i>Potamopyrgus antipodarum</i> |
| • Tench | <i>Tinca tinca</i> (fish) |
| • Prussian carp | <i>Carassius gibelio</i> (fish) |
| • Mountain pine beetle | <i>Dendroctonus ponderosae</i> |

Yes, these are all water related species and yes they impact our waterways

The following species are now Restricted in Ontario

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| • Yellow floating heart | <i>Nymphoides peltata</i> (aquatic plant) |
| • Carolina Fanwort | <i>Cabomba caroliniana</i> (aquatic plant) |
| • European frogbit | <i>Hydrocharis morsus-ranae</i> (aquatic plant) |
| • Bohemian knotweed | <i>Reynoutria xbohemica</i> (terrestrial plant) |
| • Giant knotweed | <i>Reynoutria sachalinensis</i> (terrestrial plant) |
| • Himalayan knotweed | <i>Koenigia polystachya</i> (terrestrial plant) |
| • Pig | <i>Sus scrofa</i> |

For addition more information go to:

- <https://www.ontario.ca/page/managing-invasive-species-ontario>
- ERO# 019-3465: Regulating 13 invasive species and watercraft as a carrier of invasive species under Ontario's Invasive Species Act, 2015
- ERO# 019-3468: Ontario's Strategy to Address the Threat of Invasive Wild Pigs