

Trillium

Keeping Ontario Beautiful

Ontario Horticultural Association

Winter 2022-23



Photo by Rhu Sherrard, Ancaster Horticultural Society



Chrysanthemums

Hamilton Mum Show 2022 featured more than 200 varieties of Chrysanthemums and over 100,000 blooms.



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Editor's Message



Compliments to all of the Garden Clubs/Horticultural Societies for all of the extra work that the members have done to keep their groups together during the pandemic. We did miss our in-person activities and our friends, didn't we? Our second families! Our gardening buddies!

Kudos to those that have increased their membership during the pandemic. Well done!

Congratulations to all of those clubs and societies that are celebrating milestone anniversaries!

Now, if there is bad weather, instead of cancelling a meeting, many of our clubs can just switch to Zoom. I know it's not just a push of the button but the know-how is there. And, of course, no refreshments unless you bring your own.

Join in the fun – the next OHA 50/50 raffle has already started but you still have time! Get your tickets here: <https://www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/ontario-ha>. More information is in this issue.

Thanks to everyone for all of the wonderful submissions for this newsletter and Happy New Year to all of you.

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 2023:

- March 1 – Spring issue
- June 1 – Summer issue
- September 1 – Autumn issue
- December 1 – Winter issue

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

Articles should be emailed in Word format, LibreOffice 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 photos 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.

Here is the link to waivers on the OHA site:

<https://gardenontario.org/wp-content/uploads/OHA-Release-Photo-Video-Testimonial-Form-March-2022.pdf>

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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Keeping Ontario Beautiful
Trillium

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Online Version: The online version is free – just sign up and it will show up in your inbox 4 times a year.

To subscribe today, email a request to –
The Trillium Distributor, Lisa DeYoung:

ohatrillium@gmail.com

Printed Version: Please be advised that:

- As of December 31st, 2022, the OHA will not be accepting any new subscriptions for printed editions of the Trillium
- As of December 31st, 2022, the OHA will not be renewing any current subscriptions for the printed Trillium
- ALL current subscriptions will be honoured until their respective end date.

For more information, see the article

"Re: Trillium Newsletter End of Printing Decision" or visit the OHA website: <https://gardenontario.org>

Available on the OHA website: <https://gardenontario.org>



Climbing Clematis Vine enjoying the sun on the roof of the house mid-September.

Photo by Laura Masterson



OHA President's Report

Hello One and All,

Welcome to you from the mid-Atlantic as I have started this message while travelling. I am fully aware that Louise and I will be returning to "Winter in Canada" as there are allegedly about five (5) inches of snow on the ground in Hawkesbury.

I will start with the 2023 OHA Convention and AGM being held in Kanata in July. The District 2 organizing Committee is hard at work looking to bring forward the best possible program for all the attendees. This is a great opportunity to come and meet other gardeners, growers and horticulturalists from across the province and spend some time learning about what information others have to offer. It could also be a good occasion to visit the Nation's Capital and the surrounding area of Eastern Ontario. Stay tuned for the opening of registration which will occur as soon as all of the pertinent information regarding speakers, tours and general costs are known.

I see that the OHA 50/50 draw is moving along and I encourage you to consider purchasing tickets, either individually or in a group, to support the OHA. Any and all funds acquired by the OHA from the 50/50 must, by requirements of our license, be put back into the Societies/Clubs through education opportunities, Grants to Societies/Clubs, etc.



Charles Freeman

Well, we landed in Montreal and that alleged snow was real.


As I started through the emails that awaited my return, there was a very large number of communications dealing with the OMAFRA Annual Report for the year 2021. For some Societies/Clubs, the Reports are anywhere from "Not too bad." to "We got it done with some effort." Thank you for submitting your Reports! Unfortunately for others, the T-PON system has been a frustrating hardship. Every couple of days there is a new list of Societies/Clubs who have apparently or actually not submitted their 2021 Report but the good news is, the list is getting shorter. *PLEASE* make sure you have submitted your Report covering 2021 and if there are issues, contact your OMAFRA Regional representative for help, guidance and assistance.

Something that has come to light is that there seems to be some misunderstanding or misinterpretation about holding a Society/Club or District outing and the use of and need for the insurance waiver. The unfortunate reality is that we live in a world where litigation is becoming a way of life. Shawn from Cooperators has told us that the waivers, although they may be "like that weed that just keeps coming back" are necessary to protect the Society/Club.

Over the last three months we, the OHA, have continued with our work. We did the Queen's tree planting; held the Passing of Past Presidents' Ceremony and tree planting; held our October Board Meeting; processed all of the applications for Seedy Saturday/Sunday events; hosted a WebEx for all Societies/Clubs dealing with OHA Reporting and were pleased with the attendance of the District Directors at many Society/Club AGMs.

As we come to the start of 2023, I would ask all Societies/Clubs to please go to the gardenontario.org site and look at all of the Grants and Awards that are available. Please take the time to look and to apply for a Grant or nominate a deserving member.

I will now let you go to enjoy reading all of the tremendous articles that have been submitted to our Trillium Editor.
... and, for those who celebrate,

From our house to yours  *and may 2023 be filled with dreams-come-true!*

**Take care
Stay safe**

Charles Freeman
President, Ontario Horticultural Association

Bobcaygeon & District Horticultural Society

Submitted by Carol Peters



Society President's Award for outstanding contribution in the planning and orchestrating of the Society's 100th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

L-R: Ric Scott, Linda Friend, Eva Touchburn, Joyce Bryon, Carolyn Styles, Laura Chattaway, Ruth McIsaac, Joyce Ingram, Helen Kaphammel, Carol Peters, Robert Blane and Patty Carlson. *Photo by Joe Pollard*



Swearing in Officers and Directors 2022

L-R: Ric Scott, Treasurer, Carol Peters, Secretary, Patty Carlson, President, Directors, Laura Chattaway, Helen Kaphammel, Eva Touchburn, Joyce Bryon and Ruth McIsaac. Missing, Sylvia Green and Margaret McIsaac to be sworn in at a later date.

Photo by Joe Pollard



Bobcaygeon & District Horticultural Society in the Santa Claus Parade

Photo by Jean Ridd

Guelph Township Horticultural Society Celebrates 100 Years

Submitted by Sylvia Grant Photo by Ruth Robinson

A History of the Guelph Township Horticultural Society

In March of 1922, the Guelph Township Horticultural Society held its very first meeting in the Guelph City Hall. There were 94 members who paid membership dues of \$1.00. At the time, Guelph Township had the distinction of being the first township society to be formed in Ontario.

The purpose of the newly formed Guelph Township Horticultural Society was to promote rural beautification and to introduce new horticultural crops and ideas. To promote rural beautification, the society held meetings with speakers, flower shows, competitions, bus trips, garden tours, tree plantings and the creation of gardens in public spaces. One of the many speakers was the well-known nature artist, Robert Bateman. Bus trips included Cullen Gardens in Whitby and gardens in Niagara Falls.

The society also held flower shows as a way to promote horticultural knowledge. The first flower show was held in August 1922 in the pavilion at Riverside Park. Musical entertainment was provided by the Salvation Army Band at a cost of \$15.00.

In the beginning, the society had only one show a year, in August, but a spring, fall and mini-show in June were added over the years. Many shows were held in Marden Public School but eventually the summer show moved into the township's equipment garage. The township moved its equipment out and the horticultural society

moved its entries in. The many entries from the adults and youth filled the barn.

In the early years, dances were popular after the summer shows. In 1934, a dance was held and lunch was served. Admission was 25 cents. In 1936, a dance was held and, to make extra money, ice cream, pop and hotdogs were sold. These are just two of the many dances that followed the summer shows.

Not only were there competitions at flower shows but there also were lawn and garden competitions. Farmers were encouraged to cut brush from around their homes and to plant peonies instead. To encourage more beautiful school yards, tulip bulbs and peony roots were given to the eight township schools.

The society also had a public planting committee which organized and planted many trees in Marden Park thus adding to the beauty of the park. Trees were often planted to commemorate special events.

In 1953, this society was given a gift of acorns gathered from the grounds of Windsor Castle from the newly crowned Queen Elizabeth II. Even the Queen contributed to the beautification of Guelph Township.

A Memory Lane was created in Marden Park where trees are planted to commemorate members of our horticultural society who have passed on.



2022 Concert in the Enabling Garden - Music in the Garden

Until recently, our society had a strong youth programme. Members entered our society's shows as well as OHA competitions. In 1996, at the OHA convention in Hamilton, our youth won the most points in the province. Regulation and creative gardens were a popular activity. Seeds, layout and instructions were provided for the regulation gardens but youth could use their imaginations with the creative gardens. We are grateful for the work and effort put in by the youth leaders.

Our society's most recent project is the Marian Brennan Enabling Garden. It was made possible by a bequest from a long time member, Marian Brennan. It opened officially in 2011 behind the Marden Community Centre. The garden is a delight to all the senses and, in addition to plants, contains benches, a shade structure, a gazebo, a bubbling rock, garden art and a shed with a

living roof. This garden has turned a plain, nondescript area behind the Marden Community Centre into a place of beauty.

Our society celebrated their 100th Anniversary in several ways. A commemorative Tulip Tree was planted in the park. A strawberry social was held in June in the Enabling Garden. Entertainment was provided by The Fair Wind, a Celtic quartet. In September, we celebrated with a catered dinner followed by an oral presentation on the history of our society.

We have had a busy and productive 100 years. We can be proud of the fact that from our first meeting in March 1922, we have made our homes, parks and public spaces, places of beauty. As our society moves into the future, let us continue to make our township and our world a more beautiful place.

OHA Judging Committee

Penny Stewart, Chair OHA Judging Committee

Who are we? What can we do to help you or your society?

The Judging Committee is a group of like-minded judges who enjoy working together to provide guidance and support to Judges, Exhibitors, and Societies on all things related to Flower Shows, Judging and Exhibiting.

The members are Linda Bartlett, Editor of Showtime Newsletter; Patty Carlson, OHA Board member; Kathryn Lindsay, Member and Past District Director; Jim Mabee, Judging School and Updates Coordinator and Past President OHA; Catherine McGill, OHA Board Member; Sharon Nivins, Registrar and Past District Director; and Penny Stewart, Chair and Past District Director.

If you look at the OHA website, you will find that we offer a range of guidance documents, including the new Photography Judging Guidelines, Guidelines for Virtual Shows and How to Organize a Show, etc. Check out the Show Tab and under the Resources Tab, check out the Judges Corner and the Video Resources.

Jim coordinates the Judges Schools and Updates. He is a long-time and very knowledgeable Judge. Sharon keeps the list of OHA-certified judges up-to-date and sends out the recertification reminders. Linda coordinates our Newsletter "SHOWTIME." It has six editions on the web with the 7th edition to be out before Christmas. The newsletter is designed to help Judges, Exhibitors and Show Committees by providing information on Horticulture, Design and Special Exhibits, plus answers to common questions and judging dilemmas.

The Pandemic changed how we all did business and we, as an OHA Committee, adapted and created Virtual Judges Updates which will continue to be offered post-pandemic. These virtual updates allow Judges from far and wide access to the types of topics that are provided at in-person updates. We know not every district can offer updates and that travel these days can be difficult and expensive. The other bonus is that our updates are recorded and available online for those who cannot make the sessions or want to review a particular session.

Each Year at the OHA Convention, we offer a "Judges on Judging" session that covers a Judging topic and allows judges to discuss the challenges they find on the Show tables. The slide presentations from Conventions are posted on the web.

The New Ontario Judging and Exhibiting Standards (OJES 2019) was a joint effort by the Ontario Horticultural Association and the Garden Clubs of Ontario. Our committee was actively involved in seeing that project to completion. We will create more helpful guidance documents as we build on our successes. Stay tuned for Sample Show Schedules and a good practices document on running Judges Updates.

We are always willing to answer questions and look to you for suggestions on topics for updates. We are just an email away at ohajudges@gmail.com. Do not hesitate to drop us a line.

Thunder Bay Horticultural Society

Submitted by Vickie Bureau, President

What an exciting year this has been, being able to meet in person with our members, host guest speakers at our general meetings, in-person Garden Tours, the Annual Garden Beautification Awards, our Red Flower Photo Contest and to round out the year, our Annual Christmas Social, Pot Luck Dinner, AGM and Elections. We are looking forward to 2023 in celebrating our **100th Anniversary** as a Horticultural Society.

2022 GARDEN BEAUTIFICATION AWARDS

Shirley Robson, Chair, Garden Beautification Awards

The 2022 Garden Beautification Awards night was held on October 20th at the Oliver Road Community Centre. Certificates were presented to the winners by the Chair, Shirley Robson representing the Thunder Bay Horticultural Society, Rudy Kuchta, representing the Thunder Bay Beekeepers' Association and Roots to Harvest, Sponsors of the Pollinator-Friendly Garden Award.



The display boards created were beautiful and what an excellent way to show off our horticultural talents.

Photo by Vickie Bureau

Thank you to all the participants for helping make our City and Surrounding Areas Beautiful.



Garden Beautification Awards Winners: front row from left, Pat Lazor, Jean Adams, Miriam Szabo, Liz Bortolussi, Patricia Renaud, Russell Hornblower, Anna Marie Hopkins, Robert Spivak, Carole Spivak, Vickie Bureau. Back row from left, Shirley Robson, 2022 Chair, Garden Beautification Awards, Jack Green, Brian Lazor, Arnold Bortolussi, Stephen Hurrell, Wayne Melville.
Photo by Lois Kennelly

Year of the Garden Colour **RED** Flower Contest

Vickie Bureau, Chair, Flower Photo Contest

The Thunder Bay Horticultural Society challenged its members and citizens of Thunder Bay and surrounding areas to “Show Your Garden Pride” to commemorate the Year of the Garden 2022, as proclaimed by the Canadian Garden Council in celebrating the 100th Anniversary of Ornamental Horticulture in Canada. Community members were asked to submit a 4" x 6" photo which contained a minimum of one **RED** flower in a garden or a container.

I would like to first congratulate everyone on their photo submissions for the Year of the Garden Colour **RED** Flower Contest and note that all participants are considered winners for their participation in the contest. Voting took place on September 15th, 2022 at our General Meeting with only 2 votes separating 1st and 3rd place. The following winners for the contest were presented with an award along with a complimentary Thunder Bay Horticultural Society membership for the 2022 – 2023 year.

Year of the Garden Colour **RED** Flower Contest Winners: 1st Place – Eva Kostamo, 2nd Place – Vanessa Aho, 3rd Place – Susan Prince. Congratulations to our top three winners in this contest and again congratulations to everyone for their submissions for the Year of the Garden Colour **RED** Flower Contest.

The flower contest will be run again in 2023, with the chosen colour to be PURPLE, in celebration of the 100th Anniversary of our Horticultural Society and is open to everyone in the Thunder Bay Horticultural Society catchment area.



*First Place Photo
by Eva Kostamo*



*Second Place Photo
by Vanessa Aho*



*Third Place Photo
by Susan Prince*

Ancaster Horticultural Society

Established in 1906

Submitted by Rhu Sherrard, AHS Publicity Director 2022-2023 Photos by David Puskas and Rhu Sherrard

Season's Greetings and a Happy New Year from all of us at the Ancaster Horticultural Society "Ancaster Gardeners" to the OHA and our fellow District 6 garden societies and clubs. We were back in person and fortunate to be reacquainted with our members; to meet and greet some of our new members, myself included. We all enjoyed celebrating the Year of the Garden (red theme). Through our social media and publicity, we encourage everyone to learn and enjoy the benefits of gardening whether you are new to it or an experienced gardener. We can truly all learn, share and enjoy our gardening journey. The benefits are limitless.

We have been advertising locally and have the continued support of Mike Pearson, Editor of the Ancaster News. We utilise local radio stations and local news media to promote our events. I hope to develop the social media platform to encourage more interest and members within our community. Hopefully, we can attract more interest and new members to the gardening associations, clubs and societies in the region.

The Trillium Awards (one of the highlights of the "season") saw over 40 volunteers who judged over 265 properties. The Trillium awards presentation was held at Fieldcote Museum and over 125 gardens had scores of 93/100. We were impressed and look forward to next year's nominations. We also have a strong push to help educate our members and the public on native plants and the benefits of pollinator gardens to benefit the various species at risk, locally and around the world.

The dedication of our volunteers who maintain the Ancaster municipal gardens and Fieldcote Museum is seen by the community in the beauty around town. There was a lot of positive feedback for our red-themed flowers in the annual display and backed up by the ever-blooming red roses. The annual garden was recently updated with sunny yellow chrysanthemums for the fall.

In November, the AHS hosted its AGM to confirm and welcome new board members. We also hope to attract members to more senior roles. The present executive is willing to provide mentorship and assistance to anyone who may be interested in the AHS community. We do not have a scheduled meeting in December although our members will decorate the Ancaster Town Hall on November 30th for the Holiday Season. Our members also hope to get a head start on another highlight of the upcoming season, our Annual 2023 AHS Plant Sale during the "May 24" weekend. We look forward to sharing the details with you in the new year.

We have the following speakers lined up for 2023 thanks to Betty Howitt:

- January 17, 2023, Carol Pasternak *Zoom* "Drama in the Butterfly Garden"
- February 21, 2023, Molly Shannon from Canadian Succulents *Zoom* "Succulent Gardening for Beginners"
- March 21, 2023, Linda Crago from Tree and Twig Heirloom Vegetable Farm "Heirloom Tomatoes"
- April 18, 2023 Debi Goodwin "A Victory Garden for Trying Times".



October 27, 2022: The paper wasp nest is in the top of the tree.



Nov.10, 2022: The paper wasp nest is really noticeable.

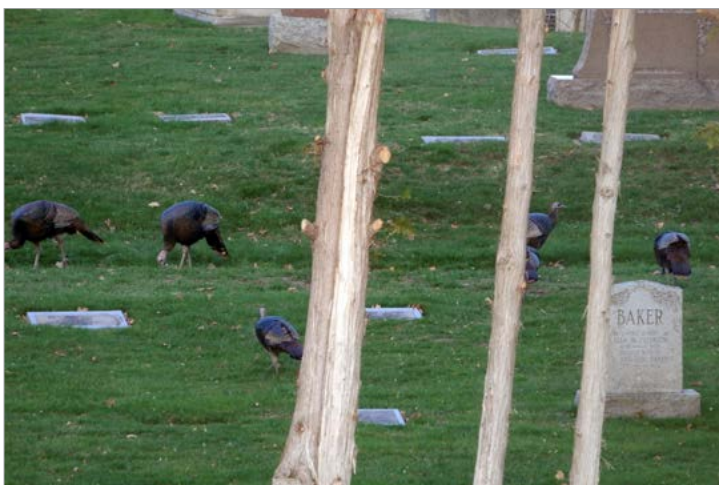
Photos by David Puskas



Remembrance Day November 11, 2022



Crosses placed at St. Andrew's Church



Eight wild turkeys were in the St. Andrew's Cemetery.

Photos by David Puskas

I would personally like to thank all the members of the Ancaster Horticultural Society for their warm welcome, especially Betty Howitt for all her support and confidence in handing over the Publicity Director position to a newbie. Betty is a wonderful mentor and still supports the publicity, continuing to organize our various speakers who have been a wealth of information and provide interest in the AHS within the community. Thanks to Bob Wilt for introducing me to the Gage Park Mum Show which started in 1920 and features a new theme each year. There are over 200 varieties of Chrysanthemums and over 100,000 blooms. This year's theme was space and it was out of this world, pardon the pun.

We will be moving to the Zoom format for January and February and hope to back to in-person meetings for our ongoing events in the spring of 2023. Please follow us on Facebook <https://ancasterhort.org/> and Instagram at [ancaster_gardeners](#) for updates.

I will leave you with one of my favourite quotes - "There are no gardening mistakes, only experiments".

– Janet Kilburn Phillips



Hamilton Mum Show 2022 - Theme: Space



Left: Photo by Rhu Sherrard on the Front Cover of the Winter 2022-23 issue of the OHA Trillium shows some of the stunning Chrysanthemums at the Hamilton Mum Show.



Photos by Rhu Sherrard

Ancaster Horticultural Society AGM



Flower arrangements at the AGM

Photos by David Puskas



OHA Awards and Grants

By Sharlene Desjardins, OHA Awards Coordinator

The Ontario Horticultural Association sponsors various awards and grants each year. Awards are presented annually during the Convention and throughout the year by the District Directors. Grants are approved in March with the exception of the tree, technical advancement and youth grants which are approved as received. All grants are reimbursed throughout the year. The new downloadable and printable Awards Booklet is available online at www.gardenontario.org. The booklet is designed to inform the members of the awards and grants available and the procedure to follow to submit a nomination/application.

Awards presented at the convention are:

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

Nominations, with supporting information, should be sent to:

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

The deadline for receipt of nominations is February 28, 2023. The Awards Coordinator will forward the nominations to the Awards Committee for selection of the winning recipients.

The OHA Awards Committee is comprised of the President, Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Past President, North/East Regional Representative, South/West Regional Representative, Secretary, Awards Coordinator and the Chair of the Past Presidents' Council. Any decision of the Committee will be considered as a decision of the Board of Directors.

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

Plant a Tree

The Ontario Horticultural Association is continuing its Tree Planting Grant whereby a Society of the Ontario Horticultural Association may apply for up to \$300 for a special tree planting. Up to 20 tree-planting grants will be awarded in 2023.

The grant is to be used for the purchase of a tree to be planted in a community or public space. A request by a society outlining the species of tree to be purchased, where the tree will be planted, a permission letter from the landowner and whether the planting commemorates a special event for the Society/Community should be sent to the Ontario Horticultural Association's Awards Coordinator at the address above. The tree grants will be awarded on a **first come basis** starting January 1st, 2023, up to a maximum of 20 awards per year. This grant is available every second year. The awarded society must complete the planting of their tree by the end of the year. For example: if the grant is awarded in 2023 – the tree must be planted and receipts received by the Awards Coordinator by December 31, 2023.

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

Begin a Special Project or Environmental Project

The Ontario Horticultural Association is offering up to 4 Special Project/Environmental Grants of up to \$1000 each as part of the ongoing support of member societies. These projects must have a long lasting benefit to the Society/Club, Community or Environment. There are two subcategories on the application form and you must choose the one your

Society/Club wants to complete. When preparing your application, be sure to include information about the location and use of the project, a budget for the project, one or two photographs of the site, the estimated costs and any other criteria required for the project you wish to undertake. Please keep your application to a maximum of 10 pages. Any Society/Club that receives this funding cannot apply again for five years.

To be considered for a Special Project/Environmental grant in 2023, an application form and the accompanying information should be completed, sent to and received by the Awards Coordinator no later than February 28, 2023. Application forms are available on the OHA website at www.gardenontario.org.

To be reimbursed, the reporting form and accompanying documents must be received by the OHA Awards Coordinator no later than December 31st of the next year. For example, a grant awarded in 2023 must have all documentation submitted to and received by the Awards Coordinator no later than December 31st of 2024.

OHA Community Garden Grant

The Ontario Horticultural Association encourages its affiliated Societies/Clubs to create or contribute to community gardens whether urban or rural. The OHA will award a grant of \$500 each to up to three Societies/Clubs to assist in the funding of a new community garden or the upgrading of an existing community garden.

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

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

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

To apply, complete the Community Garden Grant application form and send it to the Awards Coordinator, who must receive it no later than February 28 of 2023. If your community garden project is awarded a grant, payment will follow receipt of a completed reporting form including original or photocopied receipts and pictures of the completed project.

The reporting form must be received by the OHA Awards Coordinator before December 31st of the next year. For example: a grant awarded in 2023 must have all paperwork submitted to and received by the Awards Coordinator by December 31st of 2024. If a reporting form accompanied by receipts is not received by this time, it will be assumed that the community garden project was not completed and the grant will be cancelled.

Pollinator Project Grant

As part of the ongoing pollinator health initiative, the OHA will provide up to ten grants of \$200.00 each to eligible affiliated Societies/Clubs to create habitat in the form of pollinator friendly gardens or nesting sites on public land.

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

To apply, complete the Pollinator Project Grant application form and send it to the Awards Coordinator who must receive it no later than February 28th of the current year. If your pollinator project is awarded a grant, payment will follow receipt of a reporting form including receipts and pictures of the completed project.

The reporting form and accompanying documents must be received by the OHA Awards Coordinator no later than December 31st of the next year. For example, a grant awarded in 2023 must have all documentation submitted to and received by the Awards Coordinator by December 31st of 2024.

Youth Help Program Grant

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

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

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

Technical Advancement Grant

The Technical Advancement Grant was introduced in 2021 to an overwhelming number of applications. This grant is awarded on a first come basis and in 2023 there will be six grants available of up to \$250 each. A Society/Club may only receive this grant twice with a three-year waiting period between applications. The Society/Club may choose to purchase a web-based subscription or technical equipment.

Youth Project Grant

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

Ontario Horticultural Association 50/50 Draws

Please note that the OHA 50/50 draw is helping to support the Awards and Grants Program. If you would like to purchase tickets, you may do so through the GardenOntario website or the following link:

<https://www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/ontario-ha>

Also available are applications for Horticultural Service Certificates, Judging/Exhibiting Service Certificates and District Service Plaques. Please read the application form carefully and take the time to consider all the volunteers in your society and community that help to keep your area beautiful. Nominate a deserving individual or group for 2023.

Manotick Horticultural Society

Year of the Garden Young Gardeners Grant

By Lynne Charette, Submitted by Maxine Whelan

As part of our Year of the Garden initiative, the Manotick Horticultural Society applied for and received a Young Gardeners Grant from District 2. On Friday, October 14, we hosted a workshop with the Youth Of Manotick Association's (YOMA) pre-teen group to show them how to plant fall bulbs and provided them with the materials to plant some bulbs at their own homes. We discussed planting depth, preparation of the soil and timing of planting. The money was used towards the purchase of bulbs and planting additives (bone and blood meal). The feedback has been enthusiastic. "It was more fun than I expected," reports one youth.



Photo by Leeanne Van der Burgt



'Night' shot photo by Lynne Charette

Clifford and District Horticultural Society

"Let It Grow" Youth Program

Submitted by Vic Palmer, President

Like other volunteer organizations, the Clifford and District Horticultural Society struggles to find ways to involve adults and specifically younger persons in our gardening activities. Our directors approved a program to teach youth the basics of gardening in the spring of 2022. This article explains the course objectives and activities presented to youth from ages 6 to 12. As the President of the CDHS, I presented the topics as outlined below and organized the course with the following considerations in mind. I am happy to share all the details, outlines, lesson plans and anything else that would help your society to do it as I did it or modify it in anyway you wish.

One of the biggest concerns was insurance coverage. This has prevented a lot of societies from having youth exhibiting at society flower shows or helping in other ways. We approached and cooperated with the Township of Minto who handled the promotion, registrations and provided the insurance coverage and rental facilities at no charge. The response was FANTASTIC! We ended up having to repeat the course on a Thursday night as well and stopped the registrations at 20 youth each night. We are fortunate that Clifford has a picnic pavilion that is covered but outside so that we can handle soils and other materials without affecting inside facilities. Other societies may already use library rooms or greenhouse/garden centre areas to present similar programs.

We called the course 'Let It Grow' to give it a simple but defining name. We wanted the age to be old enough to understand and participate but young enough so that they could be encouraged to start with a simple garden. Young persons need to have hands-on activities, not structured too much like a classroom, short time, fast-paced and FUN! We decided on Wednesday after the usual supper time, from 6:31 to 7:01 to emphasize punctuality, and to avoid weekends or other activities that they may also be involved with. We started during the first week in April and ended mid-May so that the cuttings and plants that they had potted would be able to be planted outside soon after the course was completed. Name cards were in front of each child to make the interactions more personal. The feedback was positive and we will be repeating the course next Spring with only a few small changes.

With each session only being 30 minutes long, most parents usually stayed to quietly observe, help their younger children and maintain discipline. Each night, a

different society director would also help with organizing the set-up and take-down. Parents were emailed a copy of the evening presentation in advance or were handed the outline when they arrived.

Most societies have the funds and can budget at this time of year for a similar program next spring. The biggest cost that we incurred was for printing and a few supplies that were not donated by members or garden centres. For example, we bought each participant a seedling tomato plant and provided each of them with a laminated certificate at the end of the course. Planting pots are readily available free from many garden centres, empty plastic pop bottles were used throughout the course, and soil, compost and other planting supplies were usually donated. Your total expenses will probably be between \$100 and \$200.

Although I have had experience teaching adults at the college level and was also a Scouts Canada leader, anyone who has a passion for gardening and loves to share it with young people would be well equipped to do an excellent job. Maybe your society directors can each take a turn presenting a topic or a local professional horticultural person can help. My teaching style involves humour and unusual ways to get the point across. For example, when I talked about photosynthesis (which is now taught in Grade Three at public schools), I climbed a ladder and pretended I was a leaf. In the same way, to demonstrate how water is used by a tree, I climbed a ladder and had volunteers pass up the water one to another until I threw it over my shoulder at the top of the ladder, while repeating the phrase "A sip to make sugar, a sip to keep turgor, but most of it keeps me cool".

Here is an outline of the topics that were presented.

This series will be a fun, hands-on introduction to answer the following gardening questions:

How does water move in soil and plants?

How do we grow new plants?

How do we grow new trees?

How do we take care of planted areas?

How do we grow a vegetable garden?

How can we help bees and butterflies?

For more information, please contact Vic Palmer at vicpalmer@wightman.ca or phone at 519 327-8142.

Land O' Lakes Horticultural Society

also known as The Land O' Lakes Garden Club (LOLGC)

Submitted by District 3 Director Brad King

Photos by Nancy Strachan



July 2021, a LOLGC member suggested we create a garden to commemorate the Indigenous children lost to residential schools and a place of healing for survivors. Our Garden Club approved the idea and set aside funds towards the project. The seed was planted...

The Commemorative Healing Garden was to be authentic and inspired by local First Nations and Metis, a place of healing, a place of reflection and a peaceful place for all the community.

The committee decided on the location in Cloyne at Benny Lake Heritage Park. The park is in the hub of Cloyne between the North Frontenac Township Community Hall and the Pioneer Museum.

After presentations and meetings with the community, we received a grant and permission from North Frontenac Township, grants from Addington Highlands, the Land O' Lakes Lions Club, the OHA and individual community members. The local school, North Addington Education Centre (NAEC), wanted to be involved with students volunteering. Word was out and the community was excited.

We reached out to local Indigenous groups, but it was a Metis woman, Tawny Stowe, that completely embraced the idea and suggested a Medicine Wheel. Tawny visited the site, she gave a tobacco offering to the land, we had a smudging and traditional drumming. She helped us plan the location, the size, gave teachings on the Medicine Wheel and sent us lists of native plants that would work in each quadrant.

Over last winter we prepared the detailed garden design plan and, with funding in place, we began asking community members if they could help with excavating, building natural log benches for a sharing circle, sourcing local soil and to our amazement all this was done pro bono. What a generous community. We talked to Bea at Natural Themes Native Plants and got our order all lined up. North Frontenac Township agreed to reroof an already existing gazebo and provide garbage cans. The NAEC applied for a grant to have their carpentry class make the kiosk for our information signage.

In the Spring, we excavated and were quite pleased with the soil, not too many of the notorious Cloyne potatoes (rocks). None the less, we added the truck load of local soil and lots of sheep manure (the only amendment we used). One of our members offered flagstone and brought that up to the



Medicine Wheel which was used to divide the quadrants and provide footpaths.

We are very fortunate to have Benny Lake right next to the park and had a local plumber install a water pump from the lake to a simple irrigation system with a timer. Worth every penny! No looking for volunteers to water, no lugging hoses back and forth and always worrying if everything is too dry.

The Medicine Wheel is 30 feet in diameter, so it was quite the project to begin planting! We had 4 groups, each doing a quadrant. Each quadrant represents a direction (we did use a compass), colour, sacred plant, a season, time of day, stage of life and state of being.



Photos show the indigenous medicine wheel project the Land O' Lakes Horticultural Society planted this year.



- **North** is white with white cedar as its sacred plant. It also represents Winter, night, elder and spiritual being.
 - **East** is yellow with tobacco. It represents Spring, morning, childhood and the intellectual state of being.
 - **South** is red with sweetgrass. It is Summer, afternoon, youth and the physical state of being.
 - **West** is black (we used purple) with sage. It is Fall, evening, adulthood and the emotional state of being.
- After planting, mulch was placed in the garden as well as around the outer circle to keep weeds at bay.

The committee made plant tags out of natural wood cookies, a beautiful quartz rock was brought by a member and placed at the centre of the Medicine Wheel representing the Creator. Temporary signage was added explaining the Medicine Wheel and the importance of the sacred plants in relation to Indigenous culture. The signage was mounted on a larger wooden cookie. The garden was genuine, authentic and natural.

The Medicine Wheel was completed by June 21st, National Indigenous Peoples Day. Tawny, our Metis teacher and spiritual guide, visited the garden and made a tobacco offering. A grade 3 class from NAEC came over to the garden to celebrate the day by creating talking sticks, all colour coordinated for each quadrant, decorated with feathers, string and beads.

Tawny was also our guest speaker at the July Garden Club meeting. All the members were asked to bring a special stone to place around the Medicine Wheel. At the garden, we all made a tobacco offering, had a smudging and placed our stones enclosing the outer circle of the Medicine Wheel (not quite enclosed yet). Tawny spoke to us about "getting to know plants in a spiritual way." Most fascinating!

Over the summer, we were amazed at how many visitors came to the garden. They were interested, wanted to learn and they felt the peace that the garden offered. Some came every Friday on their way to Bon Echo or the cottage, local families would stop by in the evening and visitors to the Pioneer Museum would come by for a look.

On the National Day For Truth and Reconciliation, September 30th, we proudly hung an Every Child Matters flag and Tawny met with every NAEC class (K-12) at the Medicine Wheel. The park and surrounding area resounded with the sounds of drumming as Tawny met each class and drummed and sang with them. She explained the significance of the plants and what each of the four quadrants meant. The children all went home having participated in Indigenous teachings and with an understanding of what we had achieved and why.

Once school began in September, we were told the NAEC had received the Grant for the carpentry class to build the kiosk for the permanent signage. It will be a timber frame design with signage both front and back. This is where we are now. The school is working on the kiosk and we are working on wording and Indigenous language translation. This should all be completed by June 2023.

On June 21st, 2023, National Indigenous Peoples Day, we hope to have a ceremony at the Medicine Wheel garden. It is a beautiful peaceful space for sharing, reflecting, healing and learning, a commemoration of all the Indigenous children lost over decades to residential schools and a garden for their families to heal, to know their loss is acknowledged and never to be forgotten.

Thank you to the OHA for all your support.

Nancy Strachan
Land O' Lakes Horticultural Society

The Native Plant Movement:

A Conversation with Lorraine Johnson and Sheila Colla

(authors of "A Garden for the Rusty-Patched Bumblebee". Douglas and McIntyre, 2022)

By Cynthia Levine-Rasky, PhD (Sociology); Certificate, Master Gardeners of Ontario Inc.; Member, East York Garden Club

Native bees are in trouble. As an informed gardener, chances are you know this. In response, you make a point of installing a bee condo in your backyard or adding some bee-friendly plants in your garden. Maybe you put out a shallow dish and keep it filled with fresh water. Or you leave a pile of leaves to decay in a protected corner of the yard.

These actions may seem commendable but a closer look reveals that not all of them are equally beneficial. Some may even be ill-advised. The scale of the problem is dire enough to make us re-think how we garden. Gardens are often designed for maximum visual appeal with showy plants that have been introduced from elsewhere. Lawns are enduringly popular and leaf litter is removed. Plants are often chosen for colour, bloom period, growth habit and other aesthetic properties preferred by individual property owners without much concern for the environment in where these plants will be grown.

We can do better. Indeed, we must.

In their new book, "A Garden for the Rusty-Patched Bumblebee", Lorraine Johnson and Sheila Colla lay out the scope of the problem and its implications. They note that installing urban honeybee hives does not help sustain native bees. Canada's 800+ native bee species do not make honey; most are solitary and do not live in hives. Their habitat has been lost and fragmented, their nests and foraging places destroyed and, in addition to the competition they face from non-native honeybees and managed bumblebees in greenhouses and field crops, managed bee species may be the source of new diseases causing declines of some native bee species.

Bombus affinis, the Rusty-Patched Bumblebee, represents threatened native bee species whose populations have been decimated in North America.

Johnson and Colla describe over 300 native plant species including herbaceous perennials, vines, woody shrubs and trees. They provide information not only on the size, flowers, blooming period, exposure and soil preferences for each plant, but also on the specialist and generalist bees and other pollinator insects that enjoy key relationships with each host plant. For each entry, they provide a photograph or illustration, recommend companion plants and describe the plant's features. At the end of the book, there is information on rain gardens, pond and bog gardens, recommended plant combinations and sample garden designs.

Our conversation was a unique opportunity to explore many of these points in more depth. While the authors were interviewed separately, their responses were combined for readability and edited for length.

C: The book title refers to one species of bee, *Bombus affinis*, the Rusty-Patched Bumblebee. But, as you show in your book, the loss and fragmentation of bee habitat endangers many more bee species. Why did you choose this particular species to represent the problem?

L & S: The rusty-patched bumblebee is a species whose numbers in Canada have dwindled to zero in just a few decades, yet it was once a common species. This was a bee that visited hundreds of species of flowers for food and was found in all sorts of habitat types in Guelph, Toronto and London. Sheila made the last known rusty-patched bumblebee sighting in Canada in 2009 in Pinery Provincial Park near Grand Bend, Ontario. In 2012, it was the first native bee in Canada to be officially designated as endangered. That such a common, generalist bee (feeding from many flower species) could disappear without us even realizing it until it is too late is a warning that we need to nurture native biodiversity even if we are still learning about species and their ecological relationships. The story of the rusty-patched bumblebee is urgent and cautionary.

C: In order to designate a garden as a "wildlife friendly habitat," the Canadian Wildlife Federation requires you to provide conditions that support bees and other species. This includes food sources, water, shelter, "green gardening" (eg.



Sundial lupin (*Lupinus perennis*) with bee. Photo Credit: Shutterstock



Goldenrod (*Solidago spp.*) with bee. Photo Credit: Shutterstock

rain barrel, leaving grass clippings) and sustainable practices (eg. removing invasive plants). This goes well beyond putting in lots of native plants. If you have a garden for pollinators, does it have to have all of these features?

L & S: Providing water supports larger native animals like birds and mammals, not native bees who don't need it. It's important to keep in mind that native bees, including the rusty-patched bumblebee, require three separate types of habitat. Everyone is familiar with forage (flowers with pollen for protein and nectar for carbohydrates as well as other nutrients). But bees also need overwintering habitat and nesting habitat. Depending on the species, this can include long grass, last year's pithy stems from plants (like goldenrod and raspberries), rotting logs or abandoned rodent burrows, loose soil, leaf mulch and so on.

It may be difficult to incorporate all of these things into one garden but as more and more people start to appreciate what it means to steward land for wildlife and they start including some of these elements in their spaces, the overall landscape will become much more wildlife-friendly. If neighbours get together and cooperate, the effect is multiplied.

C: What if a gardener happens to love a particular non-native plant that attracts a lot of bees, such as heuchera, sedum, hibiscus, or bluebeard? Is there harm in mixing native and non-native plants? Is any compromise reasonable?

L & S: In exchange for pollinating a plant, bees receive food. Female bees collect pollen and nectar to feed larval bees. Even though we're just beginning to understand the relationships between native bees and plants, research shows that that species are much better supported if people use native plants wherever they can. This is because nectar and pollen are nutritive substances that vary from plant to plant. These two substances are not equal in their makeup; not all flowers provide optimal bee support. Flower visitation is insufficient on its own for evaluating the nutritional benefits of specific plants.

Pollen and nectar from a diversity of native plants have the correct balance of carbohydrates, protein, amino acids, lipids and minerals that bees need to flourish. The pollen of introduced plants does not support the pollen-specialist bees that have a co-evolutionary relationship with specific native plants. They are in sync.

Native plants provide nectar and pollen in the amounts and quality to which native pollinators are evolutionarily adapted. But it's getting harder for them to do that when non-native plants dominate the landscape. Lawns are a good example. Kentucky bluegrass takes up a great deal of space but offers nothing whatsoever to pollinators. And then there is the enduring popularity of hundreds of non-native ornamental species. In our book, we explain why it is much more complex than planting some cosmos and letting some dandelions grow for the month of May (which of course is still better than having lawn or concrete!).

Some bee species are specialists; others are generalists visiting a range of plants. The first group, about 1/3 of our native bees, need particular plants in order to rear healthy offspring. Other insect species such as moths and butterflies depend on a specific host plants at their larval stage. If specialist bees can't find the food they need to reproduce, they will disappear. It's that simple. Gardeners can support these co-evolved relationships by planting native plants that been squeezed out by invasive species or removed for other reasons.

There are other key benefits to maximizing native plants in your garden. Native plants tend to require less supplemental water. Prairie and meadow plants tend to have deep roots that enhance the soil, prevent erosion, store carbon and encourage water infiltration and groundwater recharge.

Our intention is not to exhort everyone to pull out all of their beloved non-native plants. Landscapes with a healthy proportion of native plants won't compromise their ecological integrity if they also include some non-invasive non-native ornamentals. But it's crucial that gardeners include a good proportion of native plants to sustain our native bee populations.

C: In order to fully appreciate the connection between the decline of bees and global food sources, how do you explain to the average consumer the impact of losing 50% of bee species?

L & S: Without healthy populations of native bees, many food items would become incredibly expensive or would require pollination by hand. This has already become necessary for some apple orchards in China, for example. Sometimes we hear about Colony Collapse Disorder in honeybees used for pollinating agricultural crops. But the issues are much wider than that. Without bees, life on earth as we know it would be impossible. Everything is connected in a complex web of relationships. The loss of bee habitat affects a break in these reciprocal relationships and will inevitably diminish them.

More immediately, if we lose species, we risk losing resiliency of our agricultural and natural ecosystems under climate change. Having as many species as possible in a system allows there to be some redundancy. This is very

important if a species is extinguished due to weather, an introduced disease or other causes as we saw with the rusty-patched bumblebee. Native plants and native pollinators have co-evolved; you can't alter or remove one without affecting the other.

C: Your book sounds consistent with an approach informed by Indigenous knowledge-keepers. How can the relationship between the native plant movement and Indigenous rights be strengthened?

L & S: In North America, gardening has been rooted very much in a settler-colonial worldview. The idea of managing a landscape, controlling what is welcome and what isn't, can be largely shaped by this worldview. It was not that long ago that milkweed was considered a noxious weed and still people consider goldenrods – native plants that provide a critical fall food source for insects about to migrate south or spend the winter underground – unwelcome in their spaces. Much of what is considered a manicured garden in North America consists of non-native plants brought here with European settlers. Reframing this to view spaces as places to steward native ecological relationships is a way to decolonize this history.

In Ojibwe, there is a word, *gitigaan*, which means garden, field and farm. Those three items are difficult to tease apart when you source your food and medicine from native plants and have long-standing cultural relationships with natural spaces. Creating habitat gardens, observing the ecological relationships that come with it, learning about the native plants in your region are all ways to connect with the land and to stand in solidarity with Indigenous ways of knowing. It is crucial to support Indigenous voices in the movement toward biodiversity and Indigenous-led land-based efforts.



New England aster (*Symphotrichum novae-angliae*) with bee.
Photo Credit: Shutterstock

Gardening for a Different Purpose

When gardeners seek a solution to the destruction of native species as food source and habitat for native pollinating insects, there are concrete actions they can take that will make a difference. They might begin by adding one plant, say goldenrod. Seeing its bold yellow inflorescence and the number of bees enthusiastically feeding from it, they might be encouraged to add a few more and to toss in some native blue asters, pink coneflowers, and white pearly everlasting. The next year, they might expand the herbaceous perennial plant bed with native sunflowers, blue vervain, beebalm and not one but two kinds of milkweed. The following year, they might add a black chokeberry and a red osier dogwood as well as a speckled alder tree and an Eastern red cedar to give the garden more structure and to provide year-round support for insects and for birds (since virtually all terrestrial species of which rely on a diet of adult and larval insects). They also plant native groundcovers: wild strawberry, common blue violet and silverweed.

These activities signal not only a change in the composition of plants but in the whole purpose of garden spaces. The native plant movement is influencing how gardeners experience their gardens. As eye-catching as ornamental plants may be, if they are introduced species, their neutral and sometimes harmful effects on the environment detract from their appeal. Gardeners are learning that such plants support relatively few insects, out-compete native species, alter ecosystems and reduce biodiversity above ground and in the soil. The resulting habitat loss and fragmentation not only endangers many native plants and animals but also disrupts the complex food webs and ecosystem function that has developed over millennia.

In the end, it's not how plants look alone that should drive gardening decisions; it is how plants contribute to the web of ecological relationships.

An advocate for more employment doesn't recommend adding one job in one workplace; an advocate for affordable housing doesn't stop at building a single unit. When you participate in the native plant movement, it's not a matter of adding some native plants as much as it is a matter of preserving what Johnson and Colla describe as "the relationship of the plants to the habitat style in which they grow in the wild."

What about those large bee condos? As it turns out, they concentrate bee populations in one spot making them vulnerable to attack from disease and predators of the larvae. Instead, provide natural bee habitat with native species like joe-pye weed, wild bergamot, elderberry and mountain mint. Bees will overwinter in their hollow or pithy stems.

A garden for the rusty-patched bumblebee is a garden that works for the benefit of the entire ecosystem. Our collective future is inextricably bound up with it.

Organizations

Bee City Canada
Carolinian Canada
Conservation Ontario
David Suzuki Foundation's Butterflyway Project
Forest Gene Conservation Association, Learn About
Native Species in Your Ecodistrict

Network of Nature
North American Native Plant Society
Ontario Field Naturalists
Ontario Invasive Plant Council, Grow Me Instead Campaign
Ontario Wildflowers

Native Plant Nurseries

<https://networkofnature.org/where-to-buy.htm> (an interactive map of native plant nurseries in Canada)

Books

A Garden for the Rusty-Patched Bumblebee. By Lorraine Johnson and Sheila Colla (Douglas & McIntyre, 2022)

Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and the Teachings of Plants.

By Robin Wall Kimmerer (Milkweed Editions, 2013)

Bringing Nature Home: How You Can Sustain Wildlife with Native Plants. By Douglas Tallamy (Timber Press, 2007)

Bumble Bees of North America: An Identification Guide. By Paul H. Williams, Robin W. Thorp, Leif L. Richardson and
Sheila R. Colla (Princeton University Press, 2014)

Iwígara: The Kinship of Plants and People. By Enrique Salmón (Timber Press, 2020)

Nature's Best Hope: A New Approach to Conservation that Starts in Your Yard. By Douglas W. Tallamy (Timber Press, 2020)

Our Native Bees: North America's Endangered Pollinators and the Fight to Save Them. By Paige Embry (Timber Press, 2018)



Submitted by Lena Wilms

OHA's
50/50 Winner!

Heike Spohr
District 6, Milton Ontario
Won \$4937.50
Winning Ticket No. C-8401

Congratulations!

Check Out Our Next Raffle
[HTTPS://WWW.RAFFLEBOX.CA/RAFFLE/ONTARIO-HA](https://www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/ontario-ha)

Next Draw To Be Held On
MARCH 16, 2023

OHA 50/50 Winner Announcement

Congratulations to Heike Spohr!

A new 50/50 Raffle started on December 17. Don't miss your chance to get tickets for this draw! It will be drawn on March 15, 2023.

Get your tickets here:

<https://www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/ontario-ha>

50% of all proceeds go towards *Keeping Ontario Beautiful* and supports education for youth and adults. It also supports environmental programs, awards and grants assisting with pollinators, tree planting and community beautification as well as post secondary scholarships.

Thank you everyone for your support and for sharing the raffle information on your social media pages and to your members.

Kelly Taylor
Ontario Horticultural Association Secretary

Bath Gardening Club

What's Happening in Bath

Submitted by Pat Chown

Photographs by Don Taylor

We welcome our new Executive and Committee Chairs for the 2022-23 season:

President – Janice Firth

Vice-President – Sylvia Whalen

Recording Secretary – Heather Bennett

Publicity Secretary – Jeri Love

Membership Secretary – Elly Warren, Diane Nolting

Board of Directors – Valerie Behm, Linda Cohen, Marnie Brough, Joanna Spornick, Roxanna Beddington, Mike Janssen

Programme Co-Chairs – Mary Drinkwater, Susan O'Connor

Village Planting Co-Chairs – Pat Chown, Marnie Brough

The Gardening Club would like to thank Mike Janssens as Vice-President, Dawn Ford as Chair of Village Planting and Judy Hume as Co-Chair of our Programme Committee. Because of our volunteers who continuously step up to the plate, Bath Gardening Club is vibrant and a forward-thinking group of people. A great job by all volunteers. Congratulations!

This article will feature an interview with Eileen and David Salter on the beginning of the Bath Gardening Club and a pictorial presentation of the volunteer members who came out in force to clear and clean up the village gardens, decorate for the festive season and participate in our gnome pot workshop!

The Founding of the Bath Gardening Club: Inspiration from Bath residents from the 1990's...

It was a pleasure to connect with Eileen Salter one summer day, while I was weeding the bridge and she was out for her daily walk. She confirmed that I was part of the Gardening Club, then she asked if I knew about the history and the beginning of the Club. I said that I did not and would love to know more. She rushed home and returned with documents from 1990 and a members list dated 1992-93 of the first Bath Gardening Club. Here is her story...

In September 1990, David Salter (Eileen's husband), Bill James and Keith Oliver, members of the Bath Residents Association, wrote a letter to Bath residents inviting one and all to come together on November 2, 1990 for a social gathering where long time and new residents could mingle and get to know one another. The invitation was advertised in the "Village Voice", the local newspaper edited by David and distributed to each household by mail. The social gathering was to be a community dinner, a three-course steak event, held at the Olde Anchor Tavern (which later became Suzy Q's Bar). 80 residents attended. During the dinner, neighbours asked one another about their hobbies, special interests e.g., golf, sailing, bridge, gardening, etc. At the end of the evening, people were polled to see how many would like to have a repeat event in the future and what other events might be held to encourage communication and friendship in the community. The question was also asked if there was an interest in forming an association around a special interest. The result was the formation of the Bath Gardening Club. Eileen Salter's name is on the 1992-93 membership list along with 35 other members, some of whom still reside in Bath. The initial Gardening Club met at St. John's Hall where they discussed plant problems with local "experts" and exchanged plants with one another. They also had occasional bus excursions to larger garden centres near Toronto to explore different plants that might be attractive and grow successfully in the Bath area. The "Village Voice" 1992 #7, reported in a Gardening Club article that the Club had recommended to the Bath Town Council that 'vinca' should be chosen as the official flower of Bath. According to the article, "Vinca is an annual that grows well in sun and shade, flowering all summer. The flowers come in a range of colours: red, deep violet, rose and white". Residents were encouraged to include vinca in their gardens. This Gardening Club also started the idea of using wooden barrels along Main Street. The current Gardening Club members thanked the original members for all their work. A special 'thank you' to David and Eileen Salter for their time and the information they provided for this article.



Eileen and David Salter

Bath Gardening Club Fall Activities. We Have Been Busy!

Fall Cleanup of the Village Barrels, Planters and Gardens

In October, 15 volunteers readied the gardens, planters and barrels for winter. A challenge has emerged from this effort. Our barrels all contained canna tubers that grew gloriously all summer. The intent was to compost the tubers as it was felt that because they were started from seed, they most likely would not be robust enough to produce flowers next spring. Our gardeners never want to 'waste' anything so the decision was taken by some to nurture the tubers all winter and then try to revive them early in the spring. Stay-tuned! Good luck to Susan, Dave, Val, Sylvia and Janice who have taken on this experiment.



Bath Clean-up



Decorating for Winter

Placing the Lights and Greenery for the Holiday Season

In early November, approximately a dozen volunteers brought their ladder-climbing skills to trim our Village Gazebo while others spent the morning stringing lights on the Fairfield Guzheit House fence, the central area of our Village. Others trimmed pine boughs from the Christmas Tree Farm and then filled planters and gardens, all adding to the festive look of Bath.

A few days later, more volunteers assembled to make bows that were added to the greenery prior to the beginning of Village festivities.

The Gardening Club expresses a special "thank you" to the Loyalist Township who provided employees to help with the fall clean-up and festive decorating.



Decorating for Winter



Bow Making



Decorating for Winter

Photos by Don Taylor

Gnome-Pot Workshop:

Over 25 members and friends participated in this year's festive workshop. It was a wonderful day of fun, camaraderie, and creativity. Thank you to Mary Drinkwater and her program helpers for putting this workshop together for all of us.

Bath Gardening Club Upcoming Events:

December 1 at 6:00 pm – Carolling in Centennial Park – Our Gardening Club is sponsoring the Bath sing-a-long complete with cookies and hot chocolate!

Christmas Luncheon at O'Connor House Tea Room December 9th – after a wonderful get-together last year, we once again celebrate our friendship and year's activities at the Tea Room.

We welcome everyone to keep in touch with us by visiting our website: bathgardeningclub.ca

As we begin a new year, we are looking for new ideas and volunteers to help create a more welcoming and attractive Bath. Check out our website, become a member, make new friends and help our community move forward.



Gnome Workshop

East Gwillimbury Gardeners

2022 Junior Gardeners Program

Submitted by Brenda Near

Photos by Brenda Near and Steph McClure

East Gwillimbury Gardeners had a wonderful year with our Junior Gardeners group. Our long standing youth leaders, Russ Burton and Marie Nicolle retired in 2019 and then the pandemic hit, so 2022 marked a resurrection of the program.

Stepping up to take over as youth leaders were Dawn Clayden, Heike Koch, Elaine McClure and Brenda Near. Extra helpers included Barb Elend, Stephanie Stern and past Junior Gardener, Natalie Landry.

We had 25 kids enrolled and averaged 18 kids per meeting.

There were 5 meetings – April, May, June, September and October. As you can see from the photos, the kids had a blast. As did we! The kids demonstrated such outstanding enthusiasm, energy and creativity!

In April, they made their own garden journals and learned how to plant seeds in a variety of recycled containers. They also planted a gladiola bulb in a decorated tin can.

May was a chance for them to learn about butterfly life cycles and they created a mini butterfly garden in a takeout container. In the container, they planted a butterfly host plant (Pearly Everlasting for American Lady Butterflies). They also added a tin can with a kitchen scrubber, nectar and a sunning rock.

In June, they planted one of our public gardens with annuals and then created bug hotels. Some parents loved it so much they asked if they could take a container home so they could make their own bug hotel. Artist Stephanie Stearn helped them with their painting and drawing skills.

In September, Barb Elend led them through a design class helping them create “A walk in the woods” diorama. These were then entered into our flower show and prizes were awarded. The kids were thrilled to get ribbons and be a part of the show. The adults were very impressed with the creativity of the designs.

In our last meeting in October, the kids created pumpkin centrepieces for their Thanksgiving tables.

We can't wait to do it all again in 2023!



October Youth Leader Heike Koch

Photos by Brenda Near



Allegra Buchanan – Bug Hotel



William Clayden – Bug Hotel



Lily Hennigar-Stoeva



Allegra Buchanan

Illijana Buchanan



Photos above and right by Brenda Near

Kosta Carlesso, William Clayden and Jean Paul McClure

2022 Junior Gardeners Program



Photos of the planting by Steph McClure

Massey Horticultural Society District 13

Submitted by Sheelagh MacDonald 1st V/P

Photos by Sheelagh MacDonald 1st V/P and Silvana Borsato-Espinosa President



Gallery of Photos from Massey Horticultural Society



Gallery of Photos from Massey Horticultural Society

Haldimand Horticultural Society

Submitted by Barbara Wilson, Publicity Chair

Photos by Barb Wilson



Left and above: Our "Poppy Project" received more than 2000 poppies.

As we are nearing the end of a fabulous "Year of the Garden", we reflect on the beautiful gardens we have seen this summer throughout the county. Thank you to those who cared for our community gardens all summer long and to our very own "Green Guardians" youth group who planted successful gardens full of vegetables for the community.

Some recent events for the society have been: 2 trees were planted in the Selkirk park; members entered and won prizes for their flowers and plants in the Caledonia Fair and our youth group won 3rd prize for their entry in the Group Display Class called "Celebrating our 150th Fair"; bursaries were given to 3 students at the local high schools; we hosted the Annual District 6 Fall Dinner on Saturday, November 12 – guest speaker enjoyed by all was Paul Knowles; our "Poppy Project" spearheaded by members Catherine McGill and Sharon Slack received over 2000 poppies which were made and donated by community members, secured to chicken wire and put on display at the Caledonia Cenotaph for the November 11th Remembrance Day ceremony – a moving sight to see; our November installation of Executive members and Board of Directors was presided over by Susan MacMillan, OHA Assistant District Director; Secretary, Susan Reeder was presented with the annual President's Award by president Elsie Eubank.

We are a busy society and appreciate everyone's continued support through the year.

As the Christmas season approaches, we finish putting our gardens to sleep for the winter and plant our bulbs with a vision of colourful plants in the Spring. Enjoy the holidays everyone.



*Left: President Elsie Eubank's Fairy Tree.
Her lovely home was on the garden tour this year, 2022.*



OHA Districts, Societies and Clubs

October 24, 2022

Re: Trillium Newsletter End of Printing Decision

Dear Districts, Societies and Clubs:

The Trillium has been a staple of the Ontario Horticultural Association and all of the members of the Affiliated Societies/Clubs for many years. As a way of keeping all "in the know", the editions were by far the best way to communicate. This being said, there was never any intention that the Trillium be a money-making endeavor for the OHA and as a result, pricing was always set at a "break even" point.

At the October Board Meeting this year, it became quite clear that the OHA was losing money on the sale of the printed Trillium even with the last pricing increase when the Trillium went to colour. The costs of printing and mailing the Trillium has increased substantially.

The only two (2) options for the Board were to increase the price of the annual subscription by over twenty-five (25) dollars per year or to look at ending the printed Trillium program. Either option comes with its own respective concerns.

The Board, after much conversation and deliberation has decided that ending the printed Trillium program will occur.

Please be advised that:

- a) As of December 31st, 2022, the OHA will not be accepting any new subscriptions for printed editions of the Trillium
- b) As of December 31st, 2022, the OHA will not be renewing any current subscriptions for the printed Trillium
- c) ALL current subscriptions will be honoured until their respective end date

This means that as time moves forward, there will be fewer and fewer printed editions and by the end of 2023, there should be no more printed Trillium editions available.

The Trillium will be and is available by checking the gardenontario.org site and clicking on "news" on the top row of icons. This will open all electronic editions which may then be printed. The Trillium will also be sent out to all Societies/Clubs and District Directors to share with your membership via email.

Yours truly,

Charles Freeman

Ontario Horticultural Association President



Leaside Garden Society

Leaside Wins a City of Toronto Garden Award!

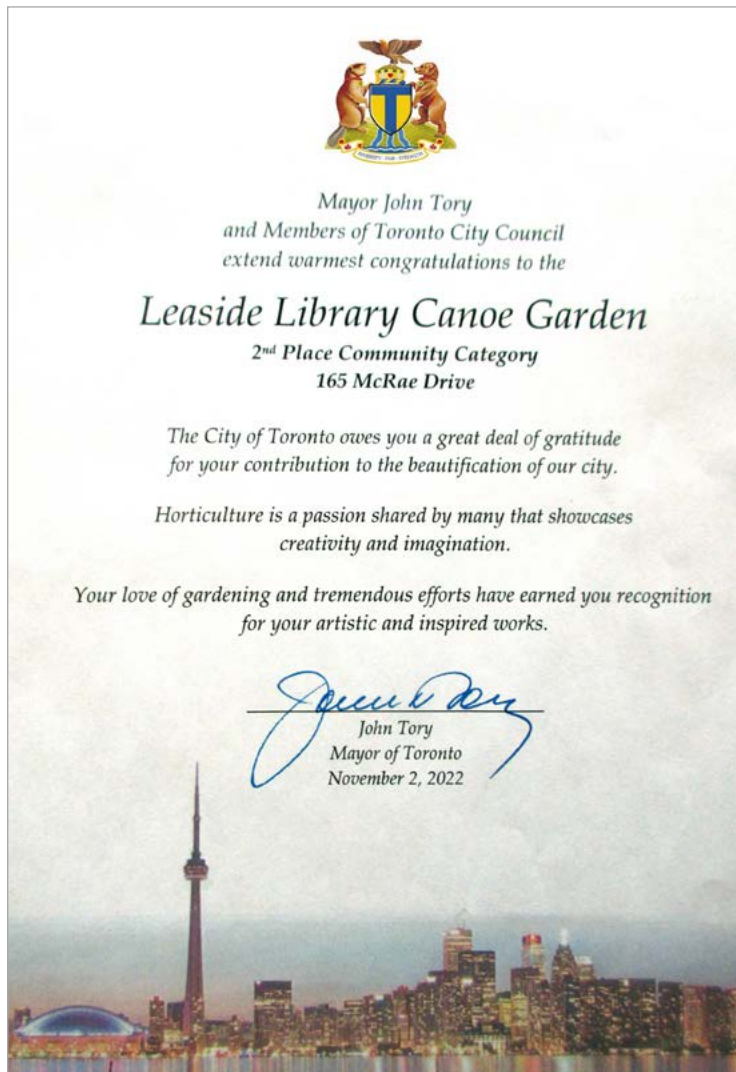
Joanna Blanchard and Nora Campbell

Much to our pride and delight, the Leaside Garden Society was awarded Second Place in the Community Garden category in the prestigious 2022 City of Toronto Annual Garden Contest. We were thrilled to be recognized in this city-wide contest.

The pollinator-friendly Canoe Garden at the Leaside Library was singled out for its symbolic proactive design as part of the Suzuki Butterflyway project. Our thanks go to LGS members Rick Hutchings who initially designed and created the garden in 2019 and Barry Schneider who has helped to maintain it through the many challenges of the seasons.

The prize included a certificate signed by Mayor John Tory and an engraved glass trophy. The event was organized by our own Malcolm Geast and Patricia Landry, a Parks Program Officer for the city.

Both the Canoe and Commemorative Gardens at the library have become Leaside landmarks and "Meet me at the Canoe" is now a Leaside catchphrase!



The Award

Photo by Joanna Blanchard and Nora Campbell



The Award Ceremony: Donna Kovachis (l), the Director of Parks for the City of Toronto, and Councillor Paul Ainslie (r) presented the award to Barry Schneider (centre), who represented the Society at a ceremony in November at the new Clark Centre for the Arts in Guildwood.

Photo by Malcolm Geast



The Logo for the Toronto Garden Contest Photo by Joanna Blanchard



Canoe Garden at the Leaside Library *Photo by Rich Hutchings*

Leaside Garden Society Founders' Scholarship

Jim Hartley and Joanna Blanchard

The 2022 Leaside Garden Society Founders' Scholarship was awarded to Daniel Mack, a student in the Environmental Landscape Management Program at Seneca College in Toronto. After a 12-month hiatus, the Society was delighted we could again award a scholarship that has a value of \$1000.

Daniel is a mature student who spent 10 years freelancing as a gardener/landscaper as well as two years before that working for different companies acquiring on-the-job training. His referees stressed that he is a hard worker, is a willing mentor to other students and has a heart of gold. His love of the environment is sure to allow him to make a difference within the horticultural community.

Last Autumn, on his own initiative, Daniel successfully applied for a grant from the World Wildlife Fund to establish a 'forest garden' at the King campus of Seneca College. He subsequently applied for, and received, an even bigger grant from the TD Bank. The garden is composed of perennial native plants that are also edible. With other volunteers, Daniel cares for the garden and the harvest goes to the student Food Bank at the Jane and Finch campus. He has plans for its expansion, his overall goals being to make healthy, organic foods available to students and to demonstrate that perennial crops are a viable alternative.

In late August, a ceremony attended by several members of the Scholarship Committee was held at the Leaside Public Library to present Daniel with his scholarship. In chatting with Daniel, his enthusiasm and commitment were obvious as he talked about preserving our environment for future generations.

During the Garden Society's October meeting Daniel shared a PowerPoint presentation explaining his work on the forest garden. The concept was unfamiliar to most of us and Daniel's enthusiastic narrative was both fascinating and educational. Daniel invited our members as well as the public to view the Forest Garden at the Seneca College, King Campus.



*Daniel Mack with members of the LGS scholarship committee
Photo supplied by Nora Campbell*

Tillsonburg Horticultural Society

Submitted by Angela Lassam

The Tillsonburg Horticultural Society has had a busy year offering meetings, events and super local gardens open for everyone to visit and admire. We have been lucky to be able to meet again and enjoy each other's company.



Monthly meeting



Spring bus trip



Auction and Plant Sale

We have monthly meetings that have always been well-attended with a variety of speakers and demonstrations all appropriate to the time of year. One memorable speaker was Paul Knowles, author of 'The Magic Garden' with a different view on a garden and he kept the audience's attention. Cheryl Losch gave an interesting talk on winter preparation and gave members ideas for their own garden. Our co-ordinator Sue Healey has worked hard to get so many varied speakers.

We started our extra activities with our annual spring buying tour. Members visited some of the Niagara Region's garden nurseries and greenhouses and Rockway Vineyards. The bus was full and even more so after all the purchases made by members. It was a day to relax and enjoy time spent with friends again. Thanks to Christine Nagy for another great tour.

Our 14th Auction and Plant Sale was held later this year, May 31st, with an abundance of plants to buy, many more than in past years due to a Covid-19 break. Doors opened at 5 p.m. People lined up excited to get the best first. It is fun to see how people react to 'doors open'. There were plants sold for \$10 and even less including many perennials, large and small and also pond plants. The herb table was of great interest and had vegetables and fruit plants as well. Ladies spent all morning building various, interesting containers which auctioned very well. We even auctioned shrubs and trees. As usual, the draw table was well set up and very successful. Our old friend the auctioneer quickly sold all the trees, shrubs, containers, hanging baskets and other donated articles. At the end, it was amazing to see the large empty auditorium where this took place. At day's end, everyone was exhausted but very pleased with the outcome.

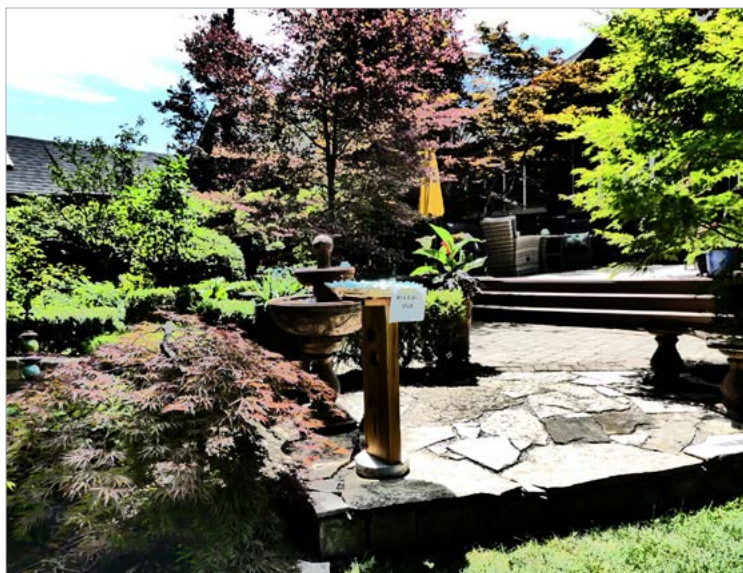
The Garden Tour, new name 'Garden Artistry', was on July 6th and we could not have asked for better weather, God was kind. Tickets were sold at Station Arts, our co-host, and Tillsonburg Garden Gate, the go-to local nursery. All the gardens were individual. One was green, no flowers; and another, a small but full, very interesting ravine-backed property. We had a predominately shade garden with an interesting pond. A garden of cactus was of great interest, "who knew we could grow them here in Ontario?" Another garden had a winter sowing display which visitors found of great interest. Last but not least, was a mature garden with a huge tri-coloured beech tree. The garden was enhanced



Cactus



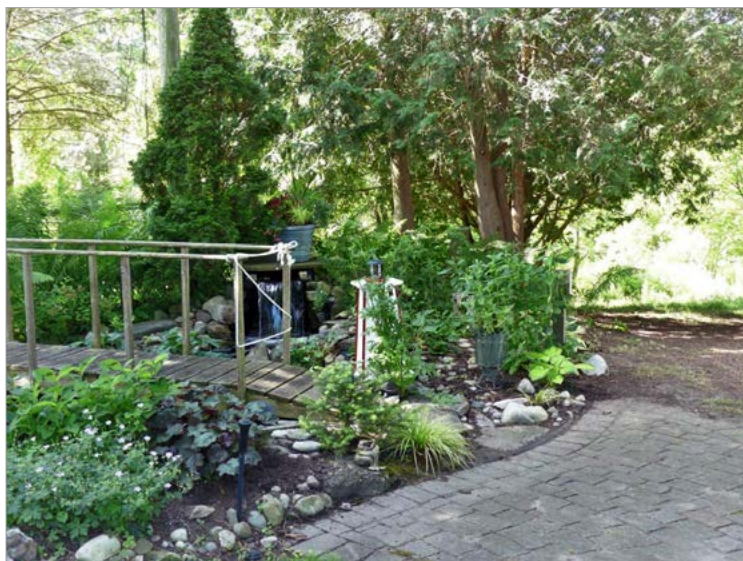
Vibert garden



Tri-coloured beech tree in garden tour



Hostas beside driveway



Jan's garden pond

further by recycled glass pieces designed by a Tillsonburg gentleman, requested as a return participant.

Each of our gardens had a local artist who had their talent on display. We had wood carvings, stained glass, painters, metalwork, wooden bowls and other wood-turned objects. All the artists were part of the social scene created at each garden and everyone commented on the atmosphere that was created.

Many volunteers and artists enjoyed a cold supper where draw prizes were on display. Numbers were selected and drawn by the crowd. It was a good end to a most tiring but amazing day. I cannot say how much everyone made this event such a good success. Angela Lassam and Bonnie Brown received great rewards for all their time and effort. Many thanks go out to ALL involved.

We hope to repeat this again in 2023. It will be in June, an earlier date and maybe our gardens will be of a different view than this one in 2022. Planning will start in January with new eyes of a great committee. Artists involved with Station Arts will be a part of the tour again and hopefully the tour will include other surprises to encourage visitors to buy tickets and enjoy another beautiful day. We look forward to a good response to our efforts to display our gardeners' pleasures on June 24th, 2023. See you there?

A BBQ social was held at Creekside Growers, Delhi – a local dahlia grower's farm in August. A brief open invitation was given by the family and Nick Vanderheide explained how his interest in dahlias grew into his farm enterprise. He gave a tour of the fields of dahlias followed by a BBQ and a concert of country music. Members were invited to purchase flowers from the farm 'shack'. A beautiful stand of various bouquets of flowers, dahlias and more was available. Everyone enjoyed the company, music and fields of flowers.

We had a Junior Gardeners program again this year. It was offered through the local nursery and our Facebook page with forms emailed to participants. The program this year was called 'Sharing and Caring' and packages were picked up at the Tillsonburg Garden Gate nursery. Volunteer members judged the gardens and swag bags full of garden-related goodies went out to the participants. There was no party again this year but, hopefully, it will return for next year. Maybe we will be able to include schools again. Thanks go out to Linda Fenn for all her effort and everyone involved.

Our gardens tended by member volunteers all received great comments from many people. A 150th garden was planted to commemorate 150 years. It was predominantly red, the color chosen for 2022. Volunteers chose many red plants for the gardens.

Facebook has been a great way for the society to be available to all members and the public. The page

is constantly being updated with interesting ideas, beautiful pictures and member information. The local newspaper is helpful with information to older members not familiar with social media.

To end our year, we had a bus trip to St. Jacobs 'Sparkles' event, truly a Christmas wonderland, and Elmira for some shopping. At noon, we included a stop at an Alpaca farm where we were shown the processing of the wool. The day was 'topped' off by a supper enjoyed by all after the Covid-19 break.

As we enter a new year, our membership keeps growing and we hope to organize another great year. Many thanks to all who help make Tillsonburg Horticultural Society continue to thrive.



St. Jacobs

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Shawn LaPalm

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The Co-operators

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