

Trillium

Keeping Ontario Beautiful

Ontario Horticultural Association

Autumn 2021



Photo by Alan Stupart, Burlington



Monarch Butterfly

The photo was taken in the main flower gardens in the Burlington section of the Royal Botanical Gardens, home to many protected species.



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Editor's Message



It was an honour to be one of the first people to enjoy the articles that were submitted for the autumn issue of the Trillium. Many garden club/horticultural society members take wonderful photos and write very well.

It's no wonder there is a photography category at many of the district and club/society Flower and Vegetable Shows. If there is no category for writing, may I ask everyone to give it a thought? A writing category would not replace the floral specimens, design classes or fruit and vegetable categories but it would add to the show.

Please encourage members to enter these shows, not for the ribbons or big bucks for winning but because of the learning experience and fun of putting the exhibits together. With a bit of creativity, even those who don't think they have anything will surprise themselves.

Congratulations to the societies that have reached milestone anniversaries this year and have shared their innovative ways to celebrate in this issue.

Check out the results of the Bath Gardening Club "Soil Your Undies" challenge. What a lot of fun and easy to participate during this social-distancing era.

Note the OHA Contact Information near the end of this and every issue. If you have a question or something to say, these executives and officers will be pleased to hear from you and happy to help. Like any list with contact information for any group or club, it's always a good idea to check your own information even if it didn't change.

Thank you to all of the contributors for the amazing articles.

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 2021/2022:

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

The deadline for the next issue of the Trillium is **December 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-autumn-trillium/>



Trillium

Keeping Ontario Beautiful



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President's Message

Here we are already into the ninth month of yet another year filled with unusual challenges. The Convention and AGM, which was held virtually in mid-July, proved to be successful and I wish to thank everyone who was able to attend any or all of the days, for doing so. The District 10 organizing committee and volunteers, in conjunction with The University of Western Ontario technical wizards, did a fantastic job with all of the events including the speakers, the tours and the AGM. For those who were able to attend, don't forget that those presentations are still available to you, as an attendee, for the remainder of this year.

The business of the OHA keeps moving forward and there has already been a virtual Officers' Meeting and a virtual Awards Committee Meeting. The Awards "Booklet" should be out soon for all to peruse. I would ask that you please read carefully all of the categories. Please apply for a grant or nominate a deserving individual or group from the appropriate section(s). In the near future, information related to two "2022 Year of the Garden" grants, sponsored by some of the members of the OHA Board, will be posted.

Even though everyone is trying to get any and all activities and events related to Societies/Clubs up and running, the unfortunate reality of the day is that Covid-19 and "The Variant" are still front and centre in the province and will be for some time to come. Many Societies/Clubs and Districts have been comfortable with holding some events or activities and have found new and innovative methods for keeping their respective members involved and in contact while still focusing on the overriding need of remaining safe. We must all be diligent in our approaches to holding events and activities as we, the Societies/Clubs, the Districts and the OHA have not suffered, to my knowledge, an outbreak and after so many months of being restricted and following all of those sometimes confusing rules, we do not want to have one now.

As many of you may recall, I am involved as a referee with the sport of basketball in the province. At one of the first tournaments held in August, after the province moved to Step 3, there were approximately 7,000 contacts generated by around 800 participants and spectators who moved around between multiple gymnasiums over a weekend. The result so far has

been 20 confirmed cases and the number is rising. The sport has suffered the stigma of being seen as a source of an outbreak, something a Society/Club, District or the OHA would definitely wish to avoid.

Enough gloom and doom! I thoroughly enjoyed a canoe trip in August and spent ten days interior camping in Algonquin Park.

When the group arrived back at the jump-off point, my vehicle was content to continue its extended holiday which included a tow and repairs in Deep River for four days. Apart from the wonderful hospitality afforded to me by our OHA First Vice President, Sharlene Desjardins, and her husband Rob, one of the best moments was visiting the local Society/Club flower/herb/vegetable/pollinator/community/giving garden. This project has been a wonderful success story. I enjoyed my first-hand experience of watching two ladies from a local daycare centre come along with their two multi-seat wagons filled with three and four-year-olds. The children knew when they were approaching the garden and started asking the adults to stop so they could have some beans. Each child was given one bean and they all went on their way, happily munching on a healthy snack. Such projects, organized and maintained by the Societies/Clubs, provide the simple giving back to the communities we live in, in such a rewarding way. Consequently, maybe we should all be looking next door to keep abreast of what other Societies/Clubs have done and are doing. The best form of flattery is to steal a good idea and watch it grow! Sharing is caring!

As we come to the end of another year of gardening, and our second year of not what we are used to or want, please enjoy the Autumn season with all of its bounty and above all "Take Care and Stay Safe".



Charles Freeman

Charles Freeman
OHA President

Grand Bend & Area Horticultural Society

Submitted by Pat Lane, President

Grand Bend & Area Horticultural Society is a group of 150 plus volunteers who love “digging in the soil” and sharing our gardening ideas and experiences with others. Board members, committee members and garden teams work together to help beautify our community and assist our members as well as local residents to learn about all things “horticultural”. This year, we included a “Hope Garden” in our plantings in support of all those people who continued in their daily jobs to keep us safe so we could try to continue as normal a life as possible.

Our membership is comprised of General membership and Commercial membership, fees which assist in funding one of our major projects each year, the planting and maintaining community gardens in and around Grand Bend. We collaborated with a local group that promotes our town and businesses. The following is a description of how the Commercial campaign was set up.

“Bright Up The Bend”

To encourage commercial sponsorship in our Society, we developed a campaign with the assistance of the Grand Bend Locals Card initiative. Individuals living within 30 km of Grand Bend can purchase a “Locals Card” to support our area businesses and merchants. Every card holder enjoys discounts at all participating businesses. This initiative has been well-received in the area and has significant media exposure on many platforms. We offered local businesses an opportunity to “sponsor a flower” in our “Bright Up The Bend” campaign. For a sponsorship of only \$25.00,

merchants could pick a flower to sponsor with the notion that every single flower helps to make Grand Bend beautiful! The campaign was very successful and we surpassed all budgetary expectations with many donating well above the \$25.00 limit. A poster was developed for each sponsor and uploaded to the Locals Facebook and Instagram platforms as well as on our own Facebook page

Society member Frank Beattie developed a video of all the sponsor posters and the video was introduced on the OHA conference portal. Our membership will have an opportunity to view the video at our AGM in November. We look forward to conducting this campaign again in the spring.

This year, our Society is celebrating its 30th Anniversary and that is a real challenge during the requirements for social distancing and limited ways to celebrate. As some found with our experience of a virtual conference, it is a real learning curve and although the conference was great, it is not the same as celebrating in person.

The pictures included with this article are of two of our garden displays this year. The bicycle idea was a wonderful addition to a number of our gardens and came from member Jane Girodat. The other picture is of our “Hope Garden” at the Municipal Office on the corner of Hwy 21 & 81. The colour yellow represents hope and this garden was planted to thank our support workers during this year of extreme difficulty for many.

If you have questions regarding the commercial campaign, please contact us by email:

gbahortsociety@gmail.com.



Gill Rd



Hope Garden

West Lorne and Community Horticultural Society 100th Anniversary

Submitted by Evelyn Luinenburg

Two photos by Ann Honchell

The past sixteen months have been a challenge, in every sense of the word, for all. It has been a year when everyone was called to excel, react and think. This also applied to the Horticultural Society but we do have some good memories to take with us thanks to our President Jim Hathaway and his wife Lois and Board members for innovative thinking. Meetings were held in the open when weather permitted and in their barn when the great outdoors was not cooperative.

Although we were unable to host our BIG event, the Society's AGM, and celebrate our 100th Anniversary, all was not lost. These events were broadcasted by a local town crier with the venue being our 100th Anniversary Garden Bed which attracted as much attention as could be expected.



Town Crier

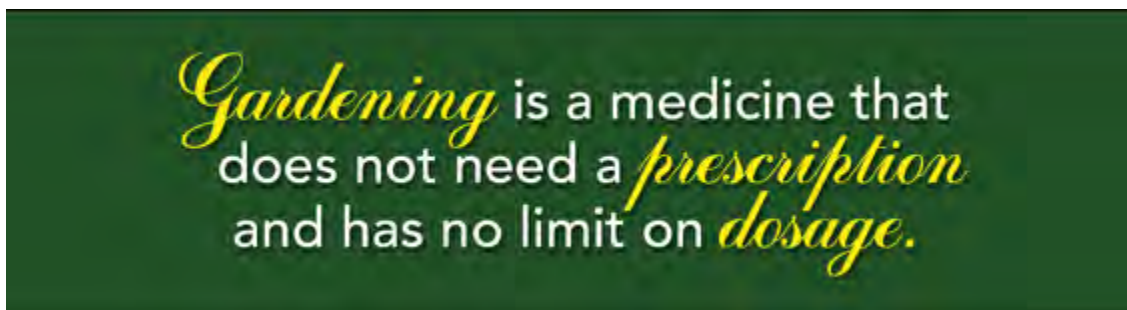
We were also successful in having our North and South garden beds ablaze with colour. Our masked members were noted for their diligent care as weather permitted. For these, we received many compliments.

As gardeners, we are fortunate in having a hobby or maybe a business which offers relaxation and solitude;

also the reward of seeing the results of our efforts whether in weeding or sowing. Many of us were able to spend more time in our gardens this year than before. Next spring or summer, we will be able to enjoy time well spent, fragrance and beauty.



Our Facebook viewers supported us in various ways as is evident from posted submissions.



We Saved the Best for Last



Jo-Anne Beer

Photo by Jim Hathaway

West Lorne and Community Horticultural Society President Jim Hathaway presented Jo-Anne Beer with a 50-year service pin. Jo-Anne has been a member since 1969 and has served several tenures as a director on our Board.

Jo-Anne remembers meeting in the Old Town Hall on Wednesday nights, in the basement which was cold, damp and prone to flooding. Members attending meetings wore rubber boots as you never knew what to expect. She has been congratulated by the West Lorne Horticultural Society, District 10 and the Ontario Horticultural Association.

See you at the next meeting, Jo-Anne.

Congratulations West Lorne and Community Horticultural Society and Thank You 100 Years and Still Growing

Parkwood Rotary Manure/Mulch for Sale

Submitted by Merle Cole on behalf of the Rotary Club of Oshawa Parkwood

We continue our fundraising efforts once again offering Ploughman's Choice 100% Composted Livestock Manure/Mulch to put your gardens to bed for the winter – \$7.00/24lb bag – available NOW – 162 King St. E. Oshawa

Call Hilda Finnigan 905-431-4258 to arrange pick up or delivery

Also offering TULIP BULBS – 20 bulbs/\$15

Monies raised from these sales go directly to Rotary's Polio Plus Campaign eradicating Polio worldwide.

Thank You for your continuing support.

Almonte and District Horticultural Society Celebrates Its 100th Anniversary

Ann Warren, Director, Publicity

Photos by Allan Stanley / Eileen Hennemann

The Almonte and District Horticultural Society celebrated its 100th anniversary this year with a reception that took place on Saturday, August 28. The mayor of Mississippi Mills, Christa Lowry, society president Cindy Zorgel and member Marilyn Snedden spoke. As well, a sculpture that had been commissioned to commemorate the anniversary was unveiled in the Library Gardens that the society maintains. Members were given 100th Anniversary pins and packets of seeds.

Please enjoy Marilyn Snedden's speech that follows which gives an overview of the 100 years of the society and some pictures of the event.



Janet Horton and Eileen Hennemann greeting members and guests.



Eileen Hennemann and Ed Lawrence wear their 100th Anniversary Pins designed by Hennemann Stanley Design and given to members only.



Director Sandy Jackson unveils sculpture "Anthophilia" by Cairn Cunnane.



Sculpture "Anthophilia" by Cairn Cunnane beside Director Sandy Jackson, A&DHS President Cindy Zorgel and Treasurer Carol Alexander.



Members and guests listen to speakers in the Almonte Library Gardens maintained by the Almonte & District Horticultural Society. Then it was time for refreshments and decadent cupcakes!

100 Years with the Almonte Horticultural Society

Compiled by Marilyn Snedden for the August 28, 2021 celebration

The Almonte Horticultural Society was formed on April 8, 1921 as part of the Ontario Horticultural Society (OHA). Early reports show flower shows, public plantings, educational speakers at meetings

and sponsoring junior clubs have been the focus through all these years. Junior work is mentioned as early as 1936.

World War II affected everyone and in 1943 the flower show was canceled in favour of making bouquets for sale to fund "Ditty Bags" for soldiers overseas. Also "Seeds of Britain" received a \$25 donation.

In 1954, the flower beds at the Cenotaph are mentioned as a project and bulbs were donated to the churches and the old Rosamond Hospital. The next year, new flower beds were planted at the front of the Town Hall with 43 shrubs along the side wall.

In 1961, 59 Junior Gardens were judged and in Centennial Year, 1967, it was noted there was an improvement in farmyard appearances where the children were enrolled in the Junior Garden Club. By 1969, there were 125 junior gardens to judge – mostly in the rural areas.

In the 1970's and 80's, Sandy Patry and Kevin Didsbury ran a successful program where seeds were handed out at the schools and 48 children met 4 times a year for educational topics.

In more modern times, Carol Kenward, Janet Horton, Gerda Franssen, Ann Warren and Mary Ellen Petrunevich gave seeds and manuals to Grade 2



Mississippi Mills Mayor Christa Lowry and A&DHS President Cindy Zorgel listen while Marilyn Snedden reads a history of A&DHS 100 years.

classes and supervised plantings in raised beds at Naismith School.

For the past decades, we have offered a bursary to a high school graduate pursuing studies related to environmental or science courses.

In the 1970's, flower beds were added on the Bay Hill area in Gemmill Park. My father George Robertson cared for these and every spring when a few orange poppies raise their heads, I remember him. He also cared for the beds at the Cenotaph for many years.

Through the years, the Spring Plant sale has been the major fundraiser and during the Covid-19 crisis Nancy Timmons offered her laneway and wagons so a modified sale could be held. Carol Alexander & Sandy Jackson were in charge. It was a great place for new gardeners to pick up plants but one soon learned if there was a large amount of some creeping ground cover that "Buyer Beware" was a rule because it could be a bad spreader.

Over the years, the local society has taken their turn hosting larger events such as the District 2 Flower & Vegetable Shows in 1994, 2000, 2003 and 2017.

Some members have taken judging courses offered by the OHA over the past 40 years and Helen Halpenny, Cindy Zorgel, Margaret Inwood and Marilyn Snedden completed these courses which ran for 8 weekends over 2 years. Helen and Marilyn also received the District service Plaque as well as Gladys Skuffam back in 1986. She was our Secretary Treasurer for decades.

For a few years in the past decade, we sponsored a "Garden of the Week" contest where members nominated front yard gardens and the owners received a gift bag and their garden was featured in the local newspaper.

Then no organization accomplishes as much as we have without a hard working executive behind the scenes organizing speakers at meetings and keeping members informed. There are 4 two year directors and 4 one year directors as well as the President, Secretary and Treasurer. Cindy Zorgel has been president several times with Nancy Timmons producing a wonderful newsletter in past years as well as taking minutes. Carol Kenward produced the Yearbook for years but Ann Warren has taken that over. Now in modern times, we have Carol Alexander, the treasurer, also sending email reminders and keeping up the website, Ann

Warren does publicity and Eileen Henneman does updates on Facebook. Also important when we could have meetings is the social committee of Wendy Dahl and Nancy Timmons. Melanie Mackenzie is our secretary and Newsletter Editor now.

The Town Beautification Committee is perhaps the hardest working group and I'm not naming names since I might miss some one but those members are all owed a lot of thanks. Raise your hands so we can recognize you. They plant the barrels on Mill Street, care for this garden at the library and the one on the Veteran's Walkway and the Cenotaph.

The "Peace Garden" at Perth & Bridge Streets was originally cared for by our society but now Alan Goddard looks after it. This circular garden was designed by Alan Goddard in the 1990's and a fundraising workshop which featured Ed Lawrence and Leonard Lee funded it. Many Wednesdays have been dedicated to weeding and deadheading over the years. Last year it was revamped with a berm bed added next to High Street and pollinator plants are featured now.

In 2004, 300 Emperor tulips were planted here in a circle named "Albert's Garden" after Paul Eggington's father. It was a project to track Global warming sponsored by the NCC. For 5 years Paul kept track of the dates when the bulbs emerged, first to bloom and end of bloom. It seemed earlier each year. Helen Halpenny planted other flowers to follow the tulips. Now it's home to a plum tree in memory of Peter Goddard.

Another memorial tree is the flowering crab at the street side with a small plaque dedicating it to Bernard Cameron who was tragically killed in 2016. That is a sturdy tree because a few years ago I was backing my truck up but didn't realize the tail gate was down. I can still see the look of horror on Gerda Franssen's face as she was hollering on me to stop but too late. I was sure I'd killed the tree but it survives with a scar on the trunk to remind me of my close call.

Another feature of this garden is the bench purchased in 2016 recognizing our 95th Birthday. So today we are celebrating 100 years with the unveiling of this amazing new sculpture which we hope will be a reminder over the coming years of the major contribution our society had made to Almonte.

Ancaster Horticultural Society

By Betty Howitt, Program and Publicity Director

The Ancaster Horticultural Society beautifying Ancaster for 60 years.

With summer slowly coming to an end and fall just around the corner, the Ancaster Horticultural Society has been very busy. We do not hold monthly meetings during the months of July and August but stay in the public eye through Instagram, Twitter, Facebook, our newsletters Florascape and Newsflash, AHS website and the local newspaper, the Ancaster News. Our newsletters this year have featured a 'Trip Down Memory Lane' with historic photos and facts to celebrate our 60th anniversary. We even managed to hold a modified plant sale this year with the online sale of Heritage tomato plants. We are hoping to resume our monthly meetings in the fall at the Old Town Hall but the September meeting is expected to remain in virtual format on Zoom.



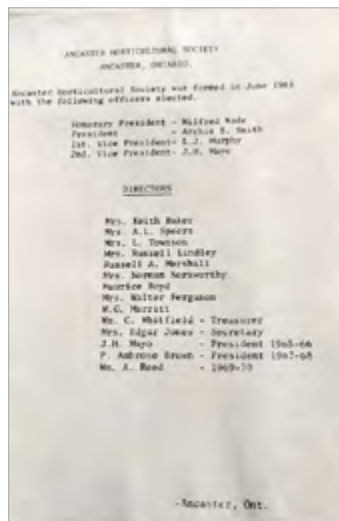
four Ruby Trillium Awards were presented for 10 years and four Diamond Trillium Awards were distributed for 15 years. This year there were 125 front gardens that received a score of 94 or higher with 15 gardens receiving a perfect score of 100. Also this year, as a way to mark our 60th Anniversary, 3 heritage awards were handed out to beautiful front gardens of properties that were built pre-Confederation, 1867.

There are two beautiful flowers associated with the Ancaster Horticultural Society. Here is their story.

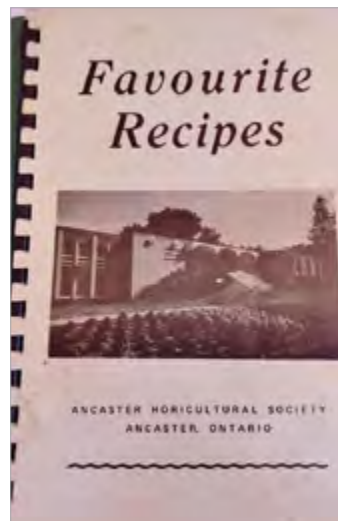
The Ancaster Golden Jubilee Daylily:



The Ancaster Golden Jubilee Daylily. Flower photo taken by Betty Howitt from her garden.



Left: Ancaster Horticultural Society's beginning with a list of its first elected officers.



Right: 1970 Favourite Recipes publication, put out by society highlighting members favourite recipes, hence the name.

Our volunteers maintain three beautiful community garden beds: Millennium Park, Brandon Park and the Old Town Hall. There is also a team of volunteers that maintain the gorgeous grounds of Fieldcote Memorial Park and Museum.

This year our annual Trillium Awards Program was a huge success. The Trillium committee of Kelley Gowland, Marilyn Burjan, Carol Ann Howe and Carolyn Bondarenko led a team of 47 judges who adjudicated 283 front gardens in Ancaster this year. Twelve Gold Trillium Awards were given for 5 years of excellence,

Jack Kent from the Potting Shed hybridized a brand new golden and burgundy coloured daylily in commemoration of our Society's 50th anniversary. The

name was voted on by the Board of Directors from dozens of names submitted by the society's members. The name chosen was, 'Ancaster Golden Jubilee'. That was 10 years ago. This year we celebrate 60 years of beautifying Ancaster.

The Ancaster Blue Ruffle Iris:



Blue Ruffle Iris in full bloom and the AHS logo. Flower photo taken by Betty Howitt in her garden.

The purple Iris has a special significance to Ancaster. The Wild Iris, chosen by the town council many years ago, is Ancaster's official flower. But in 1993 when the town celebrated its bicentennial anniversary, AHS went on a mission to introduce a newly cultivated

flower that Ancaster could call its own. David Waddell, president of the society at the time, took a short road trip to McMillen's Iris Garden in Norwich, Ontario, where he found a young flower breeder looking to introduce a new Iris creation. No other flower had the same feature. However the Iris was nameless. Since the flower was going to be original to the community, the society involved the citizens in the naming process and received hundreds of suggestions. The tall bearded Iris with ruffled, frosted blue standards, dark blue and violet falls and a yellow beard took the name, 'Ancaster Blue Ruffle'. These irises can be seen in abundance on the beautiful grounds of Fieldcote Memorial Park and Museum. It is also used as part of our logo. Information taken from the website: Ancaster Heritage Days.



L-R: David Waddell and Richard Pattinson both early presidents of the AHS

Thank you Bob Wilt for digging around in the Ancaster Horticultural Society's archives.

Bowmanville Horticultural Society

Terry Kelsey



Unusual flower vase

My husband and I are avid bicyclists so have limited time for flowers. We have a small garden full of colourful blooms this year. Our grandchildren love to come over, pick them and arrange them in various containers .

We left the stand that holds our bicycles steady when we are washing them out in front of the garage.

They saw it as an ideal flower vase and took special care to fix them just right.

We thought the story and picture were hilarious and wanted to share them. We belong to Bowmanville Horticultural Society.



2021 OHA Awards

Submitted by Sharlene Desjardins/Kelly Taylor

Each year at the OHA Annual Convention, awards are presented at the Saturday night banquet to deserving individuals or groups who were nominated by their peers. In 2021, the OHA Convention went virtual due to the Coronavirus pandemic. As such, awards were sent to the District Directors for presentation to the recipients. Following is a listing of the 2021 award recipients and their accomplishments.

Joanne Hoelke 2021 OHA Community Improvement Award

Joanne Hoelke has been an active member of the Eganville and Area Horticultural Society (EAHS) since 2011. Every September, she and her husband Terry run a very successful Harvest Auction of donated goods as a fundraiser for the society. After serving on the Board for several years, Joanne decided to shadow the planting committee chair with the intention of taking the position in 2018.

In 2017, Joanne felt a strong desire to improve the Welcome Hill, an important part of the town which welcomes visitors to the quaint village. Working closely with the planting chair at the time, they requested that the town remove a very large cedar tree at the top of the hill and that the current sprinkler system be repaired to allow automatic watering of the entire hill.

In January of 2018, the EAHS decided to formally adopt the responsibility of the town's Welcome Hill project under the new leadership of Society member Joanne Hoelke. The hill stretches a full village block in size and is stepped with large, squared limestone blocks which create tiers on which to plant gardens.

The scope of the project was over a three-year period, ending in 2020. It involved extracting many old, hard-to-remove shrubs and trees from many tiers of rock, laying landscape fabric for weed suppression, planting new perennials in the upper two-thirds and planning for brighter, more dense annual plantings on the bottom tiers.

In 2017, once the sprinkler system was repaired, the EAHS planting committee organized a team of members to install landscape fabric on the top three tiers of the hill. These tiers were designated for perennials only. About half a dozen peonies were planted on the tiers going down the hill. With 2017 being Canada's birthday, the bottom tiers of the hill were planted in red and white annuals.

In 2018, a hydrangea and some native perennials were planted on the top half of the hill. More landscape fabric was installed and a large 'Empress Wu' hosta was planted in the shade of a tall cedar tree. Dianthus and donkey-tail spurge were already on the hill providing little pops of colour. In the middle tiers, small shrubs such as a small white spirea and a wine-coloured barberry bush were added. Older lilies were replaced with more colourful varieties. Echinacea was planted about halfway down the hill with Michaelmas daisies standing guard along the edges. There is also a large old-fashioned rose bush on the hill which has been a constant fixture for many years. A large honeysuckle was removed from the annual section so that showier, more colourful plants could be added.

In 2019, at Joanne's request, the town's public works committee removed an old diseased Schubert Cherry tree. Annuals were planted with help of a student gardener who also assisted with the weeding and watering.



Photo by Roger Harbord



With the arrival of Covid-19 in early 2020, the society and the township developed policies and procedures for working together safely. A cylindrical cedar and a cascading juniper were removed early in the season. The annual section of the hill was planted with brightly coloured, showy plants and the society received many compliments. The final touch for 2020 was to purchase two brightly-coloured signs for the top and bottom of the hill.

The plan for 2021 is to remove and replace the top few inches of soil in the bottom three annual planting tiers and replace it with new, nourishing soil. This will boost the performance of the annuals planted in that section.

Joanne Hoelke has been an integral part of this three-year plan from the beginning and has done an amazing

amount of work assisted by her team of volunteers. She has been the main liaison with the town's Parks Manager and on occasion, works alongside the summer student watering or weeding. Joanne is also on the society "Garden of the Month" committee. She, along with three others, travels the village looking at front yard gardens to find a winner for the month. This encourages the villagers to improve their properties. The winner has a beautiful sign displayed on their lawn for the month.

Congratulations!

Norfolk 4-H Horticultural Club 2021 OHA Community Improvement Award

The Norfolk 4-H Club is a small youth organization which averages ten members a year with youth ages 11 to 18. They work hard and benefit from their leader Monica Veit's gardening knowledge to promote horticultural interest and the importance of community participation and beautification.

In 2001, after years of planting and maintaining the town's fifty cement planters the Delhi Horticultural Society approached the Delhi Business Improvement Association with a plan for an adopt-a-planter program with a chance to win a prize. The program was a huge success, but after 16 years, the program came to an end. Thankfully, the Norfolk 4-H Horticultural Club took over the plantings of all the town planters and continued the Society's vision of town beautification.

The 4-H Club had been participating in the adopt-a-planter program since its inception and eagerly took over the planning, planting and maintenance of all of the planters. It has received many positive reports and comments on their wonderful efforts to keep the community beautiful.

In 2013, the Norfolk 4-H Horticultural Club also took over the planting and maintenance of the four 2-tier six-foot wooden planters near the Delhi Municipal Office and the Quance Dam Parking Lot. Two plantings are done each year with a colour-coordinated theme.

In their dedication to community beautification, it has taken over several other gardens in the area including two gardens in Wellington Park, a garden at The Aud in Simcoe, one at the Courtland Caressant Care Home for seniors and a horticultural garden at the Sonny's Flowers which has been an ongoing project of theirs for several years.



Photo by Dottie Smith



In 2020, under the leadership and guidance of Monica Veit, the youth were learning about vegetables. They had planters to take home and grow which were then brought back for judging. Monica ensures that the youth are continually learning and participating in new horticultural projects.



They also provide tomato plants and herbs for the nursing home's horticultural program; seasonal crafts at Valentine's, Easter and Christmas and assistance with the nursing home's annual outdoor spring clean-up. A quote from the nursing home reads: "The Norfolk 4-H Club makes our Long-Term Care Facility a 'home' by adding beauty and their love for our residents with their volunteerism".

The motto of the 4-H Club, which fits them well is "Learn to do by doing".

Congratulations!

Gloria Greaves 2021 OHA Youth Leader Award

Gloria Greaves is an outstanding Youth Garden Club Leader with the Oro-Medonte Horticultural Society and has been a passionate youth leader at the W.R. Best Public School for over ten years. Through her ongoing dedication to the youth garden club members, the school and the horticultural society, she has fostered a lifelong interest in horticulture, a greater awareness of the environment and instilled the importance of participation in the school and community.

Gloria assisted the W.R. Best school's former youth leader from 2010 until 2015 when that leader moved. She then joined the horticultural society and became the leader of their youth group the same year.

Under her enthusiastic leadership, the Youth Garden Club has enrolled between forty and ninety eager students each year. She also welcomed older students back as mentors and junior leaders to assist with the many engaging projects. Although Covid-19 dampened efforts in 2020, a great year was had in 2019 with fifty members in grades three, four, five and six learning about the wonderful world of gardening.

During the spring Covid-19 lockdown, Gloria was an essential contact person when school renovations were changing the outdoor landscape. Gloria was there to advise on the changes being made to the schoolyard and rescue any plants that were threatened by the heavy equipment.

Gloria's calm and creative nature engages all students in activities that connect to horticulture for all seasons. Activities would include: indoor seed planting, transplanting, learning about annuals and perennials, spring bulbs, growing vegetables, composting indoors and out, creating crafts from natural materials, identifying trees and learning about the importance of pollinating insects just to mention some of the knowledge and experiences enjoyed by the students. She was instrumental in getting a raised vegetable garden in place at the school.

She inspires her students and youth members to participate in the Oro-Medonte Horticultural Society's flower shows while teaching them about design elements and how to select the best specimens. Her garden club members were often rewarded with many ribbons for their efforts as well as winning the top honours of the Nelsons, Sanderson and Caldwell Trophies. Her club's award-winning project entries include deciduous tree leaf displays, grapevine wreaths decorated with natural elements and festive centrepieces which were all created keeping the natural environment in mind. She spends many hours preparing materials that she has recycled and reclaimed to keep the club's carbon footprint small. She will often assist another school garden club by sharing material and ideas.

Gloria Greaves is also an active member in other areas of the OMHS. She volunteers to ensure the success of the society plant sale and garden tour and her smiling face is always welcoming others at society meetings.

As written by Benjamin Franklin, "Tell me and I'll forget, teach me and I'll remember, involve me and I'll learn."

Congratulations!



Photo by Abby MacFarlane

Ottawa Horticultural Society 2021 OHA Technical Advancement Award

The Ottawa Horticultural Society embraced technology when the Covid-19 pandemic hit in order to keep their society members engaged and informed. During this time period they accomplished the following:

- Presented speakers to their members and the public using Zoom and YouTube
- Researched and tested the technology, practiced and set up a script
- Reached their society members as well as other OHA members in Ontario with their presentations
- Shared their method and script with other societies/clubs
- Held a virtual flower show and a virtual photography show with voting
- Held a successful online plant auction and sale using 32Auctions.com.
- Held a virtual Annual General Meeting with voting using Zoom
- Offered support to District 2 to help host District 2's Annual General Meeting
- Set up a YouTube channel for videos including garden tours
- Made use of their Facebook group and weekly Grapevine email list to stay in touch



Photo by Roger Harbord

Congratulations to the Ottawa Horticultural Society for embracing technology!

District 2 2021 OHA Technical Advancement Award

District 2 of the Ontario Horticultural Association has been using technology for a while to engage with their societies and clubs to keep them informed. When the pandemic hit, the technology jumped into high gear. With the knowledge of the District 2 webmaster, they were able to hold a photography contest which was judged by qualified judges. The photos were then organized and posted along with the judges' comments for everyone to see and learn from.

Meetings were held on virtual platforms at the District and Society/Club level with the webmaster willing to assist societies with any technical issues they may have had.

A District Flower show was held and judged by accredited judges with the results and photos again being posted with judges' comments as a wonderful learning tool. Other contests were also held throughout the year such as outdoor planters, Halloween pumpkin decorations, Christmas gnomes and more.

In October, the webmaster set up the District 2 Gardeners Group on Facebook where societies can post events, newsletters, speaker videos and workshops to keep everyone involved in all things horticultural.

Looking ahead to the 2023 convention in Kanata in District 2, the District webmaster has volunteered to handle the social media and chair the entertainment committee for the Friday night entertainment.



Photo by Roger Harbord

Congratulations to District 2 for embracing technology and making it fun for their societies and members!

Allan Goddard 2021 OHA Award of Merit

Allan Goddard has been a member of the Almonte & District Horticultural Society for over 25 years as well as a member of the executive in past years. Throughout his membership, he can always be counted on to help with plant sales, donating trees and labour. He has given presentations to the Almonte Society as well as other societies in District 2 on a variety of topics including, but not limited to, environmental concerns, landscaping designs and tools of the trade. He is able to draw on his education and his own experience owning a landscape business since 1989.

There is a reason that in 2019, Allan was chosen as a "Tree Champion", the criteria being "one who has made an outstanding contribution towards the planting, education and maintenance of trees in our community", by the tree committee, a group responsible to the Mississippi Mills Community & Economic Development. He has been known to go out into areas being developed for housing or highways being widened and has dug up and saved young trees from destruction. He has conducted pruning workshops and given informative "tree walks" about our community. He has also worked with the Hub Hospice in bagging up and selling bare-rooted trees, the proceeds of which help the Hospice. This also promotes the planting of trees in Mississippi Mills.

In 2019, Allan was part of a committee organized to create Alameda, a project involving the planting of 100 sugar maple trees along both sides of a dismantled railway line in downtown Almonte. Planting was done the beginning of summer in 2020, just when the rains dried up for two months. The stress in the trees during a drought would have been disastrous if not for Allan and a crew of volunteers who watered the trees regularly. Eventually, he was awarded a contract from the county of Lanark to water the trees and in the end, he donated all the money to the Almonte Horticultural Society and the Mississippi Field Naturalists.

Allan has been the main caretaker of "Peace Park", a corner lot in the town for over 25 years, working with his brother and father, both of whom have passed away in recent years. Trees and three decorative flower beds greet residents and visitors entering the town from Highway 29. Dolgo crabapple trees in the park have been used by Allan, as well as being accessible to any resident of Mississippi Mills, to make tasty crabapple jelly which he gives to executive members of the society. In addition to Peace Park, he has worked with the town on the design and planting inside the roundabout circle at the entrance to Almonte from Highway 49.

Another ongoing project and point of pride for the society is the butterfly and bee garden behind the public library. In 1992, the lot behind the library was bare, just scrubby grass. Allan helped design and construct nine flower beds in a circular pattern which the society planted. Since then, other beds have been added, one being a large berm that was planted with native trees. Allan was involved in this project as well.

Allan Goddard has been and continues to be a huge asset not only to the Almonte Horticultural Society but to the community as well.

Congratulations!



Photo by Roger Harbord

Ann Levison 2021 OHA Award of Merit

Ann Levison has been a valued member, constant contributor and supporter of the Kingston Horticultural Society (KHS) since 1975. During that time, she has held the positions of Society Treasurer, Secretary and President. She has also served as the District 3 Secretary/Treasurer and more recently as an Assistant District Director, providing her wisdom and knowledge gained from serving previously.

She is an OHA Certified Judge and began her training in 1996 when an OHA Judging School was sponsored by the Gananoque Horticultural Society in her area. She graduated in August of 1998.

Since then, she has judged local homeowners' front gardens for the KHS Paterson Awards, was a member of the Community Improvement Fund Committee in 2008-2009 and continues to select unique gardening books for the annual Mike Twigg Award for flower show award winners since its inception in 2004, just to name a few of her volunteer duties.

Ann designed and executed floral arrangements which complemented and copied artwork being presented and discussed in lectures at the Agnes Etherington Art Gallery and was also responsible over many years for all floral arrangements at the Queen's University Women's Association events. She has decorated the "Café" and provided floral designs for the Lung Association Garden Festival from 2000-2005, where many society members volunteered. Before this event evolved, she assisted with HORTEX garden exhibits organized by her husband for several years at the Olympic Harbour in the early 1980's.

She was part of the team developing the flower show schedule for the 2018 OHA Convention held in Kingston and contributed to the show schedule, show floor plan, set-up, registration, passing committee and clerking. She continues to participate in judging updates offered in Districts 2 and 3.

For the last two years, Ann has been engaged as a student learning Ohara Ikebana (Japanese floral art). She has been a regular contributor to the annual Ikebana exhibitions both in Gananoque and at the Embassy of Japan. Last year, she was the team leader for one of the Ikebana workshops held by visiting master Marcel Vrignaud. In 2020, she participated in a collaborative, group arrangement as part of Ohara School, Ottawa Chapter's Drift Away Exhibition in September.

In 2019-2020, she was invited by the society to give demonstration workshops before the monthly meetings to encourage members to participate and feel more confident in showing their floral designs. With her sense of humour and depth of knowledge, she continues to share her love of design with others.

Ann always gives back to her community. Over the years, she has worked at Loblaws under the OHA Sponsorship Program, done the plantings at the Calvin Park Library and more recently the entrance beds, taught Brownies so they could earn their gardening badges, planting and weeding at the Central Library, Kingscourt Library, Kingston Day Care and the YMCA.

Ann Levison has been a faithful and committed volunteer offering her assistance and expertise at plant sales, flower shows, community gardens and public plantings. She continues to challenge her creative mind as she puts into practice her deep love of horticulture while supporting the Society, Community and District.

Congratulations!



Photo by Howard Hunter



Photo by Howard Hunter

Sheila King 2021 OHA Honour Roll Award

Sheila King joined the Manotick Horticultural Society (MHS) in 1997 within months of her move to Manotick. She quickly became involved in flower shows and won many awards for her designs and cut specimens from her large garden. In 2000, she became a certified OHA Judge. She organized floral design workshops for many societies across Eastern Ontario and encouraged participants to enter local and District shows.

Sheila served on the Board at MHS as a Vice President and a Director. In 2007, she was elected to the position of District 2 Director and served until 2009. She has also served as an Assistant District Director and District Secretary. In recognition of her significant contribution to District 2, she was awarded the District 2 Service Award in 2019. During her tenure as District Director, she visited all the societies in District 2 and worked with them to resolve

any issues or concerns. She encouraged those without flower shows to establish at least one flower show each year to live up to the OHA objective of hosting shows for the education of members and the public.

She is involved with many aspects of life in the village of Manotick and promotes the MHS and the value of belonging to the Ontario Horticultural Association at every opportunity. She attends OHA Conventions and participates in the art competition as well as the flower shows, winning many prizes and awards in the process. She was a key member of the OHA Centennial Convention in Ottawa in 2006 and is on the Convention Planning Committee for 2023 which will be hosted by District 2 in Kanata. She will be the D2 Prime on the art competition and a member of the flower show committee.

In 2009-2010, Sheila co-chaired the District Judging School and opened it up to members in Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4. During this time, she encouraged students to enter local and District flower shows as well as local fairs to hone their skills. She is a speaker, demonstrator and workshop leader at many societies across Eastern Ontario, always encouraging people to become more involved in their societies and in the flower shows.

She has had her garden on several garden tours, delighting in answering questions on how she grows such beautiful plants. Her prime speaking presentation to societies is entitled "Grow to Show and Show what you Grow" which is aimed at educating members and the public on horticultural practices to grow healthy and robust plants without pesticides.

As a member of the Manotick Remembrance Park Maintenance Committee, Sheila spent two years working with the hired groundskeeping staff, educating them on the various perennials in the eight gardens in the park. In addition, she identified any pests, ensuring non-toxic treatments were applied. The Park is jointly managed by the Manotick Legion and the City of Ottawa. As a member of the Legion, Sheila has been instrumental in educating other Legionnaires on the Maintenance Committee about all aspects of maintaining the vast assortment of perennials, shrubs and trees. Whenever she was doing weeding or deadheading in the Park, many visitors would stop and chat and ask questions about the plants. She would always answer their questions and encourage them to join a Horticultural Society.

Over the past 24 years, Sheila has been very involved in committee work or on the Board of Directors. She was the Flower Show Chair for over 5 years and continues to assist the current chair with the show schedule. She is actively involved with the Annual Plant Sale, helping to price the plants and providing excellent advice to new gardeners looking to find plants for the various aspects of their gardens. She is part of a local group called MACAW (Manotick and Area Centre for Arts and Wellness) which primarily supports seniors. Most recently, she has done virtual flower arranging demonstrations for Manotick HS which have then been shared with MACAW. In 2018, Sheila King was recognized with an OHA Judging and Exhibiting Certificate for her contributions to the society and local flower shows.



Photo by Roger Harbord

Congratulations!

Adrian Cooper 2021 OHA Honour Roll Award

Adrian Cooper has been a member of the Kingston Horticultural Society for 20 years. During that time, she has been a board member for 13 years in the positions of Vice-President and President as well as sitting on various different committees. She chaired the plant sale committee for 14 years and was the garden tour coordinator for 3 years, hosting on the day of the tour greeting visitors with a warm smile and sharing her gardening expertise.

She served as Assistant District Director for District 3 from 2012-2017 sharing her insight with the board and attending meetings regularly. She attends the yearly OHA convention as a delegate representing her society, becoming familiar with the voting process and genuinely interested in the resolutions that are presented each year. She prepares articles for the society newsletter informing members about interesting aspects from the convention experience and always enjoys visiting the various gardens on the garden tours.

When it was time to reformat and rewrite the Society Constitution and By-laws in 2018, she was eager and willing to share her commitment to implementing the objectives of the OHA. She provided great attention to detail and a keen eye.

Adrian maintains a show garden filled with many specimens of hostas, roses and peonies and has invited the public to view her shared garden as part of the Open Garden Tour in 2009 and again in 2014.

Her keen interest and love of gardening has been demonstrated in the City of Kingston at the Glen Lawrence Golf Club, the College/Earl/Churchill St. triangles and the Kingston Public Library. She demonstrates her passion for gardening by implementing appropriate practices and care for many of her clients' gardens over the years. Her enthusiasm is evident when she is given the opportunity to create new beds and make plant selections. She also propagates seedlings.



Photo by Howard Hunter

judge for the Kingston Blooms – Communities in Bloom competition for 8 years, a valued member of the organizing committee for the local Gardening Festival from 2001 to 2012 and a willing volunteer for the Kingston Horticultural Society.

Adrian Cooper has always willingly jumped in to take on tasks that needed to be done – she is truly the society's energized ever-ready bunny.

Congratulations!



Photo by Howard Hunter

In her role as the Flower Show "In the Spotlight" Chair, she has worked with the team to develop flower show schedules using her experience being involved in set-up, organization and clean-up of public flower shows since 2002.

Adrian is a regular exhibitor receiving numerous society awards for her horticultural specimens as well as participating in the decorative classes. She is very knowledgeable about taking care of roses and continuously adds new varieties to her showcase garden.

She has volunteered as a judge for the Annual Peterson Garden Awards from 1984 to 2011, a

Isla Reed 2021 OHA Trillium Award

Isla Reed is one of the founding members of the Callander Horticultural Society. She has been the President three times, was the secretary of the society for over 20 years and was the secretary of the North Bay Bonsai Club for 8 years. She was also a member of the Lapidary Mineral Club. She has been presented with her OHA 45-year pin for membership and a Provincial Volunteer Award for 45 years of service.

She had a vision to turn a rocky ditch on the edge of Lake Nipissing into a park. After consultation with the town and many loads of soil, it became "Memory Tree Park". Along with other members of the society, trees and shrubs were planted and flower beds were installed. Benches were added and it has now become a lovely location for wedding photos.

Several years ago, Isla was presented with the Community Spirit Award. This is an award voted on by her volunteer peers and was quite an honour to receive.

Isla willingly works on the Spring Plant Sale helping to tag all the plants and is there the next day to help sell. She is involved, along with other volunteers, with the planting and maintenance of the 39 town planters in the community. She and her husband started new flower beds at the Municipal Office and more new flower beds in Memory Tree Park. She has helped to plant flower beds at the Callander Community Centre and was instrumental in hiring a tour bus to the International Plowing Match in 2019.

Isla Reed firmly believes that we should recycle and compost to take care of the environment. She has been a mentor in teaching all phases of the executive committee to members and because of this, many follow in her footsteps. She is a true asset to her society and community.

Congratulations!



Photo by Ted Reed



Ron Nelsons 2021 OHA Silver Fir Award

Ron Nelsons became a member of the Oro-Medonte Horticultural Society Board of Directors in 2003 and has represented the society as Youth Leader Liaison, President, Past President and Treasurer. Throughout this time, Ron has always offered suggestions and valuable advice and can be counted on to mentor newer members. In his current position as Youth Leader Liaison, Ron has successfully recruited leaders and helpers to assist with the society youth programs at three public schools.

Over the years, he has headed up and secured funding for projects such as praying mantis and butterfly hatching kits, nature books for school libraries, flower shows, photography contests and entries into our local fall fair and awards for these projects. Each year, he provides each club with the information/show schedule and encourages them to do projects to enter the categories at the OHA convention.

At East Oro Public School, Ron oversaw the creation of a natural garden and coordinated the procurement of grants that went toward the garden projects at the school. He was also instrumental in starting a "no mow" zone at this school to teach children about pollinators and the importance of natural habitats for insects and wildlife. He is also involved in many fundraising events at our local schools, helping to collect electronics, clothing and batteries for recycling and instilling a care of the environment for students.



Photo by Ron Nelsons

In 2006, Ron spearheaded the public project at East Oro Drill Shed Cairn. The team spent over 100 hours on this project. In addition, several hundred hours went into the naturalization garden at East Oro Public School. These projects won a number of OHA Youth Awards.

[In 2008-2009, when the society participated in the Bayview Memorial Park Stream Restoration Project, Ron and the students put in many volunteer hours planting trees, shrubs and native perennials.]

Ron has always been a huge supporter of the society plant sale, donating numerous plants from his gardens and helping with potting up, set-up and on the day of the sale.

Two years ago, he led a workshop at the Simcoe District School Board teaching the teachers about the importance of native plants and donated native seed packets to participants for use by the students at their schools.

In addition to his role within our society, Ron and his wife took members of the youth club to the OHA Convention Youth Camps where they helped with activities and cooking. For many years, he has collected vegetables and fruits that have been entered for judging at our local fall fair and donates them to our local food banks.

Ron Nelsons filled the role of Assistant District Director for three years, attending meetings, assisting with decision-making and helping with the spring and fall seminars. In 2019, he was presented with the District 16 District Service Award.

Congratulations!

Penny Stewart 2021 OHA Silver Medal Award



Photo by Howard Hunter

Penny Stewart has been gardening for sheer enjoyment for well over 60 years. In her early years, she learned all about veggie gardening from her dad and grandparents and at age five had her own vegetable and flower garden. Containers on balconies and many house plants were her go-to during her university years. While there, her best mark was in an art course on floral design.

She has made significant contributions to beautification, conservation and ecological work on a provincial and District basis both in her long and distinguished career at the Ministry of Environment dedicated to protecting Ontario's environment and in her volunteering with the OHA, District 3 and the Gananoque Horticultural Society. At the 2007 International Plowing Match in Crosby, Ontario, she was instrumental in setting up a Horticultural Tent with displays on horticulture, organizing for guest speakers and demonstrating flower arranging at the event. Since then, she has made many other presentations and demonstrations on a wide variety of topics, particularly gardens, to OHA Districts, Societies/Clubs and the community. Personally, she

has reforested 90 acres of former farmland on her rural property which is recognized provincially as a Managed Forest with an Environmental/Wildlife Classification.

Penny has established and maintains about 1.5 acres of perennial and wildlife gardens on her rural property that have been featured on Gananoque HS Garden Tours. She was, and continues to be involved in the establishment and on-going maintenance of the Gananoque Horticulture Park which contains a pollinator garden and other display gardens including building and maintaining four square vegetable gardens, as an education tool to show others how to grow their own food in small spaces.

Her service to the OHA at the Board and District level over the last two decades has been exemplary. Since joining the OHA, she has volunteered 14,475 hours, the equivalent of about 106 work-days per year. She has been involved at the District 3 level since 2007, was District Director from 2013-2019 and is now Past District Director and Secretary. She has been an OHA Certified Judge in horticulture and floral design since 2010 adding accreditation from the Royal Botanical Garden in 2011 and Garden Clubs of Ontario (GCO) in 2015, in judging horticulture and floral design, respectively. While on the OHA board, she co-founded the OHA Judging Committee in 2013 and still continues to volunteer as its chair. She has also been a member of the OHA

Constitution, By-laws & Resolutions Committee since 2013 with a particular skill for applying the Rules of Governance appropriately and fairly. She has been the Flower Show Liaison since 2016 and has volunteered to serve as the chief statistician at Convention shows since 2019. On behalf of the OHA, she served as the co-chair of the Ontario Judging and Exhibiting Standards (OJES) revision project (in collaboration with the GCO) from 2014 to 2019 while simultaneously leading as the host Director of the 2018 OHA Convention in Kingston. She continues to co-organize Judges Updates at OHA Conventions in addition to a past update in District 3 and two Inter-District Updates hosted by District 2. She has and continues to be an active exhibitor in flower shows at the OHA Convention and District 3 as well Canada Blooms and the GCO Triennial show.



Penny joined the Gananoque HS in 2000, has been a board member since 2004 and President three times. She was Chair of the Gananoque HS 100th Anniversary Committee and involved with a range of nine other committees over the years. In addition to being the Garden Tour Coordinator since 2006, she has been a member of the Flower Show Committee involved in writing schedules. She has chaired the Flower Show Committee and convened one of the three annual shows over the years in addition to being an active exhibitor winning numerous awards. She is the liaison for the Gananoque HS with the Town of Gananoque's Parks and Recreation Department and in 2020, she was involved with the redesign of the Susan Push Garden in Confederation Park in downtown Gananoque.

She has also been actively involved with other horticultural organizations. She served on the steering committee for the 1000 Islands Rideau Canal Garden Trail (established in 2015), a Garden Tourism route that draws visitors from Canada wide to the Leeds and Grenville area. She is currently the Gananoque HS rep to the group. When the Athens Garden Club folded, Penny ensured a smooth transition to the Brockville & District HS for those members wanting to continue their OHA membership.

Penny Stewart is truly deserving of this award. She is an asset to all who know her and a volunteer extraordinaire!

Congratulations!

The OHA would like to congratulate all of the award recipients for 2021 and all those who were nominated. Your dedication to your communities is commendable and appreciated more than you could possibly know. Well deserved!



Haldimand Horticultural Society

Elsie Eubank, Publicity Chair Photos by Sharon Slack

Members of the Grand River Conservation Foundation presented a cheque for \$750 to members of the Haldimand Horticultural Society on Friday, June 18, 2021. From left is former HHS President Sharon Slack, Phil Hauser of GRCF, HHS Publicity Chair Elsie Eubank and Brooke Smith of GRCF standing in front of the pollinator garden in LaFortune Park that was partially funded by the grant. Photo was taken by a bystander with Sharon Slack's iPad.

The Haldimand Horticultural Society (HHS) has received \$750 in funding thanks to the Grand River Conservation Foundation's (GRCF) yearly Community Conservation Grant.

Each year, the GRCF awards grants to groups and schools involved in conservation projects in communities through the Grand River watershed. Eligibility is based on proximity of the projects to the watershed as well as how it will benefit the community.

Haldimand Horticultural Society is using part of this grant to help support the Friends of LaFortune Park create a pollinator garden in the park. HHS also donated 2 insect motels.



Haldimand Horticultural Society Hosts Garden Tour

The Haldimand Horticultural Society hosted their *Blooming on the Grand* Garden Tour over the weekend, July 10-11, 2021. Attendees purchased tickets and then were given the addresses and a small introduction to eight homes with spectacular gardens to walk through around Haldimand.

The first 125 people received a swag bag full of goodies. Barb Matten, a member of the Horticultural Society manning the home table in the Village Green in Cayuga, commented, "People are really impressed with the gift bags we got." And the gardens themselves were spectacular, people came even in the rain and were very impressed with the gardens and thoroughly enjoyed them.

There were visitors from far and wide including London, Simcoe, St. Catharines, Alymer, Dunnville and Port Dover.



Bernadine Lutes' Garden



Don Reeder's Garden



Don Reeder

Yard of the Month Haldimand Horticultural Society

Haldimand Horticultural Society's Yard of the Month is becoming very popular. It's nice to see so many gardeners across Haldimand taking part in this fun activity. We had 10 gardens in the following areas nominated for July: Selkirk, Jarvis, Cayuga, Hagersville and Caledonia.

First place award winner Jenny Bryce



Nominated by Bill Lindsay who described this water-front property in Selkirk as having "an outstanding flower garden", it is truly one of the most beautiful gardens in Haldimand with an abundance of colour surrounding the home with hostas, pot marigolds, iris, calla lilies, spireas, and hydrangeas.

Tracy Burgess is the award winner from Hagersville for July's Yard of the Month.



Her beautiful vegetable garden has hand-pollinated pumpkins growing and apple trees. The front of the home featured cutleaf coneflower plant, lilies, hydrangeas, lavender and assorted grasses.

First place winner Bob and Cherilyn Gibson in Cayuga



This unique property with a Town of Haldimand heritage landmark is designated as The Duff House and features a variety of unusual trees and shrubs. This garden was also one of the gardens on our recent garden tour.

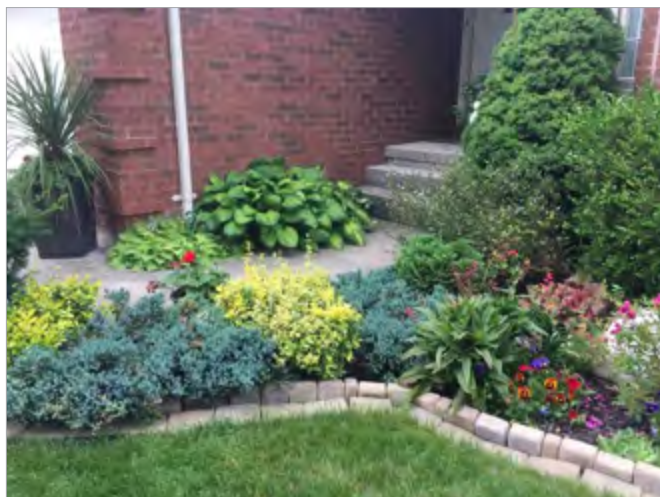
Carol Tessaro is the Caledonia winner of the July Yard of the Month competition.



She has a very colourful front yard with striking bright pink canna lilies and geraniums but the most amazing "behind the scenes" is through the long corridor that leads to the back yard. She has an artistic flair for combining mirrors and objects of art that hang along the perimeter of the property reflecting the beauty of the flowers and vines. Bright pink roses, hostas, shasta daisies, colourful begonias and clematis vines. A multitude of colourful planters and hanging ferns line up along the foundation and along the two walkways.

Kincardine and District Horticultural Society

Submitted by Stan and Caroline Gorski, Photos by Dan Roy, Committee Chariman



The Kincardine and District Horticultural Society held a very successful Garden Tour on August 8th, 2021. Over 170 people toured 8 gardens in the area. Our Society has kept busy in spite of Covid-19, keeping our community gardens looking great and hosting speakers every month via Zoom.

Wheatley Horticultural Society

Garden Tour – Did you say “Garden Tour?” – YES WE DID!!

Donna Matier, President

Wheatley Horticultural Society is very excited to announce that they will be hosting their first garden tour this coming July, 2022!

Several properties have been selected which, will delight your garden interests.

Come enjoy a few hours walking through these carefully selected properties. Observe an array of perennials, unique pathways, gardens and a stunning selection of established trees.

With the abundant variety of flowers, trees, and shrubs, throughout these properties, you might get lucky and witness the wild life enjoying the habitat.

Watch out for more details to follow in this spring!!

Leaside Garden Society

Submitted by Nora Campbell

As we try to look on the sunnier side of this whole pandemic situation, our Society has definitely found some positive approaches. Our Zoom meetings have proven to be just as well attended as the in-person ones. In fact, during the winter months, folks were most appreciative of the ease of pushing a button instead of a snow shovel. And we've welcomed ten new members since January of this year! We will carry on with the Zoom format for the fall and probably the winter months, though the in-person gatherings are sorely missed.

We had a popular online flower show in mid-July, featuring photos of members' plants in various categories. In addition, our team is organizing a virtual tour of members' gardens – this time showing various gardens throughout the seasons. The PowerPoint will be part of our AGM program in November.

Our 'Gardens of Distinction' Committee walked the streets of Leaside and Bennington Hts. in June and chose ten beautiful and varied front yards to be acknowledged. The owners were presented with a sign and a letter praising their efforts.

And our virtual Plant Sale, which we held in May, was a great success. We made close to \$2,000 which will support our Scholarship Fund for the coming couple of years.

We have a terrific, creative and hardworking Board and also many members who willingly step up to volunteer. The current situation has presented many obstacles but we, here in Leaside, are hardy perennials!



Virtual Flower Show Photo by Ted Tritchew



Virtual Flower Show Photo by Christine Simmons



Gardens of Distinction Photo by Joanna Blanchard

Bath Gardening Club

What's Happening in Bath!

Submitted by Pat Chown Photography by Don Taylor and Judy Hume

On August 6th, 31 members of the Bath Gardening Club had their first outing of the year. To comply with Covid-19 protocol, we toured five different locations in three small groups. After the tour, we picnic-lunched at a local park beside Lake Ontario. It was a glorious day!

Our garden visits included the following:

Frog Pond Farms is an organic vegetable farm developed and operated by owner, Linda Jameson. Linda does not use pesticides or herbicides. Instead, she uses flowers to control insects. Crop rotation is practiced to maintain a healthy soil. Raised beds and aluminum foil help to repel vine borers and bugs. A greenhouse, whose sides can open to provide light to her tomato plants, has been newly installed. Linda told us that she cannot control all bugs that negatively impact her crops so she grows "volunteer" plants, specifically for pesty creatures to devour. For example, beetles love to feast on broccoli and amaranth!



Next on our tour was **Janssens Orchards**, a young five-acre orchard planted with vintage apples and other fruit trees. Mike and Marian Janssen do not use herbicides. If spraying is required, organically approved products are used. The Janssens use compost, mulch (grass) and grow plants that improve soil health and attract pollinators. Mike provided us with a great deal of information during our visit.

Apples have been domesticated from 4000 to 10,000 years and approximately 7500 varieties exist worldwide today. The Janssens are currently growing over 20 antique varieties, the oldest being Ashmead's Kernel, a russet variety, discovered in the UK in 1720.

The Northern Spy from 1870 is considered the best pie-making apple.



The McIntosh apple was originally founded in Ontario in the 1800's. The Lobo apple is an off-spring of the McIntosh.

The Gala apple is one of the most widely grown apple varieties in the world today.

The Snow apple was sold by Girl Guides and Boy Scouts. It was named for its extremely white pulp.



The remaining three locations on our tour included visits to our neighbours' gardens. Judy Hume provided us with a glimpse of her potato tower (below). Fran Arbour and Christine Weir wowed us with the shade gardens they have created in their backyards (right).



Results of the "Soil Your Undies" Challenge – Thank you District 13 for the idea!

On June 1st, a number of Bathers took up the challenge and planted white cotton undies in various gardens in the community. After two months, the undies were "harvested". The degree to which the undies disintegrated, leaving only the elastic, determined where the best soil in the community was located. Reports from the participants indicated that great care was taken to adhere to best research practices during this experiment.



Undies were watered and fertilized with all manner of products including; egg shells, peat moss, sheep manure and our famous Bath Gardening Club fertilizer. Planting in the sun or shade was also recorded and, if the undies were planted in a sunny area, the number of hours in direct sun was listed. The results in general show that the soil in Bath is extremely healthy! One participant has such healthy soil that the entire garment including the elastic disintegrated, never to be found again even after considerable digging! It is important to note that we did make another observation that led us to believe that some of the undies sold as cotton perhaps were not 100% cotton, but also included another fabric which is not biodegradable. Buyer beware!

Undie photos provided by: Marnie Brough, Carol Cartier, Janice Firth, Adrienne Golden, Judy Hume, Wendy O'Neill, Sue Nilsson.



Our Village Gardens and "Bugtel"

During spring planting, our numerous volunteers in the Gardening Club planted over 350 plants in gardens, planters and barrels along Main Street. The plants have been lovingly maintained by teams of volunteers throughout the growing season. The result? Our barrels and planters are overflowing with colour and our gardens are luxurious. Our "Bugtel" pollinator garden has flourished over the summer evolving into a lush garden and safe haven for pollinators and birds! Many thanks to everyone involved and also to the many Bathers who stopped by and acknowledged our efforts.





Bottom two photos: Bugtel Pollinator Garden



OHA Garden Shop Supplies List

Item #	Descriptions	Price	Quantity	Total	Item #	Descriptions	Price	Quantity	Total
01-01	District Appreciation Certificate	\$1.00	District	Dir Only	04-22	Pin - 5 Year Service Pin	\$ 5.00		
01-02	Youth Service Certificate/card	\$ 1.00			04-13	Pin - 10 Year Service Pin	\$ 5.00		
01-03	Society President Certificate	\$ 1.00			04-14	Pin - 15 Year Service Pin	\$ 5.00		
01-04	Life Member Certificate - w/ card	\$ 2.00			04-15	Pin - 20 Year Service Pin	\$ 5.00		
05-12	GardenOntario/OHA Pen	\$2.50			04-16	Pin - 25 Year Service Pin	\$ 5.00		
07-04	Carebags - Produce Bags	\$20.00			04-17	Pin - 30 Year Service Pin	\$ 5.00		
05-07	Peel & Stick OHA Decal	\$ 2.00			04-18	Pin - 35 Year Service Pin	\$ 5.00		
05-10	Pollinator Garden Sign - English	\$25.00			04-19	Pin - 40 Year Service Pin	\$ 5.00		
05-11	Pollinator Garden Sign - French	\$25.00			04-23	Pin - 45 Year Service Pin	\$ 5.00		
03-01	GardenOntario Postcards	Free			04-20	Pin - 50 Year Service Pin	\$ 5.00		
03-02	Pollinator Brochure (Limit 100)	Free			04-24	Pin - 55 Year Service Pin	\$ 5.00		
03-03	Awards & Grants Booklet	Under	Revision	N/A	04-25	Pin - 60 Year Service Pin	\$ 5.00		
04-01	Pin - President	\$ 5.00				Blank Note Cards as follows			
04-02	Pin - Past President	\$ 5.00			05-01	Trillium Design - Package of 5	\$ 5.00		
04-03	Pin - Judge	\$ 5.00			05-02	or mix 5 Packages for	\$20.00		
04-04	Pin - District Director	\$ 5.00			05-03	Lily Design - Package of 5	\$ 5.00		
04-05	Pin - Past District Director	\$ 5.00			05-04	Or mix 5 Packages for	\$20.00		
04-06	Pin - Secretary	\$ 5.00			05-05	Fall Colour Design - Package of 5	\$ 5.00		
04-07	Pin - Treasurer	\$ 5.00			05-06	Or mix 5 Packages for	\$20.00		
04-08	Pin - Member	\$ 5.00			05-08	Gerbera Design - Package of 5	\$ 5.00		
04-09	Pin - Youth Leader	\$ 5.00			05-09	Or mix 5 Packages for	\$20.00		
04-10	Pin - Life Member	\$ 5.00			07-01	Beeswax Wraps - Pattern	\$25.00		
04-11	Pin - Assistant District Director	\$ 5.00			07-02	Beeswax Wraps - GardenOntario logo	\$27.00		
04-12	Pin - Vice President	\$ 5.00			07-03	Ontario Judging & Exhibiting Standards	\$ 10.00		
04-21	Pin - Society Director	\$ 5.00							
TOTAL		\$						TOTAL	\$
GRAND TOTAL		\$							\$

Mailing Address for this order

Society Name _____ District _____

Address: _____

City, Province: _____ Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

NOTE: Do not send cheque with order. An invoice will be sent with your order and emailed.

Postage will be added. Please pay final amount on invoice.

Send e-transfers to treasurer4oha@gmail.com Thanks

Updated: 09/05/2021

Send this order to:

OHA Supplies

c/o Rose Odell

9 Lodge Street, Apt 302

Waterloo, ON N2J 4S8 Or via email:

gardenshopsupplies@gmail.com

Schomberg Horticultural Society

Submitted by Eleonora Schmied, Public Relations Director, Photos by Eleonora Schmied



The Horticultural Service Certificate was awarded to Barbara Niemeyer at a recent socially-distanced picnic for her Meritorious Service to Horticulture. Barbara has been a member of the Schomberg Horticultural Society for 32 years.

She is the chair of the very successful garden tour and during her presidency, she organized a fabulous plant sale. Under her leadership, King Township won the title of most beautiful small town in the Community in Blooms Competition. Barb organized and oversaw the planning and construction of the "Welcome to Schomberg" sign, pictured below. "There are way too many accomplishments to mention," said Jill Watts-Hayward, the outgoing president, as she presented this prestigious award. Congratulations and thank you to Barb.



Hope is Growing Campaign

The society's volunteers planted a yellow heart of petunias in support of the "Hope is Growing" campaign. The heart was augmented with orange flags to commemorate the children who died at residential schools.

A message from the newly elected president, Trish Maguire:

"I feel that our heart of yellow flowers brings the message of hope behind the silent somber message the orange flags convey, and it's that ray of hope that will help propel us all forward to new understandings. "

Brockville & District Horticultural Society

IT WAS A HONEY OF A VISIT!

By Danielle Laurier, President

Photos by Danielle Laurier



On Monday evening, August 23, members of the Brockville & District Horticultural Society toured the BeeToo Honey Farm in Augusta Township. We met the husband and wife team of Cathy Worth and Ron Grootjans in their pollinator garden, where free range chickens were on bug control duty. The couple has created a thriving business. They started with four hives in 2018 and their hive count is now at 61, some of which were produced by Ron being proactive and catching swarms from their own hives, as well as people calling to have him remove a swarm from their property.

Ron shared his knowledge about bees with those in attendance and explained why bees are so vital to us. Ron demonstrated how he processes the honey from breaking the seal on the honeycomb to bottling. We learned so much about bees and honey production. BeeToo Honey Farm was a great spot to spend a summer's evening with friends (at a distance). Everyone greatly appreciated the gift of a sample jar of honey that Cathy made for us and the handout on substituting honey instead of refined sugar in baking recipes. Before leaving, several members bought additional jars of honey to bring home. It was great to support local bee farmers in this way.

Did you know... ?

There are between 50,000-70,000 bees in each hive during the peak of summer. BeeToo Honey Farm is home to ~3.6 million bees during this time!

Bees are sensitive to frequency. The mood of the beekeeper while tending the hives can influence bee behaviour. A happy beekeeper will have calm bees so Ron always makes sure he is in a good mood when visiting the hives.

Contrary to popular belief, bees do not hibernate. They are active throughout the winter, clustering together in the hives to keep the queen warm at 30 degrees Celsius. During the winter, the bees mainly stay in the hive, keeping the queen warm. However, the bees do go on "cleansing flights" to relieve



themselves. Bees also regularly “bring out their dead”; tossing any dead bees from the hive.

Cathy and Ron are passionate about providing natural, healthy, local honey to their customers. They also offer beeswax blocks and beeswax candles (seasonally). At Christmas, they have honey/beeswax candle gift boxes for the honey lover on Santa’s list.

“Did you know...?” information is courtesy of BeeToo Honey Farm.

To purchase some of Ron and Cathy’s delicious honey, go to:

<https://www.beetooohoneyfarm.com/shop-products>

Their products are also sold at the Brockville Farmers Market and the North Augusta Farmers Market every Saturday from May to December.



St. Joseph Island Horticultural Society

By Sheila Campbell

Remembering Pearl Andrew

We were saddened to learn that Pearl Andrew passed away on August 27th in her 100th year. Pearl was an inaugural member of the St. Joseph Island Horticultural Society and helped start the organization in 1974. She was a very active member for many years. We made her a life member when she and Ray left the island. She has continued to receive an annual life membership card. She has been a member of the St. Joseph Island Horticultural Society for over 47 years and many of us have fond memories of Pearl.

Pearl was able to attend our 40th Anniversary Annual Dinner as a guest of the group along with other life members. She held the role of President, Vice-President and Past President. The society and its members benefited from her guidance over many years. A memorial planting in her honour will take place in the future.



Pearl Andrew



Community Gardens, Photo by Sherie Gladu

Members of the society continued to plant and maintain several public beds around the Island despite being unable to meet in person.

In addition to planting and maintaining over 10 areas scattered around the Island, the Society supports the Community Gardens. The first year started with 8 beds, 4' x 8' and about 12 inches high. The Northern Credit Union donated a storage shed. People in the community donated supplies like wheelbarrows and rain barrels. Garden tools for use by gardeners were purchased by another grant to the Township. A grant was received from the Ontario Horticultural Association to build a shade structure. Outdoor furniture and a garden bench were donated. Since 2014, we have expanded to 20 beds, 6 waist-height beds for those with mobility or back issues. The Gardens are fenced in as protection from deer. The electric fence was replaced a few years ago by a solar-powered fence. We have added fruit trees to the fenced-in area and compost bins.

We also use motion activated sprinklers in case the deer do get in. Beds are rented annually for a nominal fee on a first-come, first-served basis. Members who follow the rules are guaranteed a plot the following year if they wish. The St. Joseph Island Food Bank is given beds annually, free of charge, 3 this year. The local 4-H Club has a bed and in the past, the kindergarten class has had a bed, both free as well.



*The Cenotaph at Richards Landing
Photo by Maria Smith*



*The plantings at the Hilton Township
Offices, Photo by Sheila Campbell*

Ontario Horticultural Association Bursary

Submitted by Marian Heil, Candace Dressler

A note of gratitude from your 2020-2021 Student Award Recipient

Thank you for your support from this bursary, I am so appreciative.

I am currently just finishing my third year at Lakehead University in the forestry program. Being from Timmins, Ontario, it is a long drive to come home for Christmas break, this bursary helped me cover some of the expenses.

I decided to attend Lakehead University because both of my parents attended there and my dad was in the forestry program as well. They spoke so highly of this school that I decided to attend as well. My plans after I graduate are to come back to Timmins and work for him.

I am very thankful to be supported by this as it has aided me in completing my degree. Thank you so much for the support.

Sincerely,

Cameron Svec

Amherstburg Fort Malden Horticultural Society

Linda Jackson, President

Photos by Don McArthur

The Amherstburg Fort Malden Horticultural Society planted a new tulip tree (*liriodendron tulipifera*) at the Amherstburg Community Hub on Friday, July 2nd with the help of a \$200.00 grant from the Ontario Horticultural Association (OHA).

Linda Jackson, the Society's President, noted: "We chose the tulip tree as part of our ongoing effort to create a pollinator-friendly environment. This native Carolinian species produces abundant nectar that draws butterflies, native bees and even hummingbirds when it blooms in spring. The leaves have been likened to the head of a child with open arms welcoming spring or to a maple leaf with the top cut off."

She also noted that "In the fall, the tree becomes a vibrant yellow colour. During late summer and well into winter, the tulip tree seeds provide food for finches, cardinals and small animals."

On hand for the planting was District 11 Director, Margaret Laman.

Thanks OHA for your support!



Dryden & District Horticultural Society

By Alison Robinson Photos by Leonard Blagdon

Can you imagine the eager anticipation in the hearts of local green-thumbers for our Dryden & District Horticultural Society's annual May Plant Sale? As no membership meetings have been held this Covid-19 year, our long-anticipated event, held on the May long weekend, was a grand success. Lots of plants were donated by our generous volunteers and lots of customers – both the membership and the community-at-large, supported the sale. It was great to re-connect with so many like-minded friends, with the added bonus of the financial boost to our bank balance! We were very thankful for the many volunteers it took to have a such a successful sale. And as of this writing, so pleased were some of the customers that they have submitted requests for next year!

Now after apologizing to Robbie Burns, please sing along using the familiar tune, but not-so-familiar lyrics:

**Should auld acquaintance be forgot--
Oh NEVER could they be!
The Garden Tour joined friend with friend
All kindred spirits, we!**

After a two-month hiatus of gathering with horticulturally-minded friends, we had the opportunity at our Garden Tour, held on July 17th. (For those who could not make it out, one of our members generously gave of her time and photographic expertise to put together a Virtual Tour!) But with Covid-19 restrictions somewhat relaxed, we did our best to social distance, and without masks, everyone was easily identifiable! The day was sunny and bright and very HOT. Nonetheless, there were no heat casualties reported, and by all accounts, a good time was had by all.

Our Tour of five gardens was a self-guided affair and each garden was unique to the individual owners. The Garden Tour Hosts collectively were happy to share their space and talk about the subject near and dear. Garden questions were asked and answered, comments and ideas were shared, but understandably, lots of other topics were discussed as well – such as hair colour and coiffures! Yes, Covid-19 changed much more than the size of Garden Tour gatherings...

But fun and unusual things happened too. The lawn of a next-door neighbour to a Host garden was so lush and green that the Host Gardener was asked if he looked after the neighbour's grass as well as his own! The answer was 'no', but there's nothing like friendly competition amongst good neighbours to set the bar high!



At another Host Garden, one 'Tourer', who was a former member of a London, UK, chorale group, sweetly broke into song upon seeing "To God be the glory" above a trellis of morning glories. (Evidently, this particular phrase was one of her favourite lines in the aria.)

In another Garden, a mystery was solved. After finding and really liking an unfamiliar 'succulent' growing in her garden, the Tour Host potted it up and was pleased that it was flourishing in time for the Garden Tour. A tip from a 'Tourer' brought to light the real nature of the mystery succulent – purslane, the energetic weed! Evidently, all gardeners can learn from one another. But this birthed another mystery: Will the potted-up purslane be allowed to live peacefully in the garden or will Miss P. Purslane be the victim in a new crime novel entitled, 'Murder in the Country Garden'? Stay tuned...



Stoney Creek Garden Club

Marian Heil

Photos by Bob Heil



Left to right: Marian Heil, Karen Krasko, Jackie Lowe, Wendy Klassen, Janice Garden, Liz Chapple, Gwen Allan, Judy Wrobel, Elaine Daley and Brenda Canning.

The Stoney Creek Garden Club happily held its Board meeting in person during August. This was the first time the Board members met in person since March of 2020. The meeting was held on the beautiful back yard patio of the club's Past President, Liz Chapple. All attendees were double vaxxed to remain safe.

The meeting started with dinner, refreshments and desserts. Two raccoons decided to join the fun and help themselves to some bird seed.

The Covid-19 restrictions will prevent in-person membership meetings at the club's regular venue for the next few months but speakers and presentations are still being planned over Zoom for all members.



Member Garden Tour for Ridgeway & District Garden Club

Submitted by Debbie Eggleton, President

Well, it has been a beautiful summer this year. The flowers are profuse and nodding in the lovely sunshine. Our club, Ridgeway & District Garden Club, missed our scheduled Garden Tour last summer. We were partnered with Communities in Bloom and all participants were very disappointed.

On July 31, 2021, we decided to share our spectacular gardens with our fellow club members. It was very casual and put together rather quickly. We had eight volunteers who offered their gardens up for our pleasure. Let me tell you the garden-envy scale was high and green! Diverse gardens, settings and plants were overwhelming.



Pennie Ruch



Debbie Eggleton



Roland and Betty King



Caroline Hill

Water features, berm plantings and all-shade gardens were just a few of the highlights. You could see the love and hard work put into all the gardens on display. Thank you to everyone that opened their yards to us. It was marvelously inspiring and we all ran home with ideas on how to improve our own gardens.



Marlene Kelestine



Laura Cuthbertson



Cathy Fretz



Sandy and Erwin Mako

LaSalle Horticultural Society

By Jan Dugdale

Boy, the summer sure has gone by quickly but not quick enough for those that don't like the heat. We sure have had a lot of it and some good storms to go with it. What would we do without the rain? Our precious gardens which we love so much would need to see the hose and that's costly.

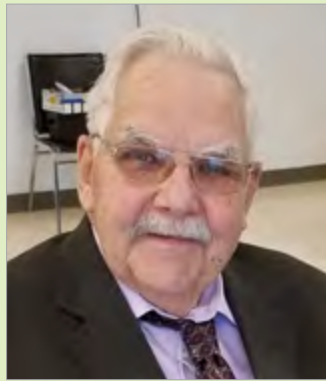
Unfortunately, societies were not able to share their garden with any tours due to Covid-19 restrictions though some shared pictures on Zoom meetings and on their Facebook (FB) pages which a lot of members enjoyed. Don't forget to join other society pages for you can get ideas of things they are doing and gain information from just sharing. Our page is: <https://www.facebook.com/LasalleAmbassadorHorticulturalSociety>.

This summer, we had another just perennial plant sale. It went very well and we were glad to have made this our fourth sale since May. With our funds, we supported the "Highway of Heroes" project with \$1500 and used another \$500 to support a new butterfly initiative on Pelee Island. This project is being run by Cherie Dillon and it will eventually be a butterfly teaching centre. It is called "Pelee Island Butterfly and Moth Sanctuary". Look it up on FB.

Some of our members really enjoyed the virtual convention. Thanks for putting that together. It was a lot of work and we, as well as other societies I am sure, appreciated it.



Betty Lane



Charlie Bowyer

Remembering Betty Lane and Charlie Bowyer

With sadness, we announce the passing of long-time member Betty Lane and "Life" member Charlie Bowyer whom a lot of you know from Great Windsor and Fort Malden Societies.

Night Market

LaSalle has been starting up with their night markets and we decided to join the July one. We met a lot of people interested in our plants and gardening and received a couple of new members. Hopefully, your towns have a similar night that you can share your society with.

As the summer closes, we continue to bring fresh fruits and vegetables to our LaSalle Food Bank once a week, have done a couple of helping hands projects with the elderly and the Windsor Humane Society. Weeding and pruning mostly. You always feel better when you can see what you have accomplished for someone else.



*Night Market, July, 2021
Photo by Jan Dugdale*

Bobcaygeon & District Horticultural Society 2020-2021

Submitted by Carol Peters

Photos by Carol Peters



Not much going on this year. However, the dry weather has kept us busy watering and weeding. Thankfully, all is well with our Membership.



Even though few in-person events were possible, a lot of gardening was happening.



Wilderness Park Pollinator Patch



*Laura Chattaway & Carol Peters voting,
OHA 2021 Convention*



Meeting August 4, 2020

Tillsonburg Horticultural Society

Submitted by Angela Lassam

Photos by Pat Zeyen and Committee

Tillsonburg Horticultural Society has been quietly tending the local public gardens with few volunteers. All of them have received wonderful praise from town folk and visitors which has been well deserved.

The Society was asked to provide a Junior Gardeners Program this year as children missed one the year before due to Covid-19 restrictions. The same co-ordinator Pat Zeyen prepared a program called 'Planting a Hope Garden' with the theme to include the color of yellow. Yellow is the color for hope.

It was a scaled-down version to restrict any direct contact with the children. The previous participants were contacted by email and a notice was placed in the Society Facebook page. There were 82 registered of which 31 were judged and 6 ED students from a local High School participated.

There was some interesting feedback from many parents and even grandparents:

" Thank you for still organizing such a great opportunity for our youth during this unprecedented time."

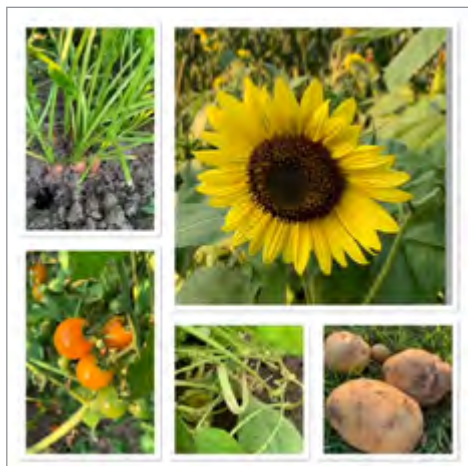
" I did this as a child growing up as my parents were on the garden tour and I had my own area. I cannot wait to do this with my daughter and relive the experience."

" Our kids are excited to participate this year."

" Thanks in advance, this is an awesome thing to do for the community."

The packages for the program were prepared by Pat. Contributions were made towards them – strawberry crowns, seed potatoes and tomato plants by local companies to support future gardeners. The packages were then delivered by volunteers directly to the children's address. In the package with seeds, tomato plant, seed potato and strawberry crowns. A booklet was added with instructions for planting, a page for garden planning and a scavenger hunt quiz especially for older children to fill in.

At the beginning of August, volunteer Society members visited those who agreed to be judged and using a prepared questionnaire talked with the participants about their gardens. Volunteers had a great time talking to our future gardeners and enjoyed their enthusiasm. Before leaving them,





they were presented with a Participation certificate and a water bottle as an appreciation gift. Photos were taken to compile a scrap book to continue the records of our future gardeners.

After collecting all the results medals were delivered for 1st and 2nd place in the various age groups. We were sad as a society not to be able to have an Awards Party as in previous years but it will return *HOPE*fully in the future.

The Society has been able to keep in touch with members through social media using Zoom, email, Facebook and the website. We hope to be able to return to a 'new normal' soon staying within government restrictions.



Tips from the OHA Treasurer

Submitted by Marian Heil

TPON if banking info has changed

The 2022 Grant from OMAFRA will be issued this fall to Societies in good standing with OMAFRA. In order to receive the grant, the societies/clubs need to be registered on TPON – Transfer Payment Ontario.

If a Society/Club has changed banking information since the last grant payment, a change of information will need to be completed and submitted electronically along with a scanned copy of a void cheque.

The form to complete can be found at www.ontario.ca/directpayment

The PDF form is called Supplier Registration and Application for Direct Deposit/Electronic Funds Transfer.

To change banking information, click the box for Change of information and then Banking.

Under Supplier Information, check the box for Receive Transfer Payments from the Province of Ontario.

If your Society/Club does not have a CRA number, simply fill in that field with nine zeros.

You will need your Supplier Number – which you would have from your registration with TPON.

Under Banking information, fill in the requested information related to your new bank.

Attach the file of your scanned Void cheque

Fill in the contact information under Certification and use an email address that is not a yahoo.com address.

Save the form

Submit the form

You should see a message that says your information has been received.

If you have questions, please contact your OMAFRA Regional rep for more information.

<http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/>

Thorold Garden Club

UPDATE: The Covid-19 Years 2020-2021

Leslie Daniels, President

Photos by Leslie Daniels

Since March 13th, 2020, most of the world has been fighting the Covid-19 pandemic. Masks are worn in all enclosed spaces, meetings have been cancelled, facilities closed, families have been practicing social distancing, jobs have been lost or altered to try to protect the most vulnerable in society.

These years, we have had to re-invent ourselves to keep our members interested and involved.

Since we have not been able to host speakers in person, we have developed an exciting Zoom presence and will continue to keep our audience engaged through this technological worm hole...

Spring 2021 offerings included presentations on Welcoming Spring (Theresa Forte), Veggie Gardening (Robert Pavliss) and an Update from Niagara Beeway and George Scott in the fall.

As well, we distribute our newsletters widely and often and have also initiated a call program with our membership in order to check on those shut-in or isolated.

Changes this year also, have included the postponement of our Tree of Life Ceremonies until next year when, hopefully, we might be able to meet in person.

Instead, we have focused on the revitalization of the Library Pollinator Habitat Garden (as per public policy allowing) and continue to develop virtual projects that we can share with our members. To this end, last year we organized our first Annual Virtual Rose Show and Christmas Photo Contest, both of which we have carried over to 2021.

My Secret Garden Spot

In this continuing stressful time for society, more solace than usual comes in the form of our gardens. Whether it be working in the beds, tending growing flowers, trees and shrubs, herbs, vegetables and fruits for our tables or just relaxing and watching the birds and animals in our garden sanctuaries, we all crave the peace and fulfilment we feel in our backyard oasis.

I am sure everyone has a "favourite spot" where they can relax and feel at peace. Beautiful, quirky or just plain calming, show this hidden garden gem to us all. That is the focus of this contest. One photo, the one which shows it in the best light and ambience. Can't wait to see your particular "Secret Garden".

Entry details: There are no real rules other than having to be a member of Niagara Falls, St. Catharines, Thorold or Welland Horticultural Societies to submit a photo and enter the contest.

Contest starts: October 1st and ends November 1st, 2021

More information on our website and Facebook pages.

Virtual Garden Tour

And finally we have embarked on a Virtual Garden Tour that involves taking seasonal photos of 6+ gardens in Thorold, St. Catharines and Niagara Falls from spring to winter in all their glory. And then making power point presentations showing the changes our gardens go through in each season – regardless of Covid-19.

As well as being the president of the Thorold Garden Club, Leslie Daniels is also an author of books including "Boundaries" and "Consequences".



This is the secret shed my husband designed and built for me.



OHA Scholarship Award Recipient Josh Weber

Submitted by Marian Heil

The most recent OHA Scholarship Award recipient was Josh Weber. Josh just graduated from the Bachelors of Science in Agriculture, specializing in Crop, Horticulture and Turfgrass sciences. Throughout his university career, he was heavily involved in the Ontario Agricultural College (OAC) of the University of Guelph. He was the VP of the OAC Class of 2021 for 2 years, Chairperson on the Student Federation of the OAC (SFOAC) and most recently, SFOAC VP Internal. Following graduation, Josh intends to return to his family cash crop operation to support his father and hopes to eventually pursue a career in precision technologies and agronomy.

Ennismore Horticultural Society

By Susan Newton

Photos by Susan Newton

A new project that reflects our community's heritage is underway in Ennismore. A century old barn, located beside the Ennismore Waterfront Park, was slated to be demolished. One of our members, Ian DesLaurier, envisioned the beautiful granite stone foundation as a "secret garden". The rumour of a "secret garden" spread and interest grew.

Ian, with the club's support, presented a proposal to develop the site to the township. It was approved with enthusiasm! At present, the roof and upper wooden structure has been removed and the lakefront wall has been reinforced with earth.

Once the foundation is cleared of the demolition debris, work can begin on planting areas and a walkway to view them.



What the barn looked like originally, viewed from the north side of the barn



The view from the south side after the demolition.

Tilbury and District Horticultural Society

Joy Pearson Davis



Above: Garden scene at Amelia's

The Tilbury Horticultural Society enjoyed a safe and successful garden tour in Tilbury on Aug. 11, 2021.

Touring 7 yards, Joy Pearson Davis took the photos for the society.



*Right: Naked Ladies
Below: Annette's yard*



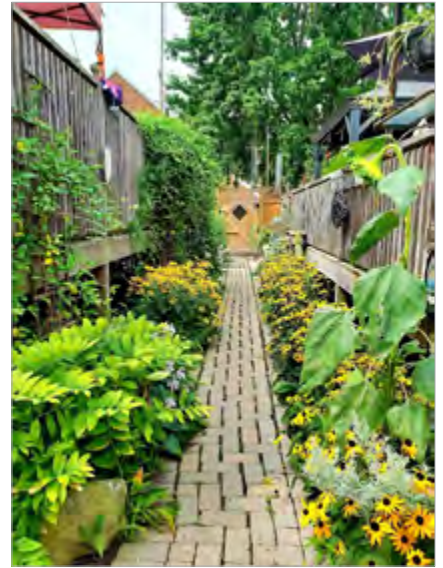
More photos from the Tilbury Horticultural Society garden tour



Lisianthus



Love this corner



Path at Amelia's

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>



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The Good, the Bad and the Bugly

By Stephanie Wilson

*Sorry, I stole that title from a lecture that I once attended.
However, it is exactly what I wanted to discuss in this article.*

Many people are squeamish when it comes to bugs, and I believe that it is a conditioned response. "Someone once put a worm down my back", or "bullies used to chase me with bugs", etc. I'd like to try to change the opinions of those who have bad feelings about these other forms of life which, whether we like it or not, far outnumber us on this planet.

Let's start with the ones that most of us consider as "good insects". Most of us are presently enjoying the butterflies that are in abundance right now, beautiful, and useful as pollinators. However, before they get to be beautiful butterflies, they are eggs which hatch into caterpillars which many people don't find appealing to look at. Many more still don't even know that these caterpillars become butterflies, and kill them! Certainly not all caterpillars turn into butterflies so it is a good idea to try to learn the good ones from the bad.

Much has been written about the value of bees as pollinators. However, none of us wants to be bothered by wasps when trying to eat outside at this time of the year. Try putting a home made wasp trap out far away from the eating area to keep them away. Wear white and don't wave your arms around to shoo them away. They will go away on their own.

Ladybugs are friends of ours as they eat aphids, scale mites, mealybugs, whiteflies and eggs of some other harmful insects. Also, aphids can be easily gotten rid of by spraying the plant with water. No harmful chemicals are needed.

I can't think of anyone who likes mosquitoes except for bats. Some people hang mosquito zappers to keep the mosquitoes away. Did you know, though, that the light actually attracts mosquitoes, and to make matters worse, these zappers attract moths, which are our night-time pollinators. There are other ways to rid ourselves of mosquitoes. Mosquitoes avoid such varieties of plants as catnip, feverfew, citronella geranium, rosemary and lemon thyme. Plant a few varieties in high-traffic areas around your home, such as along walkways, in window boxes or in pots on porches and decks. The plant oils and fragrances will act as a natural barrier against mosquitoes. Some

naturally derived oils, such as peppermint, camphor and citronella, can be mixed with water and used as a spray to help repel mosquitoes. Oils such as eucalyptus and lavender can be lightly applied directly to the skin to prevent mosquitoes from landing to bite.

Natural predators such as dragonflies feed on mosquitoes at all life stages. Dragonfly nymphs eat mosquito larvae, while adult dragonflies prey on adult mosquitoes. A praying mantis eats aphids, leafhoppers, chinch bugs and crickets. Lacewing eats aphids, leafhoppers, mealybugs and spider mites.

Ground beetle eats slugs, many pest larvae, cutworms and snails. Assassin bug eats Japanese beetles, Colorado potato beetle, horn worms and flies. And there are many more.

While they are not insects, I find it is necessary to discuss spiders here. Spiders are beneficial predators which serve a significant role in keeping populations of many insect pests in check.

Spiders feed on common indoor

pests such as roaches, earwigs, mosquitoes, flies and clothes moths. If left alone, they will consume most of the insects in your home providing effective home pest control. However, if you cannot abide spiders in your house, many natural things will repel them: cedar wood, vinegar, citrus, lavender, eucalyptus and garlic. Cleaning and avoiding clutter make it more difficult for spiders to find a place to crawl into. As well, there are humane traps that can be used to trap and release them outside. There are very few spiders in our part of the world that are dangerous to us.

There are certainly far more varieties of good insects than those mentioned here. The point that I hope to make is that not all insects are bad or harmful and they should be treated with respect. If you wish to not have them around you, there are environmentally-friendly ways to avoid them. Insecticides are not able to differentiate between good and harmful insects. When insecticides are used, it must be kept in mind that many other insects are affected. Insects that have been sprayed are eaten by birds and other animals, such as pets, which might make them ill or worse. Consider the collateral damage.



"Manty"