

ONTARIO HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

FALL 2005



EDITOR

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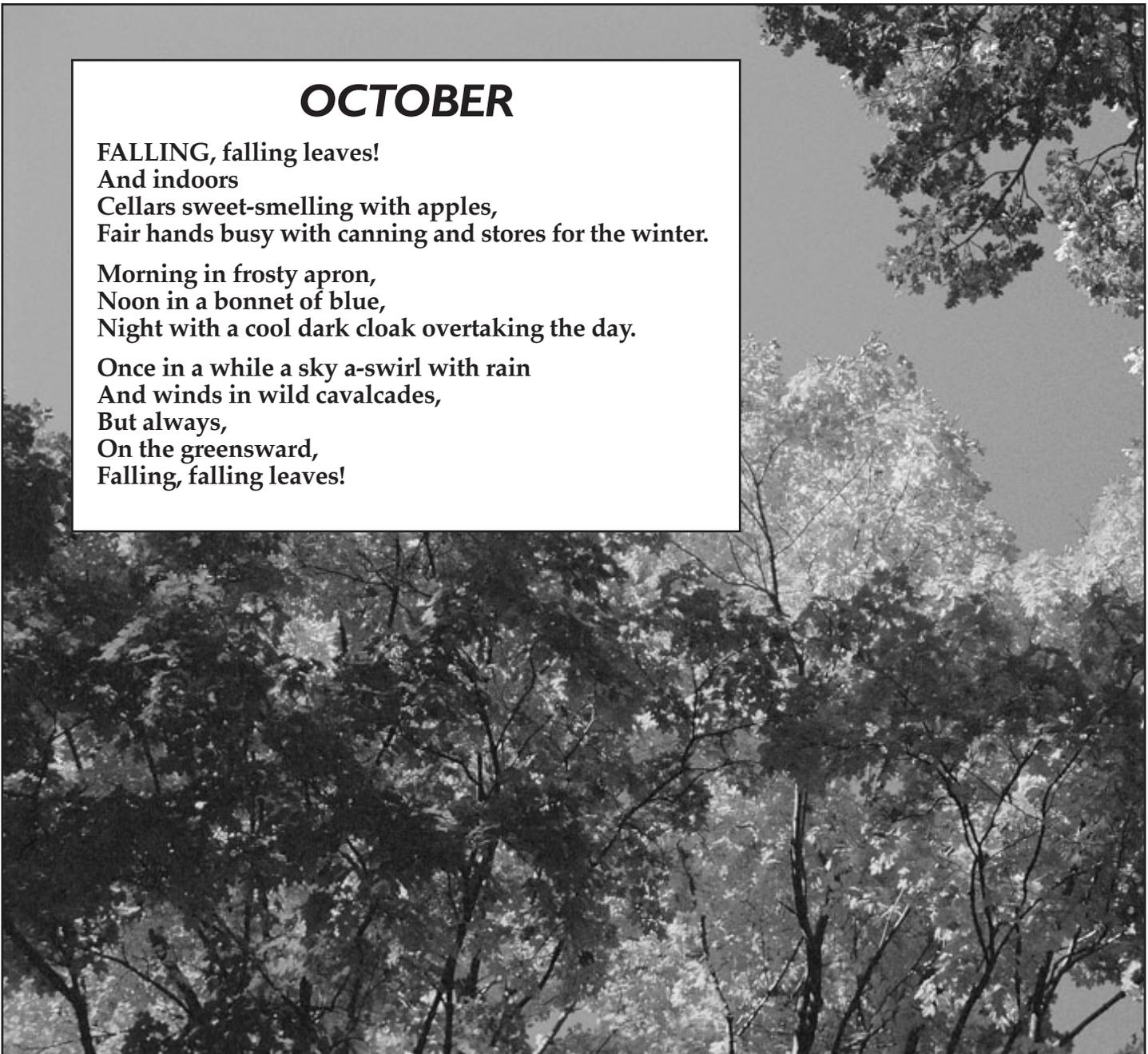
Secretaries: Please feel free to use this material in your newsletters or press releases.

OCTOBER

FALLING, falling leaves!
And indoors
Cellars sweet-smelling with apples,
Fair hands busy with canning and stores for the winter.

Morning in frosty apron,
Noon in a bonnet of blue,
Night with a cool dark cloak overtaking the day.

Once in a while a sky a-swirl with rain
And winds in wild cavalcades,
But always,
On the greensward,
Falling, falling leaves!



President's Message

First of all let me thank District 18 for a wonderful convention the best attended in a number of years. I have received many positive messages re: the caliber of speakers, University accommodations and the helpfulness of the staff and volunteers. Hats off to you all for a great job!

Secondly, I want to thank everyone on the Board for the many hours of devotion to their duties and your support, for we are 26 volunteers trying to do our best for the organization. No one can realize the time spent on your behalf until you work at this level but it is a labour of love for each of us.

I promised to try to keep the membership informed but please be patient as our board meeting isn't until October 15-16th and I am one of 26 people and don't have a vote except to break a tie. We will be dealing with changing our financial year end to be able, as asked, to present a current budget at the 06 convention., This however requires constitution changes and will take some time.

I would like to clear up a common misconception about conventions.

All conventions do not make a profit and they are not fund raisers but we do hope to break even or show a small profit.

All convention facilities require a certain number of guaranteed room nights and an amount of guaranteed amount of food revenues. We are charged for every meeting room used by the day even if it is only for part of a day, audio/visual, microphones are all heavy costs.

If we meet the facility expectations both rooms rented and meals consumed then the meeting rooms rental is adjusted on a sliding scale as to the dollar amount of money we have generated for the facility, but if we do not meet these requirements there is no discount.

This is what happened in London - see the financial statement given out at the convention.

There was a loss of approx. \$3200.00

We did not meet requirements of the facility and received none of the expected reduced costs.

Please, when booking the Ottawa convention in 06, keep these facts in mind as we need your support in taking the meal packages offered to keep costs in line and not have a deficit. We all realize the meals are costly but all facilities work on the principles.

Remember it is our Association's 100th Birthday Celebrations, an occasion we will not see again.

SEE YOU THERE.

Thank you all for the privilege of being your President,
Judy Lewis

Message From The Editor

A BIG THANK you is to be extended to District Director Vickie Wiemer, President Ted Reed and all the members of District 18 for their hard work and dedication which made the 2005 Ontario Horticultural Association Convention such a great success. Please remember too that the 2006 Convention marks our 100th Anniversary and plans are developing to make this a big celebration!

The deadline for submissions for the next Newsletter is October 15. If you have anything of provincial interest, please send the information to me (email is preferred).

I hope that everyone has a good fall season.

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In Memoriam Names- Convention 2005

Following are the names that were presented during the In Memoriam Period at the 2005 Convention:

Chinguacousy Garden Club	Mary Faulds
Ottawa Horticultural Society	William M. "Sandy" Cavaye
Wilmot Horticultural Society	Dorothy Honderich
Simcoe & District Horticultural Society	Daisy Arthur Pearl Parvanyk Helen Jean Graham
Nobleton & King City	Gladys H. Bible
Kincardine & District Hort. Society	Orville Shewfelt
Etobicoke Horticultural Society	Jennifer Bleasby
Shelburne Horticultural Society	Margaret Harrison
Hanover & District Horticultural Society	Norma Batte Dave McDuff
Gravenhurst Horticultural Society	Florence Margaret Middlebrook
Parry Sound & District Hort. Society	Millie Madigan Ruth Kennedy
Gilford & District Horticultural Society	Phyllis Cibirka Lynn Dinsmore
Sundridge Horticultural Society	Michael Phipps
Colborne & District Horticultural Society	Gordon Smith
Roselands Horticultural Society	Patrick Lonergan Marian Potter
Brockville & District Horticultural Society	Lillian Trayner
Blenheim-Hardwich Horticultural Society	Joan Boyes

Past President's Report:

My Journey as President has ended and the years ahead may provide me the time for more horticulture activities. I have many fond memories of the year and the theme "Reflections of Ontario" for the 99th Convention 2005, at Nipissing University, August 11th thru the 14th.

This year the Associations 99th Annual Convention was held at Nipissing University in North Bay. The overall impressions, by all in attendance, was that this Convention was well run, fun, and educational. Many remarked that the Northern Hospitality was the greatest and friendly. Michelle Walker, the University's Convention Coordinator, was always available and very helpful. We missed having Roy Carr, Past President 1979 as Honorary Convention Chair, but our wishes were with him and his wife Babs.

This year the Master Gardeners of Ontario, Inc. under the leadership of President Mary Beverley-Burton joined up with the Association and held their Annual General Meeting at Nipissing University Friday Evening.

The success of this Convention was begun in 2003 when I was elected as 2nd Vice President. Madeline Hobson, Past President 1986, Vickie Wiemer, District 18 Director and I were the 2005 Convention Coordinators. Early on, Madeline and Vickie organized a District 18 Convention Committee comprising of over 35 members from the 14 Societies in District 18. From then on the two of them laid out a plan and the successful results was experienced by all who attended. Rheo Courchesne put together a time/assignment chart where every volunteer could see where they were to help. The Registration desk managed by Twyla Wilson, and the Information Desk managed by members of District 18, offered lots of help to the delegates. Several other Committees provided their talents to this successful event. Thank you Madeline, Vickie, Rheo, Twyla and all the great District 18 Convention Committee. On Thursday Evening, my wife, Isla, and I held a President's Reception at the Chancellor House Residence for all arriving guests, delegates and friends of horticulture.

This year, a Nature Hike around the University was presented by the Naturalist's Club under the direction of Dick Tafel for 7:30am on Friday and Saturday. A total of 150 early risers attended both days! Great for fitness and stress management.

The opening program on Friday August 12 got the delegates and friends of horticulture to their feet. Len Guppy and George Onley piped the Officers, Youth and invited Officials dignitaries. Roy Carr, Past President 1979 from Callander, the Honorary Chair, was unable to attend. The Callander Lions' President, Sue McMartin, presented a keepsake hat embroidered with the Canadian Ecology Centre logo and the words, "Youth Delegate Program, Mattawa, 2005". Then they were off to Mattawa for a three day two night program, a first for the Association. Marlene Bruckhardt chair of the Youth Committee and Harry Wyma Editor of the Youth Newsletter and I planned the event. The Youth members and adults returned Sunday and gave an impressive Show-and-Tell story at the closing program. They also created a "Camper Ted" a full size model with lots of woodsie decorations. Thanks to all the Youth Delegates and adults. A wooden kit, provided by Gilles Langois a local wood working artist, was presented to all youth members and adult leaders.

With the Association's reports presented by Secretary Bonnie Warner and outgoing Treasurer Sybille Schauler, the first speaker, on Friday morning, included Law Insurance's Brian McCartney who gave the delegates the details of Property Insurance, Directors and Officers Liability Insurance and the details on the Insurance for the Societies. Then Denise Edwards of Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs talked on "More Sticky Situations for Horticultural Societies". The afternoon time for the delegates was

spent taking one of the two bus tours, or going to hear the many Seminar Speakers or experience live our Home Page, www.gardenontario.org with Mike and Carol Dunk. Friday evening was a truly a Northern Experience. A BBQ with music from the local Country Western group "The Night Hawks" lead by Burton Beatty. Then Madeline presented a Past President's Skit and brought on the District 18 Committee for a Mad Hatters Tea Party. We then enjoyed a District 18 Reception at the Residence. Rupert's fruitful "Mist" provided a refreshing break with lots of fun, smiles and stories.

Saturday morning the Standing Committees of the Association gave their reports. The tools the Social Marketing Committee reported on to the Delegates included the new Society Handbook, the new look of the Home Page and the ability of each Society to tell their own story on the Web. More features are being added, including a Chat feature and on-line purchasing with Pay-Pal. Thanks Brenda Heenan, our Webmaster. and your 'incredible' committee.

David Hobson presented a talk "A look at the Lighter Side of Gardening". The afternoon Bus Tours and Speakers gave the delegates lots to choose from. Saturday evening Banquet in the "Taste of Ontario" cafeteria was nicely decorated with centre pieces designed by Madeline and created by members of District 18 at their Fall workshop held in Callander, 2004. The local rocks with the Associations' logo and the napkin rings was also made convention. Ted & Isla provided the candles, collected over the three year period. The delegates and friends then moved over to the "Reflections of Ontario" room to enjoy the presentation by Bev Kingdon, "The naturalization of the Trumpeter Swans". A generous surprise by Tom Mason, Manager of the Clarion Resort was the ice carving of 2, life size, trumpeter swans, and presented to Bev and Ray Kingdon.

Afterwards all the delegates and guests were invited to a District 18 Social at the Chancellor House for a delicious wine, cheese, punch social and to view the District submissions to the 'Show and Tell' A beautiful landscape and floral arrangements was prepared in the room by the Powassan Horticultural Society.

Sunday morning speaker was Dr. Larry Hoffman speaking on "The Joys of Gardening". This topic was very well received. Dr. Hoffman spoke on stress management and using Tai Chi as a tool. All in attendance were asked to stand up and perform the different exercises Dr. Hoffman suggested. It worked. We all were relaxed and ready to go on for the Sunday program. With a lively and informative discussion the delegates moved, seconded and passed the motion to raise the dues for the coming year. The delegates also gave the Association Executives and the Board the approval to seek out the best for a reasonable cost a Director's and Officers Liability Insurance. When provided, this policy will protect all elected officials in our Association, a very important document.

Our Association will be in a good financial position to meet the challenges for the 100th Anniversary Year in 2006. Thank you Delegates and all the Affiliated members of this great Association.

The Chain of Office was passed along to Judy Lewis who is our President for 2005/06, and a big hug to our Past President, Wilma Wood. The closing ceremony, after the Youth presentation, was presented by Donna Christie, Past District 2 Director and Dave Money, Past President 1992. Donna in her animated and humorous way brought all the elements together with panache! Thank you Donna. Dave Money closed the 99th Convention and signaled for the Changing of the flags from Vickie Wiemer, District 18 Director to Ken Fink, District 2 Director. Thank you Dave. The celebration of our 100th year will be at the Crowne Plaza in Ottawa, in August 2006. It would be great to see a representative or two or three from all our 280 Societies at the 100 year celebration!

Yours in horticulture,
Ted Reed, Immediate Past President

Social Marketing Annual Report - Convention 2005

The Social Marketing Committee's main function is to create a clear image of our Organization and to enlighten the public, and in some cases our own societies regarding our history, strength in numbers and how just how much we do, and have done in the last 99 years to keep Ontario beautiful.

This wouldn't have been possible without the Ontario Trillium Foundation and our most sincere thank you once again for this wonderful opportunity. The OTF believe in us and granted \$117,000.00 over two years with specific tasks and time limits. The SMC has been rather busy in the past two years. My most sincere thanks to the ever hard working, positive thinking, non-stop energy and drive committee, Past Presidents Kathleen Petrie and Don Matthews; Brenda Heenan with her drive and determination and her computer knowledge and skills - and how about a round of applause for her webmaster talents? Thrilled to have Mike Dunk join our team. He has contributed in so many ways, including extensive computer knowledge, opinions from a "society member" point of view, talents as instructor/workshop leader and creative ideas to move us ahead.

Our Association website, gardenontario.org had put us on the map! Do a Google search and we're at the top of the page in 8 seconds. References to gardenontario are all over the page.

- We've had over 1 million hits as of the end of July.
- This is mass advertising about our Association and all member societies.
- Our new website allows Web presence for all member societies.
- There's a variety of skill level opportunities for our members. One can just visit the website, or as a society board member can be hands on by entering data such as upcoming society events on our calendar, tips in Gardenshare, photos and opportunities to expand Society potential.
- Downloadable documents for Society boards, and OHA directors. The resource section has become so large we've paid for extra programming to allow for categories such as: marketing materials, brochures & bookmarks for instance, report or request forms, manuals, speakers/judges, Awards booklet and the OHA logo to name a few.
- gardenontario.org is opening doors for our Association. Corporate businesses are now contacting us with interest in advertising, and/or being a presence on our website.

Communication is vital to any organization and our website affords many opportunities:

- Email provides communication at everyone's convenience.

Standard society addresses can maintain contact with the public even if the contact name changes.

Personal privacy while still communicating. The public can easily communicate with any society or District Director.

- Our CHAT function has just recently been programmed. Now board members can E-meet without the travel to discuss issues that must be dealt with between board meetings. Here lies an opportunity for some societies to CHAT together about their own issues or concerns.

The BIG word here is communication of course. We have now opened a big door for the public to find out where you are and communicate with each of you.

We have a new branding image. All our printed material and Association back drops have the same consistent look. Patterns, colours, and images repeat throughout all our material. In our Letterhead (and letterhead template) & envelopes with our tag

line (advertising!). Our brochures, bookmarks, business cards, decals, and District brochures too.

Identifiable 'Tag Line' - "Keeping Ontario Beautiful" is what we do. We do it well. We want the public to recognize our logo and our tag line. Our committee recommends and would be thrilled to see "Keeping Ontario Beautiful" in your yearbooks and newsletters, show schedules and brochures. With our website address and logo of course!

The benefits are many:

- Education - OHA board members have attended computer/and Gardenontario website workshops. Many societies across the province have attended a free workshop for volunteers entitled "Volunteer strategies for to-days realities, Horticulturally Speaking". The computer lab at the convention was brought to you by the Social Marketing Committee, starring Brenda Heenan and Mike Dunk.
- Partnership opportunities are out there. We've been approached by many interested sponsors.

As a supporter of the Ontario Horticultural Association, Ontario Gardener Magazine has agreed to continue to run no-cost advertising in every issue. Check out our newly designed colour ad in your copy. We hope this will stimulate even more membership growth!

One of the regular features in the magazine is their focus on one or two unique and noteworthy gardens in a specific area. With each issue they travel to a different part of the province and profile a gardener and their gardens. Shauna Dobbie, Publisher and Editor is always interested in hearing about new areas and gardens for this unique editorial feature. I recently took Shauna around to a few Mississauga gardens. Should any societies or district directors have a garden or gardens in mind you think may be of interest to Ontario Gardener readers, they can email a few sample photos with a brief outline about the garden and it's owners including contact information to Shauna Dobbie. Contact information is in the inside cover.

- Your Society manual is filled with information including authority documents, board responsibilities, meetings, committees, policies and procedures, youth leader manuals, volunteer tool kit and manuals for the OHA website and soon to be included, the CHAT manual. Please note that bits and pieces of our logo is included everywhere from the front cover to the end of the binder, which is a perfect place for Society presidents to store Society specific documents such as membership/committee/board lists and your Constitution.

- Income Potential - Our shop section now has the capability of on-line shopping using PayPal. Many details have to be worked out at this point and we also must arrange for exclusive items in the store. Using a credit card on-line makes it easy for visitors to spend their money.

- Advertising on our website is another area we can explore and a few of the companies I've previously mentioned are willing to do this already.

- Our marketing package is in the works and this will be a wonderful tool for partners or sponsors to donate to our cause in many different areas, for different amounts of money. Supporting events at Conventions such as speakers for instance.

Your local partners will receive a decal to display on their windows. They will pay a fee based on the districts they may want the advertising to appear.

Continued on next page

Social Marketing Annual Report - Convention 2005

Continued from page 3

- Selling Sub domain space for societies and offering Specialty societies space at a slightly higher fee is yet another income opportunity.

Mike Dunk, a member of the Social Marketing committee spoke about "Expanding your WEB presence". He reported:

The SMC has heard from a number of societies that their WEB Shell is not as flexible as their own sites - there is no room for the many pictures they want to show and they cannot display things like sideshows of special activities.

The WEB Shell feature on the Association WEB site is a wonderful opportunity for Societies to 'tell the world' all about their organization and its activities.

The Shell offers each society 5MB of free space to describe who they are and to display information about all aspects of their club. You can display a tremendous amount of (WEB) information in 5MB of space.

However, some of the more experienced societies are finding the Shell somewhat limited in capability. Information must fit in pre-formatted pages and they are limited to only one photo per page (unless you know how to combine several pictures into one!)

The SMC has arranged for more space to be made available on the Association WEB server and it is being offered to any society that would like to expand the capability of the WEB Shell.

The details about how you can take advantage of this opportunity was explained in the computer seminars. We are making

available an additional 10MB of space and three permanent email addresses to each society.

This space will be totally under control of the society and it can be used to:

- Supplement the WEB Shell
- Link to sideshows or photo displays
- Add additional pages of information about the society

Your society can contract for this additional space for \$40 per year.

If you take advantage of this opportunity, your society will have:

- A total of 15MB of storage space on the Association server
- Three email addresses for your society that will never change
- The ability to expand the capabilities of the WEB Shell
- A way to show more photographs of society activities, all at a cost that is much less than most ISPs.

The report concluded with my appreciation, thanks and gratitude to the incredible committee I work with; to the Ontario Horticultural Association board for having the confidence in approving the grant proposal in the first place. For trusting and encouraging us along the way to make timely decision on your behalf, and most of all, your faith in me as a director to accomplish the tasks laid out by the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

Liisa Wolfgram, 1st VP
Chair, Social Marketing & Publicity
liisaw@sympatico.ca

A Word of Caution to Water Gardeners

*Valerie Neal
Conservation and Environment Committee*

As water gardening catches on we need to be aware of the dangers of invasive plants, invertebrates and fish that can escape into the natural environment. The number of exotic choices is in the thousands. If not properly handled they can become established and spread in our water bodies. This can be devastating to native flora and fauna.

The following are some commonly available plants. They need to be avoided or handled with great care.

European Frog-bit (*Hydrocharis morus-ranae*)
Fanwort (*Cabomba caroliniana*)
Common Reed Grass (*Phragmites australis*)
Hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*)
Flowering Rush (*Butomus umbellata*)
Yellow Iris (*Iris pseudacorus*)
Water Chestnut (*Trapa natans*) Not related to the edible plant.

Yellow Floating Heart (*Nymphoides peltata*)
Parrot Feather (*Myriophyllum aquaticum*)

The following fish and invertebrates should be avoided or handled with great care.

Goldfish
Grass Carp (*Ctenopharyngodon idella*)
Mosquito Fish (*Gambusia rolbrooki*)
Oriental Mystery Snail (*cipangopaludina*)

When shutting down your pond, if you have invasive material, NEVER release into natural waterways. Dispose of material by freezing or drying and then put them in the garbage. Because the seed may survive drying and freezing do not compost. If a fish has outgrown your pond return it to an aquarium store. You may also contact a humane society.

Enjoy your water garden but be responsible.

OTTAWA 100th ANNIVERSARY...

Ontario Horticultural Association

"One hundred years and still growing" your theme for the 100th anniversary of your Ontario Horticultural Association to be held in Ottawa, Ont. August 11, 12, 13, 2006 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. Come one, come all to celebrate our association being 100 years young. It will be a party to remember and the only one in your lifetime. So mark your calendar now, the planning committee of District 2 extend to you a special invitation and we await you with a warm welcome. Ici on parle Francais, et nous vous souhaitons Bienvenue a Ottawa en 2006.

District 2 in Eastern Ontario is the home of 21 societies in the greater Ottawa and the Ottawa Valley. We have three basins: the mighty Ottawa basin is the home of societies in Beachburg, Petawawa, Pembroke, Eganville, Madawaska Valley, Deep River and Renfrew. The majestic Mississippi River basin encompasses the societies of Almonte, Stittsville/Goulbourn, Carleton Place, Perth, Pakenham and West Carleton. The gracious Rideau River basin is the home to societies of Gloucester, Kanata/March, Kemptville, Manotick, Nepean, Ottawa, Smiths Falls and the Ottawa Valley Rock Garden society.

All of these societies extend to you and yours a very warm welcome to the Nations capital in August 2006.

All major roads and highways lead to Canada's Capital Region; and they are highway 417, 416, 174, 7, 16, and 31 in Ontario and 148 from Quebec. Just follow the red maple leaf signs through the downtown core. You may join us by coming by air, by bus, by rail, by car or even by boat.

Nestled at the junction of three very picturesque rivers, Ottawa is considered by one and all, to be one of the world's most beautiful capitals. Ottawa has one of its borders with the province of Quebec, thus creating a dynamic cultural milieu in which both French and English cultures are deeply rooted. The result being a truly cosmopolitan experience... a north American city with a distinctly European charm and flair.

Where else can you skate on the world's longest skating rink and take a pleasant boat ride on the same waterway in August?... on the historic Rideau canal (one of our planned afternoon trips)

Come home to Rideau Hall... visit the historic home, gardens and workplace of Canada's Governor General where dignitaries are welcomed and Canadians honoured. (one of our trips planned in 2006).

Which other Canadian city has a working farm and museum right in the heart of the city? The central experimental farm in here featuring a modern working farm with public programs, special events, lovely gardens, live demonstrations, exhibits and artifacts that show how advances in farming science and technology have transformed the lives of Canadians.

A must to see is Parliament Hill, the home of your politicians and government. Visit the Centre block, the Peace Tower, the Public Galleries, the Memorial Chamber which houses a special collection of books commemorating Canada's war dead, listen to a Carillon concert or attend the Sound and Light show in the evening.

While in our fair capital, why not stay a few extra days and visit our museums and galleries.

The Billings Estate Museum... heritage home built in 1827 tells the story of one of Ottawa's founding families through exhibits of art and artifacts.

The Bytown Museum... housed in Ottawa's oldest stone building, the museum that traces the history of the famous Rideau Canal... it houses 15,000 artifacts and a cast of Darcy McGee's death hand.

The Canadian Agricultural Museum on Prince of Whales drive houses barns and visitors can view exhibitions all year long.

The Canada and World Pavillion is the home of Canada's international achievements in art and culture, development and sport. It also has other areas profiled through interactive exhibits, activities and special events.

Canada's Aviation Museum has a home in Ottawa. Our rich and diverse aviation heritage is made known through exhibits of vintage aircrafts. The story of flight can be explored through guided tours, demonstrations and activities.

Canada Science and Technology Museum will show you how geography, climate and culture have shaped Canadian invention and innovations throughout history. From space to land travel to the technologies that affect the way we work and live come to life here.

Canadian Museum of Contemporary Photography showcases exhibitions by Canada's best art and documentary photographers.

Canadian Museum of Nature is our nations foremost natural history museum offering exhibits about the natural world, from grizzly bears to gems, from insects to dinosaurs.

Canadian War Museum... our newest one that opened May 2005. A must to see... a living memorial to the men and women who have served in the Canadian Forces. It tells the real-life story of Canada's military history from the earliest days of New France to the current-day operations.

The Currency Museum of the Bank of Canada displays notes, coins and tokens, as well as currency and monetary artifacts from other countries.

The National Gallery of Canada is the permanent home of the worlds most comprehensive collection of Canadian and Inuit art, as well as European works.

The Royal Canadian Mint reveals the art and craft of coin making. Over \$1 million worth of pure gold is on permanent display.

The Canadian Museum of Civilization is found on the Quebec side of the Ottawa river in Gatineau, 10 minutes away. This beautiful place is a most popular museum as it presents exhibits that cover a thousand years of Canadian history, including the world's largest indoor collection of totem poles. Inside it houses a children's museum, an Imax theatre and the Canadian Postal Museum.

Ken Fink District 2 Director

Thank You From The Registrar

Registrar Twyla Wilson would like to thank all those who helped her at the registration table at the 2005 Convention in North Bay. She would also like to thank District Director Vickie Wiemer and District 18 members for a job well done.

Ontario Horticultural Association

Award Winners 2005

Silver Medal	Metje Mabee
Trillium Award	Margaret Killey
Silver Fir Award	Jim Cruise
Award of Merit	Kaarine Evans Rick Heaslip
Environmental Award	Brenda Gallagher
Community Improvement	Geraldton Horticultural Society
Youth Leader Award	Jane McDonald Bonnie Warner
Honour Roll	Pauline Richards Pearl Wade

Congratulations to all the Award Winners at the 2005 Convention. Following are the citations for the Silver Medal, Silver Fir and Trillium Awards:

Silver Medal 2005

The Silver Medal is the highest award of the Association. The award is presented for outstanding work in the advancement of horticulture in accordance with the aims of the Association as outlined in the constitution.

This year's recipient meets and surpasses all criteria. She has been an active member of her local Society for over 35 years. She has supported everything the Society was involved in and has participated in all flower shows. She generously shares her talent for flower arranging with anyone interested and goes the extra mile when decorating for flower shows, etc. An avid gardener, this lady shares her knowledge and her plants with others. She and her husband keep bees and operate a sugar bush. As well, they started the local community gardens and, for the past 12 years, have prepared the beds for planting at two locations in town.

In the late 1980's, she organized her local Master gardeners group and is still an active participant.

At the District level, she served as District Director and organized the Judging School in that District and taught much of the material. In 1994, Metje Mabee became President of the Association where she guided this Association with the warmth and graciousness that inspired all those who worked with her.

Metje is always willing to attend District meetings, give advice and help promote horticulture whenever asked, and always with a smile.

The Past Presidents' Council and the Ontario Horticultural Association are honoured to present the Silver Medal to Metje Mabee.

Silver Fir Award 2005

The Silver Fir Award is a silver lapel pin which is awarded annually to a gentleman member for outstanding service to Horticultural Societies for an extended period. The 2005 recipient certainly meets the criteria required for this Award.

This gentleman who is to receive the Silver Fir Award has been a member of two Societies for much of the last quarter century. He has served as President and Treasurer for one Society and for the second Society he has volunteered at events, donated to plant sales, entered the flower show and presented slide show talks. He has also served on the District Executive in the position of Treasurer.

He has been a frequent judge at local and area horticultural society flower and vegetable shows as well as fall fairs. He is also a long term exhibitor always being counted upon for exotic and high quality specimens that help ensure the success of the event.

This recipient was a professor of botany at the University of Toronto before being chosen to lead the Royal Ontario Museum as its Director during a major expansion phase during the 1980's. On his home property, he has created and shared two different and uniquely interesting gardens where he warmly welcomes thousands of visitors. One special feature of his gardens has been the peony plantation of almost 100 different varieties.

Jim Cruise has been an exemplary advocate for generously sharing his love of gardening and his own gardens with everyone he meets. He is always a warmly hospitable host, delighted to share a story or a seedling to take home.

The Simcoe and District and Port Dover Woodhouse Horticultural Societies are very proud of the accomplishments of Jim Cruise and we are pleased to present him with the Silver Fir Award.

Trillium Award 2005

The Trillium Award is a silver brooch in the shape of a trillium. This Award was initially donated by Mrs. Thelma Boucher who was the Association President in 1941. One award annually may be made to a lady member for outstanding service to Horticultural Societies for an extended period. The 2005 recipient of the Trillium Award certainly meets this criteria.

This lady has been a member of her home Society for over 30 years. She has served on various committees, including that of President of the Society. She was presented with an Ontario Horticultural Association Service Certificate in 1993 by her Society and is a Life Member of that Society.

She wrote a gardening column in the local newspaper where she gave gardening advice and publicized many horticultural events occurring in the Toronto region. She and her husband have attended the Association Convention for at least the last 15 years. She is also active in her Women's Groups, her church and the needle art guild.

She has been very supportive of the community outreach programs of her Society. In particular, she was one of the key proponents of the Consilium Project which is a beautiful woodlot situated on 2 1/2 acres on a triangular off-ramp leading to the Scarborough Town Centre.

The Ontario Horticultural Association is proud to be able to present the Trillium Award to Margaret Killey. She has been an inspiration to the member of the Scarborough Horticultural Society and a staunch supporter of District 5 and the Ontario Horticultural Association.



Young Future Gardeners Hard at Work!

The Nipigon Red Rock Horticultural Society and families from The Family Place teamed up to plant a flower bed in Nipigon. The Horticultural Society members assisted the children and their families with the planting. The young gardeners will check on and help maintain the flower bed throughout the summer. This provided a wonderful opportunity to spark an interest in gardening for children and adults. All the children were presented with a Thank You note and a windmill from the Horticultural Society for helping.

Not Old, Just Older

Eventually you will reach a point when you stop lying about your age and start bragging about it. Here are some "age thoughts":-

The older we get, the fewer things seem worth standing in line for.

How old would you be if you didn't know how old you are?

When you are dissatisfied and would like to go back to your youth, think Algebra.

I don't know how I got over the hill without getting to the top.

Old age is when former classmates are so gray and wrinkled and bald, they don't recognize you.

One must wait until evening to see how splendid the day has been.

One of the many things no one tells you about is that it is such a nice change from being young.

Ontario Horticultural Association's Commemorative Centennial Stamp

The Ontario Horticultural Association was pleased to receive notification by letter from Alain Guilbert, Vice President of Communications, Canada Post and a press from the Stamp Advisory Committee of Canada Post, that, in March 2006, "Canada Post offers gardeners and garden-lovers four commemorative stamps that celebrate the best of Canadian gardens issued on the occasion of the Ontario Horticultural Association's 100th Anniversary".

Former Past District 9 Director Eloise Schumacher had the idea of having a Centennial stamp in honour of our Centennial Year. Diane Kiers, who is now the District 9 Director, has continued working on this project over the past two years. Diane wishes to thank everyone who helped with this project, especially Dorothy Shropshire, District 16 Director and Ken Fink, District 2 Director. Special thanks also should go to Alain Guilbert of Canada Post for all his help and direction. We are now eagerly awaiting the issuing of the Ontario Horticultural Association's Commemorative Centennial Stamps.

Diane Kiers
District Nine Director

ADDRESSES TO KEEP HANDY

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