

Trillium

Keeping Ontario Beautiful

Ontario Horticultural Association

Winter 2017-2018



Included in this issue:

Vimy Oak Dedications
Canada 150 Celebrations
Regreening an Ugly Schoolyard
Organizing a Seedy Saturday
A New Youth Section
Website Update
Society Archives

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President's Message

Greetings from the OHA President, Rose Odell

I have been incredibly fortunate to have a legacy of wonderful leaders within the OHA to pull inspiration from. The president position is one that is challenging and also extremely rewarding. The OHA has a great team including all of the Board of Directors, the Districts, Societies and Members across Ontario.

We are thankful for the employees and contractors that make the job of conducting association business easier and more efficient. Teleconferences have become a large part of the work of the association to take care of the work that needs to be done between the OHA Board Meetings.

A personal note of thanks to Past President Suzanne Hanna for her ongoing commitment to finishing up some long term projects such as the GardenOntario.org website refresh and the Pollinator Initiative.



UPDATES ON ONGOING WORK:

- **STBI Update:** Distribution of the OHA Treasurer Bonding Fund was approved at our 2017 OHA AGM and will be paid out, by cheque, to participating Societies and Districts at the 2018 District Annual General Meetings.
- **OHA Pollinator Initiative:** Since the OHA Convention, the committee working with the Ontario Government received formal approval from Minister Leal's office to begin the Heritage and Environmental Assessments on land near the Frost Building of Queen's Park for the new Pollinator garden. The Pollinator brochure produced by the Conservation & Environment Committee has recently been reprinted for distribution at Society & District Outreach events. The brochure is also available on the current website on the home page. OHA Pollinator signs are now available in English and French.
- **OHA GardenOntario Website:** The content document is still under development. It is hoped that all required areas will have been reviewed and/or amended or created prior to late November so it can be submitted to Urban & Co. for loading on the new website.
- **GardenOntario Week** will be held June 9-17, 2018. The site has been updated and is ready to receive 2018 gardening related events on its Event Calendar and map. 2017 activities have been archived. Be sure to spread the word and register!
- **OHA Annual Information Reports and Volunteer Hours** will be done this year on the current gardenontario.org website as it is too late in the year to start using the new site. Education will be provided next year for use of the new site.
- **Grant Reimbursements:** If you have been awarded a grant this year the project must be done within this year and the proper paperwork sent to the Awards Coordinator as soon as the project is complete.
- **Nominations for Awards:** There are many Awards that you may have members that should be considered for nomination. Please take the time to honour the work they have done for you and your community by submitting them for nomination. The Awards booklet and appropriate forms are online on the gardenontario.org website.
- **Board of Directors Idea Table:** At the last two OHA Board of Director Meetings, our District 19 Director, Gary Brenner, requested that each board member bring an idea to share with everyone. This Idea Table has brought forward some great suggestions to take back to the Districts. This would be a great idea for consideration at District or Society Meetings.
- I wish all of you a healthy and happy growing year in 2018. May your blessings be bountiful, your blossoms beautiful and your hands full of new wonders and dirt.

NEW BUSINESS:

NEW Pollinator Project Grant - In support of our recent OHA Pollinator Initiative, the Board of Directors has approved a new grant that societies can apply for. Starting in 2018, the new Pollinator Project Grant will offer up to two (2) \$200 grants annually for the creation of pollinator habitat (garden, nesting site). The criteria and application process will be finalized by the Awards Committee and made available shortly.

OHA POSITION AVAILABLE:

Marketing and Communications Coordinator – Available Immediately: This position reports to the Ontario Horticultural Association Officers and Board of Directors, with responsibility for marketing and communications, under the supervision of the Officers. This person is responsible for supporting and assisting in the promotion and publicity of all aspects and events that this group undertakes. The Marketing and Communications Coordinator will implement a broad spectrum of publicity and marketing tools that assist in advertising the association and making the name become recognizable throughout Ontario. The closing date is January 15.

112th OHA CONVENTION 2018:

The 2018 convention will take place from July 27 to 29 at the Ambassador Hotel & Conference Centre in Kingston. The meeting will be taking on a nostalgic flare as we delve into the garden diversity of District 3, **From Shore to Shield**. Get out your tie dyes and bell bottoms.

Convention competition schedules can be found at www.gardenontario.org/sho/com.php. More information will be available early in the new year.

I thank you for your continued support and commit to providing the best leadership possible during my tenure. Best wishes to you all as you clean up your yards and put your gardens to bed for the winter.

Sunshine Always,

Rose Odell



Please note that this newsletter is available with higher quality photos at
http://www.gardenontario.org/docs/trillium_news_2017-04_winter.pdf

Cover Photo: Anna Leggatt (East York Garden Club, District 5)

Out of the Basement, into the Archives of Ontario

Aruna Panday, Scarborough Garden and Horticultural Society

Incorporated in 1925, the Scarborough Horticultural Society's archives' oldest materials include photographs from the 1930s and a yearbook from 1929! This tremendous collection has been meticulously maintained by generations of volunteer archivists. This year we decided the safest place to preserve this valuable historical material is the Archives of Ontario and we will soon be transferring our physical collection to this Government of Ontario agency.

Like many community organizations we at the Scarborough Garden and Horticultural Society have kept our history locked up in bins and boxes, stored in the basements of churches and gardeners for nearly a century. At the beginning of 2017 we faced a bit of a challenge; our then archivist Alan Millikin was considering downsizing. At our January board meeting he brought up the problem of the storage of boxes of documents, correspondence, photographs, photo slides, newsletters, meeting minutes, reports, yearbooks, and other oversized miscellany, like framed certificates, occupying space in his basement. I suggested creating an on-line archive and with those words the group tasked me with the duty to research and implement solutions based on our goals of preserving and sharing our Society's history.



We considered a few options. Maintaining these records in a private home (takes up a lot of space) or a storage unit (costly) continues to make these documents susceptible to damage from fire and humidity. Though the archives would be protected, private document storage facilities are expensive and there would be limited access to the material. We were excited at

the idea of collaboration with a university to create an archive that would include resources on gardening, horticulture, landscape planning, education, etc. However, as with the on-line archive, this would have been logistically and financially challenging, and it would take a long time to actualize. After contacting several public archives and historical societies our initial communication with archivist Juanita Rossiter convinced us that the Archives of Ontario was the best fit for our collection and our goals.

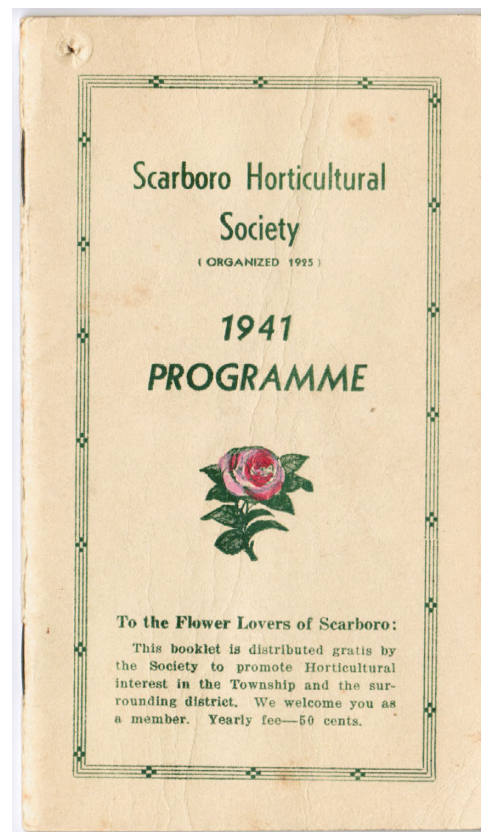
Since 1903 the Archives of Ontario have maintained records of importance to Ontario as a whole indefinitely, and at no charge to the donors. The material is housed in fireproof, humidity-regulated structures, in archival boxes and packaging. Where permission is granted by the donor, those records may be accessed by the public on site in Toronto or copies can be made of requested documents (for a nominal fee) and sent to researchers globally. Their database is available on-line and they have plans to digitize the collection in the future once funding is secured.

The Archives of Ontario's donation process is straightforward. First, we answered archivists' questions about the collection: How old is the material? What does it consist of? What condition is it in? And, were we willing to transfer copyright of the records to the Archives of Ontario. Transferring copyright means that the Archives of Ontario would handle approvals to broadcast, publish, or exhibit the material. We would not need to obtain copyright permission to use the material in our newsletters or social media campaigns so we decided this was acceptable. Next, Assistant Archivist Neale Borutskie prepared an assessment report for John Roberts, the Chief Privacy Officer and Archivist of Ontario. Roberts deemed our archives to have provincial significance and to be a good fit for the Province's collecting goals. After approving the terms of the hand over in the "Donation Agreement," myself (as group archivist) our president, vice-president, and past president signed the document. Finally, off to the archives and out of our basements, these precious documents go!

Our journey to the archives has taken nearly one year partially because we were the first horticultural society to donate our material and mostly because we wanted to digitize most of our collection. The first step to digitizing required us to organize and cull

the material. While the previous archivists had already done this, there was still a lot to be organized; we have nearly one-hundred years of material! Scanning is a slow beast of a process! Happily, we invested in a multi-page scanner, while my personal flat bed scanner took care of awkward or very delicate items. Though time consuming, it was important for us to digitize our collection so we could continue to have instant access to our records for internal purposes. We also want to be able to continue to share information within our local group; for example, through a feature I write for our monthly newsletter highlighting some aspect of our society's history.

As a public repository, the Archives of Ontario's reach is vast; international, national, and local scholars, researchers, and everyday people will be able to access this incredible history! If you're interested in gifting your society's historical records, or the records of any defunct societies, contact our gem of an archivist who will happily collect them! You can reach Neale Borutskie at the Archives of Ontario at neale.borutskie@ontario.ca or 416-327-1559.



Norwood Exhibit Displays the Significance of Anniversaries

Kathy Reid, Past President, Norwood and District Horticultural Society

The Norwood and District Horticultural Society was pleased to create an exhibit for the annual Norwood Fall Fair, held this past Thanksgiving Weekend.

Three anniversaries were expertly displayed through the design of the exhibit: the 149th anniversary of the Norwood Fall Fair, the 25th anniversary of the incorporation of the Norwood and District Horticultural Society and the 150th Anniversary of Confederation.

The exhibit attracted a great deal of attention. There was an array of fresh produce and garden plants, and models of sheep and a carousel horse. With a close eye, one could also find mementos of the growth of a nation, a horticulture society, and a community agricultural fair.



The design was created and installed under the guidance of member Margaret Knight.

Preparing for Our New Web Space

April Davies, OHA Webmaster

Winter is a good time for planning. This is also true for our new website. Deciding on what goes into it is not a small task, but the rewards are worth it. Old documents and lists are being updated or replaced as we continue to prepare the new space for Spring.



But, we can't do it alone and your help is required. The new space cannot use the existing pages and files, so please archive your Society's pages, documents and pictures onto a hard drive or USB stick if you need a copy of them. You can also cut & paste wording on the page to a Word file to use again. The Web Committee is here to help should you need it. Remember, a website is for advertising and should not be the only place a file is stored. You should always have a copy of important files saved onto a disc, stick or hard drive and backed up periodically.

We also need your best images to sprinkle throughout the new website! Please zip them up and send them to me at webmaster@gardenontario.org together with a release form that will be available on our website soon.

The new Societies and Districts section is very easy to use by filling in a one page form with your information, upload pictures and documents, and edit as required. We will let you know when it is ready for your Society's information. Please stay tuned for more updates in the months ahead.

Season's Greetings and best wishes for the new year,

April

Trillium Deadline Dates for 2018

Trillium deadlines and publication dates will shift slightly in 2018. The publication date for the Spring issue will be moving from the middle of March to the beginning of April, in order to allow convention resolutions to be distributed in a timelier manner, and to guarantee that Societies receive proper notification of those resolutions. **With this in mind, the deadline for submitting items for the Spring Trillium will be March 31**, with publication during the first week of April. To go along with this, and to better align each issue with its season and with significant OHA events, the schedule for the Summer, Autumn, and Winter issues will also change to June 15 (publication June 20), September 15 (publication September 20), and December 15 (publication January 2).

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

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

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Dunnville Centennial Fountain's Canada 150 Facelift

By Jillian Zynomirski, Vice-President, Dunnville Horticultural Society

Many of you may recall an article in the spring issue of the Trillium that highlighted a planned project by the Dunnville Horticultural Society (DHS) at our town's neglected Centennial Park. This project was two years in the making, culminating in a special event on Saturday, September 23 at which the Society celebrated in 1967. Along with the many improvements to the park, the event saw the unveiling of the newly refurbished Centennial Park Fountain.

About 200 people turned out to vibe to the groovy party that showcased newly paved pathways, the accessibility of the Thompson Creek bridge, new park benches and most of all, the restored fountain.

In addition to Canada 150 plantings in red and white beneath the fountain, we revitalized a long neglected native grass area, adding many wildflowers and turning the space into a pollinator garden. We were grateful to be the recipients of a grant from District 9 that facilitated this worthwhile upgrade. The pollinator garden is situated next to Muddy, our 50-foot town mascot (a gigantic catfish). The DHS has also reworked the area below Muddy to naturalize his environment, making it appear that this giant fish is swimming through the weedy bottom of the Grand River.

Partnering over the past two years with the Dunnville Christian School and Haldimand County, the Dunnville Hort Society undertook its largest project to date. The fountain, originally created to celebrate Canada's Centennial in 1967, had fallen into disrepair and was in great need of a facelift. Enter Christian Corbet, the sole



Dunnville Horticultural Society Board members channeling the 1960s at the fountain re-dedication ceremony. From left are Kim Christoff, Kim Dickie, Petra Kruis-Daly, Debbie Thomas, Deb Zynomirski, Gloria Hunter, Mary Lou Johnston, Marilyn Stavinga, Denise Richardson and Wray McLean. Photo permission of [The Sachem](#); photographer: J.P. Antonacci

protégé of the original artist, Elizabeth Holbrook, and the historical panels lining the fountain's sides received a makeover that restored them to their former glory.

Saturday's festivities included singing by students from Dunnville Christian School, 1967 memorabilia, three 1967 vintage cars, cake, and coffee. Dunnville Hort board members brought the event to life with their hippie costumes and 1967-themed games and activities for the kids. Debbie Thomas, DHS President addressed the crowd, thanking the many community partners, donors and volunteers, and relating the park's illustrious history, including the fountain bubbles that many citizens remember seeing from time to time.

Honourable dignitaries included Councillors Bernie Corbett (who brought greetings from Haldimand County) and Rob Shirton. The Dunnville Horticultural Society would like to extend its sincere thanks to Katrina Schmitz, also from Haldimand County, for her invaluable dedication to and belief in this project. We believe that through partnerships such as these, horticultural societies across Ontario can undertake larger and more meaningful projects that can transform our communities. Perhaps your Society and your town could benefit from a great partnership...it's sure that Dunnville certainly has!



This article first appeared in the Haldimand Press, and is reproduced with permission.

How to Organize a Successful Seedy Saturday

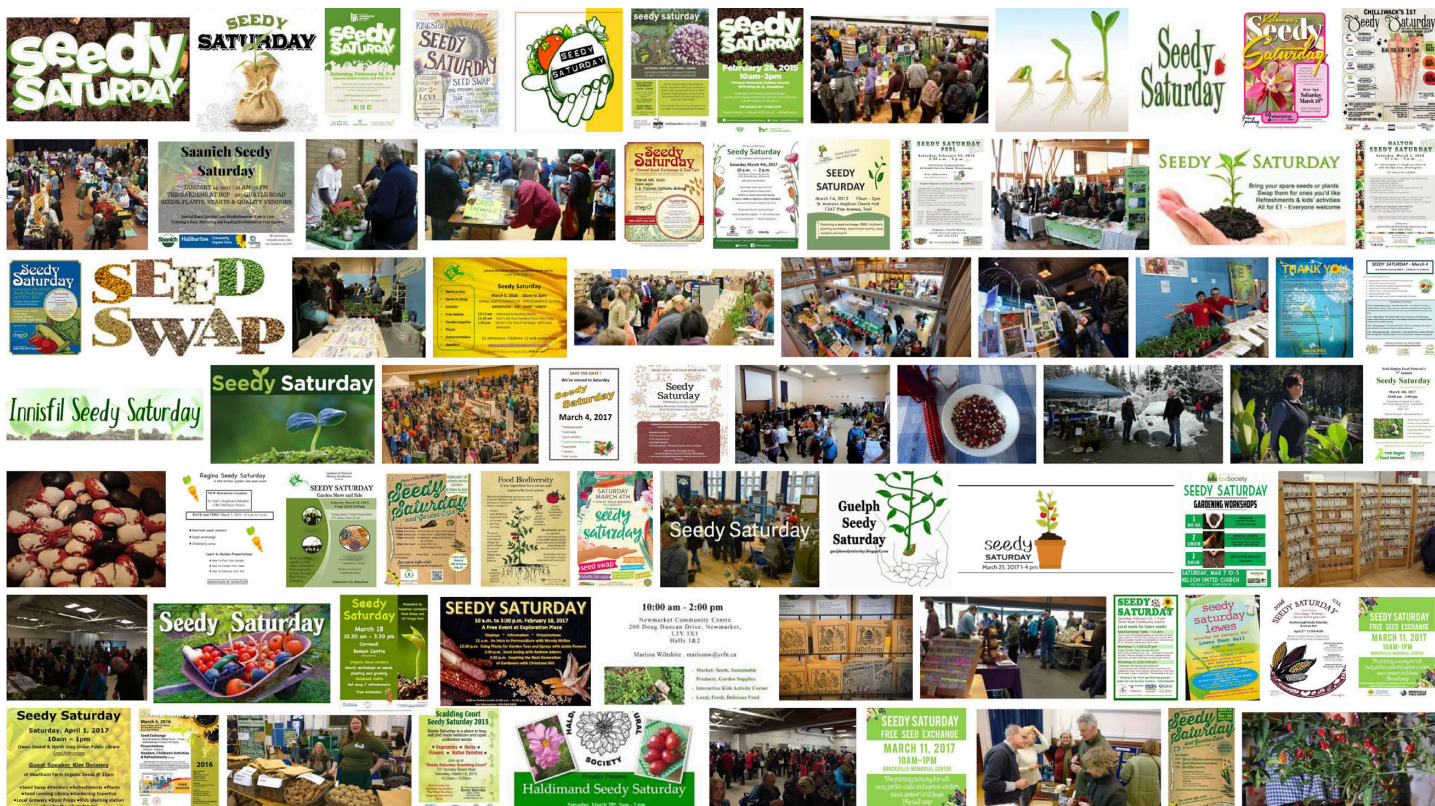
Suzanne Hanna, OHA Past President

Thanks to my involvement with Seeds of Diversity Canada, I have been actively organizing Seedy Saturdays across Northern Ontario for the past eleven years. These events, generally held during the months of January and March, are a fun way of bringing together "home gardeners, seed savers, native plant collectors, agricultural conservation groups, community gardeners and local/area seed companies that sell open-pollinated varieties of vegetables, fruit, flowers, grains and herbs."

The OHA supports seed saving and actively encourages local societies across the province to participate in established one-day community seed exchanges or, better yet, to consider hosting a first time Seedy Saturday/Sunday event. The association provides two (2) grants of \$250 annually to help cover some of the initial costs.

Here are my top ten tips for organizing a successful seedy event.

1. Gather interested individuals, community organizations, and even enthusiastic businesses to form a planning committee. This is a great opportunity to network, get people involved and spread the word.
2. Choose a venue that is easy to find, affordable and accessible, and select a date. Ensure there is plenty of parking space, access to public transit and adequate tables and chairs available so you don't need to rent them. Create a site map to ensure that the entrance is easily accessible, that exits are not blocked by tables or equipment and that there is sufficient room for good traffic flow.
3. Do your homework. Check out Seeds of Diversity www.seeds.ca to research other events going on in Ontario, read their Seedy Saturday Handbook and other informative resources and register your event on their calendar. Consider providing a table to promote seed-saving and distribute educational material. USC Canada www.usc-canada.org is another national organization that provides seed-saving resources and even speakers occasionally to promote food security and other issues.
4. The main focus of any Seedy Saturday is the Seed Exchange table that encourages the swapping of local seeds. Host a few seed packing sessions with society members to ensure donated seed is packaged and labelled properly. Be sure to organize the seeds into different categories and provide signage so that interested individuals can find them readily on the tables. Surplus seed packages can be sold for 50 cents later in the day to raise funds for the event. Contact seed companies for free seed catalogues to distribute. They often will provide seed packages, free of charge, for the table.
5. Provide vendors and exhibitors. Some events offer tables inexpensively or collect donations from participants. Be sure to invite those who are affiliated with gardening, agriculture, the environment or food security as they will provide interactive displays, products and services that will be of interest to those attending. You can arrange for seed vendors to attend in person or send small packages of seed to be sold by member volunteers on their behalf. Seedy events promote smaller local and area heritage seed companies whenever possible to encourage diversity.
6. Schedule a few speakers or demos throughout the day and don't forget to have an area designated for children's activities. Youth of all ages enjoy seed crafts, planting seeds, creating seed balls with clay and changing the bedding of an active vermicomposting unit (sorting out the worms). These areas are very well attended and appreciated by all.
7. Consider having a Seedy Café that offers tasty soup, chili, baked goods and coffee, tea or juice. Keep the prices low and provide plenty of recycling/garbage units to ensure everything is kept neat and tidy. Food vendors will need to comply with their local Public Health Unit requirements and obtain temporary food permits: the organizing society will need to complete the paperwork for an Event Permit. There is no fee for either permit.



8. Do your due diligence! Be sure to contact Shawn La Palm of Co-operators to arrange for a certificate of insurance (no charge) that you can provide to your venue to show proof of coverage. In many municipalities, this is a mandatory requirement. Be sure that all your vendors, especially those selling food, provide a certificate of insurance to the organizing society. Co-operators does sell vendor liability insurance for non-food vendors (1-12 vendors maximum costs \$155.52). For safety reasons, provide access to a first aid kit for minor injuries and keep incident reports on hand. It always pays to be prepared and proactive when it comes to event planning.
9. Keep your budget in check. These Seedy events can be quite inexpensive to organize if you think creatively. Many speakers will offer their services free of charge or appreciate a small token of gratitude such as a homemade bean soup gift jar. Some societies collaborate with each other and share costs, resources and volunteers. Be sure to solicit funds from the general public with the use

of a Donation jar or box at the entrance of your event; some charge a small entry fee. Vendor and exhibitor donations as well as monies raised from the sale of surplus seeds at the Seed Exchange table all help to boost the coffers and ensure the organization of next year's event.

10. Volunteers are essential for any successful Seedy event. There are a number of jobs to be assigned. Volunteers can help with set up and clean up, greet at the door, assist with the Seed Exchange area, sell vendor seeds, work in the youth activity areas, run audiovisual equipment and introduce speakers. Provide short job descriptions and scheduled times as well as name tags. A short Orientation session (30 minutes) held at the venue a week or two in advance to review event planning issues is always welcomed. Be sure volunteers fill out a volunteer registration form and provide contact information and that they log in and out of the event. Encourage their feedback and be sure to thank them!

Ennismore Junior Horticultural Group “ Sprouts” did it again!!!!

Susanne Gardiner, Ennismore Sprouts Leader

This is a follow-up to an article that appeared in last Winter's Trillium.

The Ennismore Sprouts raised enough money this year to purchase not one but two Buddy Benches. The Sprouts have been busy fundraising to raise funds to purchase a Buddy Bench for Chemong Public School in Bridgenorth. They were busy selling pinecone fire starters last Christmas, had a bake sale in May and throughout the year had an ongoing bottle drive. Along with donations from the community and Society Members there were enough funds to purchase the Buddy Bench by June. After it was purchased we soon realized that we were just a few hundred dollars short of being able to purchase a second bench.

Scott Gardiner one of the Sprout Leaders approached Curve Lake First Nation School to ask if they would have use for a Buddy Bench. They were thrilled. So over the summer there was a real push to raise that extra money for the bench. We soon achieved our goal and the second bench was presented to Curve Lake School in September. This bench is one of a kind. We were asked if the wording Buddy Bench could be in their native tongue Ojibwa. We asked the company if this was possible which they gladly agreed to. The bench proudly sits in the playground of Curve Lake First Nation School.



For those of you who have not heard of this Bench before it is certainly something that is becoming quite popular at schools right across the country. It is for a child out in the playground who is being bullied, has no one to play with, or is new to the school and doesn't know anyone. That child will sit on the bench and another school child will come over and sit on the bench with them and ask them to play or ask what the matter is. If you would like to learn about the Buddy Bench go on line to "Beyond the Buddy Bench" where it will explain the reasoning for the bench in more detail.

Dedication of the Madeline Hobson Bench

On July 9, 2017 at Tower Hill Gardens, Parry Sound, a bench was installed and dedicated to Madeline Hobson, who died in 2016. She was a Past District 16 Director, Past OHA President, D18 Judging School Co-ordinator, and was instrumental in creating District 18. She assisted in creating our *Ontario Judging & Exhibiting Standards* booklet, which we have been using since 2003. Madeline contributed so much to District 18 as well as District 16 and she is greatly missed. Donations for the bench came from Parry Sound Horticultural Society, D18 societies and members and also District 18.

Pictured are Irva Stewart, Parry Sound Horticultural Society, who has known Madeline Hobson for many years and James Hobson, Madeline's son, who also made a donation towards the bench.



Summer Flower Show & Tea at our Westernmost Society

By Sharon McGillivray, Dryden & District Horticultural Society

The Dryden & District Horticultural Society, in beautiful northwestern Ontario, hosts an annual Flower Show and Tea. Only members exhibit blooms for judging, but the tea is open to everyone. It's a popular event and a good time is had by all – garden enthusiasts as well as wanna-bees and their friends!

The theme for our 2017 show, held on August 19, was "Butterflies and Blooms", which was clearly visible in our decor. But we also were treated to an informative display table offering suggestions and tools on attracting butterflies to our gardens.

We were honoured to have Marie Hynna from Thunder Bay as the judge in the horticultural and design divisions. She never fails to offer insight and helpful hints to the entrants, while maintaining her professional and keen observation skills in judging. Thank you, Marie!

The 26 entries in our photography division were judged by our local camera club. The Judge's Choice, awarded to Norma Collins, is shown at right.



Our horticultural division had 135 entries, of which Judy Ford's beautiful single rose (at left) won Judge's Choice.

Our design categories, featuring 35 entries, was an opportunity to exercise artistic interpretation. Some of the titles were "Hummer's Heaven" (no arrangement to exceed 5 inches in any direction), "Feather your Nest", and "Keep it Simple" (designs in Ikebana style). The "O Canada" category celebrated the 150th Birthday of Canada, and as Mary Murray's entry captured the theme best, it was awarded Judge's Choice. It also is pictured at right.

More than three cheers go to the many participants and volunteers who devote time and energy to make Dryden's horticultural life one of the finest!



Vimy Oak Dedication in Eganville

Judy Sauvé, Eganville Horticultural Society

It was a cold day but a tiny oak sapling recently planted in Legion Field in Eganville received a very warm welcome on November 7. This is the traditional time to stop and remember and this tree is a permanent symbol of why we do that.

This sapling is descended from acorns sent home to what is now Scarborough after the battle at Vimy Ridge, France in 1917. Seeing the total devastation after the battle, Canadian soldier Lt. Leslie Miller found some acorns and mailed them to his parents. They planted them and some of the original oaks still stand. When he returned home, he took over part of the farm and called it Vimy Oaks, tending carefully to those trees. He always had a dream of repatriating them at Vimy.

Lt. Miller passed away in 1979 at the age of 90, and the oaks are on what is now the property of a church. Monty McDonald, a nearby resident who had visited the farm as a child and worked on it as a young man, admired Miller's determination. He took on the project with the help of Cannon Nurseries in West Flamborough, determined to send 100 saplings to Vimy Ridge for the battle's centennial this past spring. A plan was drawn up for the area at France's Vimy Memorial where they would be planted. He enlisted the help of several individuals who formed the Vimy Oaks Legacy Team. But they hit a number of obstacles: a year of low production of acorns when they needed them for planting; an oak disease that meant Canadian oaks were barred from entry in



France; and finally, word that the area could not be cleared of explosive materials in time for the centennial. His new target is Remembrance Day, 2018.

With saplings ready to plant, the Team decided to offer them throughout Canada to groups who wished to plant them in significant places to honour the centennial.

The Rotary Club in Eganville and the Eganville and Area Horticultural Society jointly applied for a sapling with the intention of planting it in Legion Field. They considered it an appropriate spot because it once belonged to the Legion and was sold to the municipality for \$1 so it could be used for community activities. It is now the home of the Curling Centre, the Farmers' Market, soccer and ball fields, tennis and volleyball courts, a youth centre and there are plans to add new features in the very near future.

The application was successful although the nursery warned that the harsh winters in this area required that extra care be taken to help the sapling survive. It arrived during a hot spell in September so the sapling remained at the home of Horticultural Society President Judy Sauvé waiting for more appropriate planting weather. It was gradually acclimatised as the weather cooled. Her husband Cam found an appropriate granite stone on their property and arranged for engraving at Yolkowski Monuments in Cobden. All costs for the tree and stone were covered by the Rotary Club. The Parks and Recreation staff planted the sapling and although they placed the stone in time for the dedication ceremony, they plan to prepare a base of cement for the stone in the spring.



Veterans, civic officials, and Eganville & District Horticultural Society members were present for the planting. Front row: Kevin Knox, Warden Jennifer Murphy, Claude Jeannotte, Joe Sullivan, June Hansen (Eganville Hort Treasurer), Cpl. Trevor Livingstone. Back row: Dave Clark, Dave Lemkay



the military base in Petawawa joined Warden Murphy in unveiling the commemorative stone. Musician and recent inductee to the Ottawa Valley Music Hall of Fame Jon Park-Wheeler coordinated the sound system. A reception followed in the Curling Centre lounge, coordinated by the Horticultural Society and funded by Bonnechere Valley Township. All agreed that the event was a very fitting tribute to all military and in particular, those who fought at Vimy Ridge.

Jon Park-Wheeler expressed it best when he commented on two shovels left near the tree in case they were needed. He felt one symbolised the deaths at Vimy and the graves that resulted, and the second one represented new life and the planting of this tree. From a poet and songwriter came a very wise and beautiful reflection.

This tiny sapling will one day be a mighty oak that provides shade for those enjoying family activities at Legion Field. The stone will ensure that no one forgets its significance.

Then began the plans for the November 7 event. The most impressive part of it is the level of participation from the community. Again, the Horticultural Society and the Rotary Club teamed to co-ordinate it and Rotarian Dave Clark emceed the event. A Colour Guard from the Legion was present and Claude Jeannotte spoke on the Legion's behalf. Dave Lemkay, a well known figure in the Valley, is a member of the Vimy Oaks Legacy Team and provided a brief history of the Vimy Oaks project. Other speakers were Renfrew County Warden and Bonnechere Valley Mayor Jennifer Murphy, and History teacher John Pierce from Opeongo High School who spoke on behalf of his students who visited France's Vimy Memorial in the spring. June Hansen spoke on behalf of the Horticultural Society and was also the representative of Military Families because her husband is retired from the military and her son is currently on assignment in Iraq. Corporal Trevor Livingstone from



2017 Convention Art Competition Correction

In the Autumn Trillium, there was an error in the list of awards for the 2017 OHA Convention Art Competition. First place in Class 5 (Group of Seven – Fabric Art inspired by the Group of Seven) was listed as "not awarded".

As the red ribbon in the photo at left shows, there was indeed a first place winner. Joan MacKinnon (Gananoque Horticultural Society) received the honours for her quilted interpretation of the A.J. Casson painting "*Rapids on the Magnetawan*". Our apologies go out to Joan for the omission.

Manotick's Remembrance Park – A Dream Come True!

Anne Clark-Stewart, District 2 Director-at-Large, RPOC member and Garden Bed Designer

A long-held dream of the Manotick Legion was to build a Park on the small piece of land between the Cenotaph and Bridge Street, previously owned by the Clapp Family. The matriarch of this family, Annie Clapp, was the founder and President of the Manotick Horticultural Society in 1930, so it seemed fitting to develop this land into a horticultural gem.

For over two years, a committee of dedicated volunteers from local organizations worked diligently to design and construct Ottawa's first Remembrance Park. The Remembrance Park Organizing Committee (RPOC), chaired by local resident Ted Ross, worked closely with the Manotick Legion Branch 314, Councillor Scott Moffatt, City staff, as well as staff from the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority, to make this dream a reality. Efforts moved forward steadily after many meetings and consultations with the architect & construction company to ensure the Park was opened as planned on July 2, 2017.

Pomp and ceremony was in full evidence under the direction of Legionnaire Dr. Denis Osmond, O.C., with the entrance of the flags, the veterans of each service ably assisted by a local youth, and members of the Organizing Committee followed by local dignitaries. Legionnaire Allan Haan was the extraordinary MC who kept the program on track while veterans and local residents unveiled the plaques at each garden bed which represented each of the services, the Merchant Navy, the Homefront and a special garden dedicated to the Clapp family. A beautiful bronze statue of a veteran and his granddaughter walking towards the Cenotaph was unveiled by the sculptor, Nathan Scott, Councillor Scott Moffatt, and Manotick's oldest veteran, Arthur Buss. A large contingent of the Clapp family was also in attendance.

This fully accessible park, made possible with the provision of a grant from the Rick Hansen Foundation, will be unique to Manotick, with numerous benches with views of the back channel of the Rideau River, accessible interlocking pathways and seven dedicated perennial garden beds. Annie Clapp's daughter, Dorothy, continued the family legacy by being an active member of the MHS Executive for over 30 years. When the Committee decided to place a garden along a newly installed old log fence, they thought that nothing would be more appropriate than plants from Dorothy's garden. Many Society volunteers spent several hours digging up plants from her old property across from the Park. Other residents in and around Manotick provided divisions from plants they had received from Dorothy over the years.

As part of the Canada 150 celebrations, this park was awarded one of the Canada 150 Tulip Gardens. Since the Park was under construction, the initial bed was placed at the front of the Park where machinery would not affect the tulips. In the spring after bloom time, volunteers lifted the bulbs and stored them on a local farm until this October, when they were dug up and replanted in the Clapp Family Garden. Hundreds of red and white tulips will herald spring for many years to come.



Additional funding came from a variety of government grants, the City of Ottawa, the business community and donations from the public. The Manotick Horticultural Society donated \$1000 to ensure that Annie's and Dorothy's legacy carries on in this wonderful venue.

Computer-generated renderings of the Remembrance Park can be seen on the Manotick Legion's new website, manoticklegion.ca. A podcast is also available as you walk through the park. A pamphlet describing the plantings is being developed and will be available at Watson's Mill and the park. A Maintaining Memories Maintenance Fund has been set up so people may donate on line, by mail or in person at the Manotick Legion.

Over the summer and autumn, many visitors have enjoyed the ever-changing progression of blooms in the gardens with many coming by often to enjoy the peace and serenity of the new park.

Left to right:

*Mrs. Anne Osmond,
(Legion Volunteer)*

*Sheila King (Past
District 2 Director,
current District 2
Assistant Director, Rideau
Valley Basin)*

*Anne Clark-Stewart
(District 2 Director-
at-Large, Committee
member and designer
of the plantings for the
garden beds)*



Athens Garden Club's Vimy Legacy Oak Tree Planting Ceremony

Jean Brassington, President, Athens Garden Club

The Vimy Legacy Oak Tree project is one of the most significant in the Athens Garden Club's history. The community was very much behind the planting ceremony. Members of Athens Council, Athens Heritage Society, area branches of the Royal Canadian Legion and representatives from Athens service organizations attended, as well as the "Byng Boys", a group of World War I re-enactors in uniform. The committee was able to locate relatives of nine of the eleven Athens soldiers and 37 relatives were in attendance. The eleven "Athens boys" were the young men who, after volunteering as members of the Canadian Expeditionary Force, marched away along Main Street with the 156th Battalion to fight in Europe, and did not return.

The Athens Vimy Oak is a sapling with such great significance. This sapling is a true descendant of one of the Vimy Ridge acorns sent home to Canada by Lieutenant Leslie Miller, who named the trees grown from these acorns the "Vimy Oaks". This sapling was grown from a cutting taken from one of those original trees. Young trees like this were specially grown to mark the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge and in remembrance of all Canadians

who fought in the First World War. As part of the ceremony a representative of each of the soldiers' families placed a symbolic trowel full of soil in the planting hole. After the introduction of local dignitaries, poppies that everyone were given upon arrival were then placed around the planting area. Members of Royal Canadian Legion, Brockville Army Cadets, the Byng Boys, and finally the public stepped forward to place their poppies.

This project was initiated by Athens Garden Club. Fundraising efforts covered the cost of the tree and its transportation from the nursery where it was grown, as well as an elegant protective metal tree guard. There is also a plan to install an interpretive sign.

At the informal reception after the ceremony the soldiers' family members were available to share memories and items belonging to the soldiers, information about each soldier was on display and the re-enactors responded to any questions about the life of a soldier in the trenches. The planting of the Vimy Legacy Oak is truly a part of the legacy of the Athens Garden Club.



One of the "Byng Boys" places poppies around the Vimy Oak

Members of the Athens Garden Club



Creating a Pollinator Garden in Lakefield

Pam Chelley, Lakefield & District Horticultural Society, Assistant District 4 Director

At the District 4 Fall Seminar in 2016, District Director Dianne Westlake announced the initiative being undertaken by the OHA to create more pollinator gardens and nesting sites across the province. This was in response to the alarming news that the existence of many of our native pollinators - birds, bees, bats and butterflies - is being threatened. Dianne challenged every Society to do something about this. This inspired two of our members to start thinking about a project for Lakefield.

In February, the Township was contacted and we received permission to put a bee house somewhere in Isabel Morris Park (a lakeside park in the north end of Lakefield). The Township would dig post holes for us, in case there were utility lines running under the area. It was suggested that we contact Peterborough Pollinators for advice and perhaps funds. This organization ultimately provided us with many "pollinator calendars" which we were able to sell at \$10 each to provide funding for the project. Further funding arrived by luck at the District AGM when we won the \$200 grant from the OHA for a pollinator garden.

Creating a garden project takes time, and spring was upon us. A committee was set up in March to begin planning. The committee decided on a specific area in Isabel Morris Park for the pollinator patch. Then discussions began about a suitable pollinator or bee house. The Internet provides many suggestions for this, but how to narrow these down and build something that would be effective and attractive was a key stumbling block. In the end, one of our members built a small bee house for the garden.

The structure was 18 inches wide, 11 inches tall and 9 inches deep. No pressure-treated wood, cedar, stains, paints or finishes were used in construction as these could deter and possibly harm the bees. The box was filled with solid wood blocks of spruce, rounds of red oak logs, bamboo and cones. Holes ranging from 2 mm to 8 mm in diameter were drilled in these materials, to the depth of the drill bit. Hardware cloth across the nesting sites and a sloping waterproof roof completed the structure. It was mounted 1 metre above ground, facing southeast on the plot to capture the early morning sun.



The structure, or bee condo, became a nesting site for solitary bees, that is bees that work and nest individually (not in a hive), that are non-aggressive and that do not usually sting. There are over 400 species of solitary bees in Ontario alone, and they do a vital job of pollinating our crops, plants, and trees. In the bee condo the bees lay their eggs in small tunnels and then seal the entrance. The eggs will hatch over the next year. Even before the structure was mounted in its permanent location, it attracted solitary bees like a magnet. Soon many of the tunnels were filled and sealed. It was always a thrill to visit the bee garden and count how many more tunnels were filled. By late fall there were over 60 holes filled. On a warm day, one can see many types of bees going in and out of this structure.

Of course to attract bees it's also necessary to provide a food source. Isabel Morris Park has many areas of meadow. The bee crew preserved several wildflowers and sought to add others to the patch. Ideally native plants planted in wide swaths work best with these native bees, however some non native-species were



added because they attracted bees so readily. An ongoing job will be to plant more species, enough that there is bloom throughout the entire growing season.



So much has been learned with this project. Watching native bees has been an eye opener for most of us who knew nothing of their existence before this year. The gardens that the Lakefield Society currently maintains are lush and beautiful, and garner countless accolades throughout the growing season. But creating a garden whose main purpose is not to be tidy and decorative, but rather to be filled with plants that may provide nectar and pollen, is a very different way of thinking about a gardener's role as steward, rather than controller of nature. We must recognize that without pollinators, many of our crops, food, orchards and forests may be jeopardized in the future. Pollinators are the building blocks to sustain and maintain our farm and forest crops for generations to come. Shifting our perspective to providing for pollinators is an important step towards maintaining biodiversity to our land.

Pollinator Garden Signs

Pollinator gardens and habitats are popping up everywhere! If you would like to order one of our Pollinator Haven Signs to officially mark your site we will be placing another order for signs in February. Please note we now have a French language sign available along with the English sign. Signs are metal, 9 x 12" in size and are coated with a white finish front and back and drilled with a hole top and bottom to facilitate the placement on a post.

Signs can be mailed directly to a society for \$25.00 each plus postage of \$5.25. All requests for signs will be invoiced to Society. Cheques should be payable to the OHA and sent to the OHA Treasurer.

Email: treasurer@gardenontario.org with your order for Pollinator Haven Signs before February 9th, 2018.

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OHA
Pollinator Haven

This site offers bees, butterflies and other pollinators a welcome source of food and shelter.

To learn how you can help the pollinators, please visit www.gardenontario.org








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Ce site offre aux abeilles, papillons et autre pollinisateurs une source de nourriture et un lieu de refuge.

Pour savoir comment aider les pollinisateurs, visitez www.gardenontario.org








Partenaires et commanditaires du projet

Sudbury Horticultural Society celebrates National Tree Day

Chris Nash, Sudbury Horticultural Society

On September 27th, the Sudbury Horticultural Society marked National Tree Day by planting four Toka Plum Trees at the Twin Forks Community Garden. The event grew out of our Society's partnerships with other Community groups to help children and adults to grow and eat local food.

Twin Forks, one of many Community Gardens in Greater Sudbury, is part of Cultivate your Neighbourhood (a branch of Foodshed Projects). Two local schools, Ste Dominique and Cyril Varney and the New Sudbury Mothers and Tots Hub helped us plant the trees.

Supervised by SHS members, the children learned about stimulating root growth, fertilizing and planting the trees that will give them sweet ("bubblegum") fruit within three years. They watered the trees and then enjoyed a lunch of soup made from vegetables grown in nearby Community Gardens.

When the children pick the fruit at Twin Forks we hope they will enjoy eating the plums and will remember the lessons they learned from our Society about planting and caring for the trees. The children and trees are our future.



Sudbury Horticultural Society members who participated in National Tree Day (from left): Connie Dubois, Pat O'Grady, Theresa Cullum, Georgette Mitchell, Chris Nash, Roger Nash, Linda Hugli, Wayne Hugli, Barb Knuff

The Ugliest Schoolyard Regreening Project - 2017

Laura Foreshow, Sudbury Horticultural Society

Every child deserves a school environment conducive to learning. "The Ugliest Schoolyard Contest" which supports the regreening of schoolyards is Sudbury's answer. The Sudbury Horticultural Society works with its community partners to create an engaging environment that enhances children's interest in gardening and knowledge about becoming caretakers of our environment.

Since 2005, the Sudbury Horticultural Society has donated \$600 each year toward the regreening projects supported through the Ugliest Schoolyard Contest. This contest was initiated by Greater Sudbury's Regreening Committee in partnership with its community partners. The Society's funds are used to purchase plants and supplies needed by the students and volunteers at the winning schools to enhance the schoolyard. We have already worked with thirteen area schools that have won the contest and benefited from this regreening process.

This year's winner of the contest was Princess Anne Public School. Plants for the project were picked up and delivered to the school by the city's regreening crew. We also appreciated the shovels and planting supplies that were provided to help make this planting successful. Our gratitude is extended to Sudbury Integrated Nickel Operations: a Glencore Company for providing major funding for this project and for the truckloads of garden soil donated by Vale.

Some of the gardens were planted with edible plants. The enthusiastic students and Horticultural Society volunteers planted serviceberry, rhubarb, grapes, haskaps, gooseberries, raspberries and cherry plums. Two silver maple planters were filled with strawberries and sage. The other three silver maple planters had sedum, lamium, hostas, and daylilies added to them.

An Aboriginal Healing Garden was created with four quadrants representing the four seasons. Each quadrant had a cedar planted to indicate the four directions of the compass.(North, South, East, West) The east quadrant was planted with prairie cone flowers. The south quadrant had wild bergamot placed with care. The west quadrant was planted with sweet grass, and the north quadrant was planted with common yarrow.

The Princess Anne Public School staff and children were enthusiastic, grateful and supportive of this outstanding regreening project. They will speak with pride about what they have accomplished for many years to come.



Sudbury Horticultural Society members (from left): Georgette Mitchell, Theresa Cullum, Wayne Hugli, Luigi Santoro, Uta Decker, Lisette Bernier, Cathy Carr, Diane Chapman, Linda Hugli, Laura Foreshow, Linda Hachez, Enzo Floreani, Ada Petretti, and Connie Dubois (Missing from the photo are Jill Bennett and Kevin Conrad)



2017 OHA Awards and Grants

Annual Awards

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

Awards presented at the convention are:

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

Plant a Tree

The Ontario Horticultural Association is continuing its Tree Planting Grant whereby a Society or District of the Ontario Horticultural Association may apply for up to \$200 for a special tree planting. Up to 25 tree-planting grants will be awarded in 2018.

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

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

The tree grants will be awarded on a first come basis after December 31, 2017, up to a maximum of 25 awards per year. Any society or district that receives this funding cannot apply again for three years. The awarded society or district has to complete the planting of their tree by the end of that given year. For example: if the grant is awarded in 2018 – the tree must be planted by the end of 2018.

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

Nominations, with supporting information, should be sent to:

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

The Awards Coordinator will forward the nominations to the Awards Committee for selection of the winning recipients. The OHA Awards Committee is composed of the President (Chair of the Committee), the Vice President, the Past President, the North/East Regional Representative, the South/West Regional Representative, the Secretary, the Awards Coordinator, and the Chair of the Past President's Council. Any decision of the Committee will be considered as a decision of the Board of Directors.

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

Begin a Special Project

As part of the ongoing support of member societies, the Board of the Ontario Horticultural Association annually awards Special Project grants of up to \$500 each for the use of societies toward the completion of projects having a long lasting benefit to their society or community. The grant is to be used for planting materials such as perennials, trees and shrubs and not for the planting of annuals or for mulch, manure, compost or hard surface materials. When preparing your application, be sure to include information about the location and use of the project, a budget for the project, a planting plan, one or two photographs of the site, a list of plant materials to be used, and the estimated costs. Please keep your applications to a maximum of 6 pages.

The Ontario Horticultural Association will grant up to ten projects a year to a maximum of \$500 for each project with a limit of one project per society per year. Any society that receives this funding cannot apply again for five years.

To be considered for a Special Project grant in 2018, an application form and the accompanying information should be completed and mailed to your District Director no later than February 28, 2018.

Application forms are available on the OHA website at www.gardenontario.org/act/awa.php or from your District Director.

OHA Community Garden Grant

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

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

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

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

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

There is a time limit on the issuing of the grant. The completion form must be received by the OHA Awards Coordinator before December 31 of the next year. i.e. a grant awarded in 2018 must be received by December 31 of 2019. If a completion report accompanied by receipts is not received by this time, it will be assumed that the community garden project will not be completed and the grant will be cancelled.

Awards & Grants Booklet

The OHA Awards & Grants booklet contains information about the awards that are presented at the Society, District and provincial levels as well giving details about the grants that are discussed on these pages.

You can get your copy of the booklet as well as application forms for awards and grants by visiting the OHA's website at www.gardenontario.org/act/awa.php.

The OHA Awards Coordinator can be reached by email at awards@gardenontario.org

Brantford Garden Club Presents Two Scholarships

On Friday, November 3, Brantford Garden Club Board members Dana Schultz and Max Byerlay attended the Niagara Parks School of Horticulture Student Award Presentation at which time two Brantford Garden Club scholarships valued at \$250 each were presented.

The Club's scholarship requirements were designed to assist two students from the incoming class (year one or later) as their journey continues at the school. Students were required to submit an essay to our club on their two favourite bedding plants.

Dana (left) and Max (right) presented these scholarships to Stephanie Jocius and Scott Procter, both entering year two of their studies.



Youth Activity News

Beginning with this issue of the Trillium, you'll find a selection of items from the OHA Youth Newsletter. These items are contributed by Harry Wyma, OHA President 1990/91, and long-time Youth Newsletter Editor (where he's known as "Rad Dad").

Holiday Centrepiece Arrangements

One of the most enjoyable annual year ending youth projects for the Ridgetown Horticultural Society is the making of evergreen centerpiece arrangements with grade 3 and 4 at the Naahii Public School in Ridgetown. This takes place every December just before the winter break.

A number of society members involved collect evergreen branches in variety en masse in early December, enough for some 25 to 30 students; enough for each student to make a beautiful centrepiece to take home for the holiday season. Often times they are given to their mothers or grandmothers. It requires a lot of plant material. The society also provides all the floral foam.

To begin, Rad-Dad gives an educational lecture on the various evergreen plant forms and answer questions and then he demonstrates how to start and complete an arrangement, as shown below.

Note: we do not use Yew cuttings, as these are extremely poisonous for children as well as pets and naturally adults. Ingesting even a few clippings can readily cause death. The only part that is not poisonous is the red gelatinous aril covering the seed.



The varieties of plant material are placed in groupings on a large tarp on the floor. A few society members may put an initial seven to nine starter pieces in bundles beforehand and hand these out, this helps to get all the students started and then they can get more pieces as they progress as shown in the next two pictures. Society members help them along but it is always amazing how well they do.

The whole project encompasses more than just doing the arrangement. It's educational as well as creative as they've



learned a bit of nature and each student will make a written thank you card including a personal drawing. The containers used are recycled margarine containers or similar, which the students provide. The society members also bring some along to make sure there are enough and are the right size.

The staff and volunteers have a dinner usually the following day and all the arrangements are kept in school in order to grace the dining tables, of which one is shown in the following picture. After that they are taken home for the season.



Dragon Twigs

As found at www.parents.com/fun/arts-crafts/kid/nature-inspired-crafts-ideas-for-kids/:

The propeller-shaped seeds from maple trees form the wings of these delicate dragonflies. For each, place four maple seeds on your work surface with their ends meeting as shown to the right. Add a drop of tacky glue to each end, and then rest a 4-inch twig on top. Let the glue dry. (A hot glue gun can be used instead, if an adult helps.) Turn over the dragonfly and add a line of glitter glue to the edge of each wing. Attach two small glass bead eyes with glue. Idea by Shanti Nordholt



Beautiful Painted Pine Cone Flowers

As found at www.emmaowl.com/beautiful-painted-pine-cone-flowers-kids-art/

This beautiful Children's Craft Activity – Painted Pine Cone Flowers – is a real treat! It is so easy to do and these pine cone flowers make the best decorations!

Supplies Needed:

- Pine Cones
- Sticks (or large wooden skewers will do)
- Glue Gun – or **very** strong glue
- Paint – we used kids poster paint –
- Acrylics will work nicely too!
- Paintbrushes

Painting a pine cone is tricky business – as you need to get into all the nooks and crannies!! Our flowers looked impressive already!



How beautiful! If you don't want to make flowers and paint sticks you could always paint pine cones and fill a big glass vase! It would look lovely!!

Once both pine cones and sticks were completely dry I stuck a stick onto the bottom of each one.

It requires a glue gun or really strong glue.

You will not believe you ever lived without it!!

And then a little flower arranging was all that was needed! How beautiful is this simple craft!!



Tissue Paper Flowers Craft

As found at www.funfamilycrafts.com

There are countless ways to make tissue paper flowers but I'm particularly fond of this method since it's insanely easy! You can whip up a bunch of these in minutes! Literally! Plus they're cute and make a great pop of colour.

They make a wonderful activity for kids too, they're very safe and super entertaining, and kids will love them! They're also pretty versatile! You can play around with both colours and shapes, you can make them in one colour or combine colours and make rainbow flowers as I did. You could also use green wire instead of the skewers, which will be great later when you arrange the flowers in a vase cause they're easy to bend.

These adorable tissue paper flowers are also budget friendly, you can even make them as a centrepiece! While easy and inexpensive, these lovely decorations make a great visual impact! And guess what? There's more! You can even use these as gifts too, dress up a gift bag or decorate a cake for a party! How awesome is that?

What I loved most about these cute tissue paper flowers is that I could make a bunch of these in just a few minutes. Also my little girl was in total awe and asked to make some too, so they're super great for bonding! We love spending creative time together!

If you want your flowers to look more full, don't hesitate to add more layers of tissue paper and also cut the "petals" shorter. I also wanted mine to look minimal so I didn't add leaves but if you like them, cut out some from tissue paper and attach with glue.

Materials:

- Tissue paper in all sorts of colors or crepe paper
- Scissors
- Bamboo skewers
- Green paint
- Brush (I used these paint brush pens)
- Clear glue pen
- Rubber bands

Paint the skewers green and leave to dry

Take a few strips of tissue paper about 5 cm wide and 10 cm long and fold twice. I used seven layers.

Grab the scissors and cut a V-shape at each end of the folded strip.

Unfold the strips, still keeping them on top of each other, gather in the middle with your fingers, then fold up from the middle, making a sort of a bouquet.

Using your fingers, press the bottom of the "bouquet" and secure with a rubber band.

Take a strip of green tissue paper, about 2 ½ cm wide and 15 cm long and start wrapping it around the base of the flower to cover the elastic band.

Secure it with glue at the start. Make sure you cover a tiny bit of the skewer too, and then when you're done wrapping, press the ends with your fingers against the skewer.

Ruffle the petals a bit and you're done!

Display your beautiful tissue paper flowers in a vase!



A request from Harry....

Hello there folks...

From here on it's just me with a bit of chitchat regarding the youth section. As you see from the above I ended up with three pages and not two, so you can take your pick.

It would be really nice if one could get projects and/or crafts directly from some of the youth group leaders or from societies involved with youth but do not have a youth group, such as the first project above submitted by Rad-Dad.

However, it has always been extremely difficult if not impossible to get leaders to submit projects.

But then they are very much involved with their groups and such is just another additive.

However, since it is now incorporated with the Trillium and all societies/subscribers will read the youth section, perhaps if a request goes out it may be just a wee bit easier.

Another additive could be adding a few of the youth Awards, such as the one following, or any other convention youth entry. Now this picture was sent to me so that's the reason you have my award and it's just added to support this suggestion.

Quite some time ago now, when I was chair of the Convention youth competitions, I was able to gather/glean some of the projects from the various competitions and include them.

In the past I attended many of the Convention leaders meetings and that is where I was also able to provide some input as well as try to get the leaders to provide projects/crafts for the newsletter and some of them would indicate that they would do so but, as mentioned, such never materialized, which I graciously accepted.

In addition, at board meetings I occasionally suggested that the Directors might try to tactfully get leaders to do so but that never seemed to materialize either.

With that, I shall stop my chitchatting and in time perhaps get some feedback or updates from you folks how everything progresses with this new format.

Ah yes, here are a few ideas just to get you folks started on a catchy name ...

"Youthful Dynamics"

"Youth in Motion"

The very best, Rad Dad

Harry Wyma can be contacted at
youthnews@gardenontario.org



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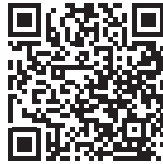
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District 18 - Parry Sound, Muskoka, South Nipissing	Sandra Hartill	district18@gardenontario.org
District 19 - Regional Municipality of Waterloo	Gary Brenner	district19@gardenontario.org

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OMAFRA representative	Helen Scutt	helen.scutt@ontario.ca
Ontario Invasive Plant Council Representative	Suzanne Hanna	wildgardener@shaw.ca

Ontario Horticultural Association Memorial Book

Donor's Name and Address: _____

_____ Postal Code: _____

Name of Deceased: _____ Year Deceased: _____

District No. (if applicable): _____

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

Circle title: Mr. Mrs. Ms. Miss Other

Name and Address: _____

_____ Postal Code: _____

Relationship to Deceased Person: _____

Mail with your monetary donation (minimum donation is \$25 per name) to:

Ontario Horticultural Association

c/o Marilyn Cox

86 Church Street

R.R. #2, Keswick, ON L4P 3E9

For information, call 905-476-3000 or email: inmemoriam@gardenontario.org

Funds from donations to the OHA Memorial Book Special Fund are available for Memorial Tree Grants.

NOTE: Do you wish to have the deceased person's name acknowledged at the convention?

Circle your preference: Yes No

Convention Acknowledgment

If you wish to have the deceased person's name acknowledged at the convention, no monetary donation is required.

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