

***District 1  
7 Societies***

MacDougall Park in Russell



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***Russell Society***

was the very proud recipient of the OHA 'Special Projects Award' of \$500 for their ongoing work on the MacDougall Park beautification program.

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***Russell*** was a very busy Society in 2006. They lobbied and received funding for new trees from Trees Canada and Home Hardware. They received funding to establish a wildlife-friendly flower bed with the help of The Canadian Wildlife Federation. The Society still found time to hold regular meetings with speakers, flower shows, work-shops, plant auctions, garden tours and starting their very own website. Seven members attended the convention in Ottawa.

***Martintown*** was this year's District AGM host and what a great turnout from District members! Diane Lunan from Marlin Orchard's and Tony Beck,

renowned wildlife photographer, were the guest speakers. The Society held 2 plant auctions, took part in a walk-about at Marlin Orchards, and held the annual Garden Party for the District. Meeting speakers included Robert Martin, a certified Floral Designer; Bruce Henbest, Supervisor of Heritage Programs at Upper Canada Village, and Claudette Hart, the Gourd Lady. Four members attended the convention in Ottawa.

***Williamstown*** held a spring plant auction which was very successful. Unsold plants were donated to the Paul Rozon Park committee to help with the ongoing beautification program. Members participated in a **Walk- on-the-Wild Side** to identify wild flowers and trees and do a little bird watching. Other activities included garden strolls, a bus trip, and a garden display at the Williamstown Fair. The Society

also utilizes the United Counties Master Gardeners group. Their year ended with a wine and cheese and gift exchange.

**Cornwall** participated in the **Plant-a-Seed** program and donated \$500 to the St. Lawrence Intermediate School which used the funds to revitalize the school's flowerbeds. Cornwall also raised funds at their spring plant auction and at the sale of bark mulch and donated \$755 to the Community Hospital. The Society's community gardening efforts include the up-keep of several flowerbeds. Last but not least, Cornwall's yearbook cover won second prize at the 2006 OHA convention. Well done!

**Maxville** sent fifteen members to the District's AGM where long time member Mabel Guidon received a Horticultural Service Certificate. Anne Kerr, Past District Director and Margaret Scott, Past Secretary Treasurer, also received Certificates of Appreciation for their service to the District. Maxville held two very successful plant auctions and members continue to maintain the planters at the town entrances. In June they helped decorate the hall at the Maxville Fairgrounds for the Holstein Show. The Society's annual bus trip took them to Montreal's Chateau Ramezay gardens. Three members attended the convention in Ottawa.

**Vankleek Hill** members continue to expand the Mill Street Park with the establishment of a new flower bed. Twenty-seven members took part in the flower show with 299 entries in the floral section and 96 entries in the photo section. In the fall, Monika Vogel, Youth Leader, was presented with a pin for her 10 years of dedicated service with the Sunflower youth group. Margaret Zerter, multiple times President and local Society historian, was presented with a Society's President's award and an OHA Horticultural Service Certificate. Three members attended the Ottawa convention. i

**Société d'Alfred's** first objective for the year was to raise membership totals and they did indeed, from 65 to 75 members. Their second objective was to raise enough funds to have a fantastic speaker. This was also achieved by inviting Mr. Larry Hodgson, better known as *the lazy gardener* to speak to members and area garden enthusiasts. 200 tickets were sold in less than two weeks! Members also visited gardens in the Hawkesbury area as well as helping out the College d'Alfred by decorating the hall for their O Delice fair. Two members attended the convention in Ottawa.

**Linda Stewart**

**District 2**  
**21 Societies**

Monarch Caterpillar  
People's Choice Award winner  
Robin Woods, Ottawa HS



District 2 was the home of the 2006 Centennial Convention of the Ontario Horticultural Association. We were very pleased to host this prestigious event for the whole of Ontario. Lets continue to keep it beautiful!

The **Ottawa Basin** consists of seven societies.

If you would like to know how to build bluebird nesting boxes, come to the **Beachburg Society** as a hands-on workshop was held. Did you ever wonder what Lunar Gardening was like? Well they learned first hand. **Deep River**, with the largest membership, hosted the well known horticulturist Ken Beattie and saw an increase in the demand for their community garden plots. Congratulations on celebrating 70 years in 2007.

**Eganville Society** loves to plant trees and did so with 7 different types. The birds will love it as well as other wildlife.

Having their own private Phone-in Show, **Madawaska Valley Hort. Society** hosted the guru Ed Lawrence. What a treat for all present!

**Pembroke** continues its public planting and was rewarded by a great speaker on Orchids.

**Petawawa Society** celebrated Earth Day with the planting of trees, inviting local students to

help and then teaching them the benefits of such a project. Well done!

With the number one website in our district, **Renfrew** enjoyed a fun workshop on building twig trellises.

The **Rideau Basin** is the home of eight societies.

If you ever wondered about **Provocative Conifers** you should attend the **Gloucester Hort. Society** meetings. This club known as 'volunteers of the year' provided extensive support for the OHA Centennial Convention.

Being great photographers, the **Kanata-March Society** had 120 entries in their photo competition. Most impressive also were the 25 public parks gardening sessions.

Farther south we come to **Kemptville** with its very enthusiastic group of Juniors who placed very well at the district level. One of our centennial societies, it continues to award a bursary to a student attending Kemptville College.

**Manotick** is now the home of the **Living Memorial Hosta Garden** planted after the centennial convention at AY Jackson Park. After 77 years of community involvement, this club continues many public plantings.

**Nepean** celebrates 50 years

young in 2007 and is home of our annual AGM meeting whose theme is **Roses, Roses, Roses**.

If you wish to see our Spring tulips visit the **Ottawa Society**. One of the founding OHA members, whose floral emblem is...you guessed it...the tulip. Home to the 100th Anniversary Convention, this club has many very successful fund-raising events with the profits going to community plantings all over the city.

The city also has the second Memorial Hosta Garden planted at the Plant Recreation Centre after the 2006 convention. A big thank you to this society who made us welcome to a huge, successful convention.

**Smiths Falls Society** is only 2 years old but powerful! They are hosting workshops on hypertufa and floral arrangements and edible flower salads.

The **Ottawa Valley Rock Garden & Horticultural Society** is the host of the 2008 North American Rock Garden Convention. Delegates will come from the United States, Europe, Asia, and Canada. Such topics as *Alpines of China* and *Geology and Plant Life Relationships* will be enjoyed by all.

The **Mississippi Basin** encompasses six societies.

**West Carleton** dreamed of far away places with a presentation of Gardens of China, and came back to reality with workshops on troughs. The Weed and Feed program at the Carp Library Gardens was a huge success.

A beautiful, splendid flower arrangement made by the **Stittsville-Goulbourn Society** took a place of honour in front of the lectern throughout the OHA

Centennial Convention. The large silver-plated rose bowl which held the flowers was a gift from one of its members. Thanks again for this work of art. It was stunning!

If you want to learn the mechanics of building a rock garden from scratch, pay a visit to the **Perth Society**. This superb workshop was followed by a talk on how to plant alpines in this garden. What a presentation it was!

Come to **Pakenham** and see the world famous Five Span Stone Bridge and its lovely garden tended by this society. They also won many prizes at the annual convention and great pride and joy was felt in showing in the specimen classes and design.

**Carleton Place Hort Society** does a lot of planting on the Main Street, at Beckwith Twp. Hall and at the Victoria School Museum Gardens.

**Climate Changes and How it Will Affect the Garden** was an enlightening talk at the **Almonte Hort. Society**. What will the future of gardens bring with all these changes? If you don't want a flower show this month, why not have a 'gastronomic delight tasting night' like **Almonte** hosted. The menu included Purslane Salad and Lavender Pound Cake {naturally, it is their floral emblem} What a delightful idea. Why not give it a try!

.....And so, District 2 would like to invite you all to the 200th anniversary convention...to be held soon! Thanks .

**Ken Fink**

***District 3***  
***15 Societies***

**Water Garden  
Prince Edward  
County**



District 3 and its nearly 1400 members are spread throughout Frontenac, Hastings, Leeds, Lenox & Addington and Prince Edward counties. They work tirelessly beautifying their communities, holding flower and vegetable shows, fundraisers, garden tours and plant sales, as well as promoting horticulture through the education of their members, citizens, and the youth in their communities.

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***Belleville Horticultural Society***  
celebrated its 130<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
this year.  
What a Great Milestone!!  
Congratulations!

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***Ameliashburgh***, with its 64 members led by their president, Gwynn Bvery, is a busy group tending to a number of gardens throughout their village. The annual Mystery Garden Tour was a huge success, no doubt having something to do with the strawberries and ice cream offered at the end of the day.

***Athens***, with its 70 members and led by president Louise Richards, finished the construction of a memorial garden complete with shrub roses and a granite plaque commemorating eleven WW1 soldiers from the village of Athens.

***Bancroft*** has 98 dedicated members with Pete Dyson as their president. They look after gardens at the Pentecostal church, the local library, and the post office. They are starting a youth group with youth leader Connie Sutherland.

***Belleville*** has 89 members with Mary Leggat as their president. They celebrated this milestone by creating Duff Gardens. During **Random Acts of Kindness Week** they donated plants to local nursing homes.

***Brockville***, with 109 members led by president Donelda Shakles, plants and maintains gardens at the library, hospital, train station and the Wesleyan Church. They designed a large bed for the Sherwood Park Manor, a seniors' residence. Their fund-raising activities include plant sales, silent auctions, selling tote bags and two bus trips.

***Collins Bay*** Janet Dubblestein is the Society president with its 65 members. They describe themselves as an enthusiastic group of gardeners who foster pride in their community by instilling an awareness and concern for the environment while encouraging their community to get involved in beautifying the city. Setting the example, they built raised flower beds and added benches in a newly created memorial park.

***Gananoque*** has 86 members, with Penny Stewart as their president. They continue to plant tulips and

maintain the main gardens at the town hall and town gates. This year past, they recognized a couple with a certificate of appreciation for their untiring efforts in the beautification of their community.

**Kingston**, with 296 members led by president Dave White, had another very busy year. They publish a monthly news letter, maintain their web site, and support the Kingston Lung Association Garden Show. They also held 3 plant sales, 3 flower and vegetable shows, and maintained plantings at 4 different locations. This year they received the Outstanding Achievement Award for Volunteerism in Ontario.

**Land O Lakes** is the most recent addition to District 3, incorporated in November of 2006. Their president Lynn McEvoy and 50 enthusiastic members are very active in their small communities, keeping them beautiful with plantings. Welcome to the OHA!

**Lennox & Addington** and their 60 members, with Harold Bently as their president, had a busy year. They started a tree planting program in concert with the L&A Stewardship Council and the town of Greater Napanee, restored the herb garden at a local historical house, and continued supporting the student greenhouse at the secondary school.

**Prince Edward County** enjoys a membership of 125 and is led by president and Master Gardener Sandra Dowds. This year past saw the start of a youth group. They take care of the hospital Auxiliary garden as well as provide funding for civic plantings. Numerous workshops and speakers as well as two plant auctions and a fall plant sale made for a busy and interesting year.

**Rideau Lakes** with its 84 members had a busy and interesting year. Topics such as Feng Shui,

Japanese gardening, the Monarch Butterfly migration, local native plants, roses, orchids, and garden photography made for fun and informative meetings. President Andi Bianco believes the key to running a successful society is communication, accomplished through the publication of a newsletter, website and informative posters.

**Stirling** and its 60 members led by Sylvia Edgar look after the gardens around the covered bridge, library, and schools in their area. They took out the trees and replanted the area around the cenotaph. Their small but active youth group participated in numerous activities, making floral designs, outdoor winter bouquets, seed pictures, and pine cone creatures.

**Trenton** and its 70 members led by Bev Forshay had a very busy year. They planted shrubs on Arbour Day in Centennial Park following it up with the laying of interlocking brick around a large bed and then filled it with perennials and annuals. They also cared for Victoria Park with a planting of annuals and perennials, and presented a \$200 bursary to a local high school student.

**Tweed** has 55 active member, with Ray Clark as their President. They keep things lively, with guest speakers on a wide range of horticultural topics, members speaking on the plant of the month, potluck dinners, a flower show on Canada Day, plant sales, and a bus trip to Canada Blooms. They also have a very active youth group. In 2006, the Tweed Horticultural Society received the Special Project Grant for a beautiful memorial garden they have been working on for the past 4 year.

**Phil Kennedy**

**District 4**  
**14 Societies**

**Grafton's  
Canada Day  
Award Winner**



**Bobcaygeon** is responsible for the purchase and maintenance of all municipal plantings, an operation funded by municipal and local grants, their own fund-raising, and staffed by 45-50 volunteers which got them into Communities-in-Bloom again. Next is revitalizing the Market Square landscape for the Legacy Fund.

**Brighton** raised funds at a public plant auction, sales at the Farmers market, and **Down the Garden Path** tour to fund the Trillium competition for Best Front Gardens in the township which helped increase membership.

**Campbellford** celebrated OHA's 100<sup>th</sup> and their own 30<sup>th</sup> anniversaries by planting a Katsura tree, holding a design competition for a Civic Garden, a garden party at a nursery, and a Scarecrow and Pumpkin Contest won by an 800+ pounder.

**Coboconk**, in addition to nearly sixty barrels/planters and gardens maintained, added five Flowering Crab-Apples, two Crimson Maples, and 24 shrubs as part of their contribution to the Kawartha Lakes 5 bloom Community Involvement Award from Communities-In-Bloom.

**Cobourg** adopted the White Rose as the Town (and Society's) flower. A white rose garden became

the centrepiece of Victoria Park on the main street. This year the Society took over the maintenance of the Park gardens.

**Colborne** celebrated by purchasing and planting three Crab-Apple trees in Walter Eddy Park, dedicating them to their 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, OHA's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, and the 1906 founding of the original Society. Two members designed and made a new banner and another designed and produced note-paper with the Society's Apple Blossom logo and the names of all past presidents.

**Fenelon Falls** executive was able to secure C.H.E.S.T. funding for village beautification projects throughout the community. The challenge came in finding enough volunteers to carry out the maintenance involved.

**Grafton** inaugurated a yard sale as a fund raising event and a **Lilac Award** for beautification in the surrounding area. Funds were found to provide a laptop and digital projector which enables them to put on workshops and talks using images from members' travels.

**Lakefield** added cement garden ornaments made by members at a workshop to their plant sale, which greatly increased their revenue. A July garden competition for the community rewarded winners at the

October meeting. Their annual Antique Sale and Flower Show in August continues to draw exhibitors and people from a large area and is a major source of fund raising. The new youth **Green Thumb Club** raised funds to plant a Serviceberry tree on school property. Tea money helps a small Kenyan school purchase water pumps and seeds.

**Lindsay** successfully tackled the problem of diminishing numbers entering and attending a large flower show by moving to four mini-shows. These have encouraged more people to compete at each show and they have a chance to profit from the judges' comments and learn the techniques of preparing and exhibiting.

**Norland** celebrated by undertaking a major project to construct a new park by the water treatment plant dam on the Gull River. They hope to have it completed in time for their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2007. They are also working to upgrade the Cenotaph area of Riverside Park. They continue to maintain the barrels, beds and gardens that have helped them contribute to the Kawartha Lakes 5 Bloom award from Communities In Bloom.

**Norwood** A Photographic Show and Tell provided a different evening for highlighting the creative efforts of members. Two additional minishows were added and for the first time Norwood hosted the District Fall Seminar. There were sufficient funds to provide a bursary to a deserving local high school student.

**Omeme** continued the Town Square Beautification project at Coronation Hall. This work will continue through the new year. The Junior Garden Club made a significant contribution to the

Annual August Flower Show from 27 students who became members this year. The Society received an Honourable Mention in helping City of Kawartha Lakes receive what has become a customary 5 blooms award from Communities In Bloom.

**Peterborough** hosted its fifth **For the Love of Gardening Show** in April in collaboration with the Master Gardeners, receiving almost 7000 visitors. Two \$2000 scholarships were provided and \$4500 for local beautification projects. From Communities In Bloom, Peterborough won a 5 Bloom Award for Cultural Heritage Conservation.

**Port Hope** was very active with two plant sales, three flower shows, a Members Garden Tour, and a Front Yard Judging that included all of the Town of Port Hope and much of the Township. In February they took part in the Historical Society's Heritage Fair and in the Port Hope Fair in September. Bingo funds aided the Ganaraska Conservation Authority, OHA history Project and provided bursaries for two high schools.

**Rice Lake** had a varied programme of speakers, a Master Gardeners' Forum involving Peterborough and Northumberland Master Gardeners, a Members Garden Tour followed by a barbeque social, and even a Winter Celebration Flower Show in November. All this in addition to planting and maintenance in two parks and at the Town Halls in Cold Springs and Gores Landing. They look forward to their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2007.

**John Sellers**

***District 5***  
***16 Societies***



***York District 5***

consists of 16 Societies. We stretch from Lake Simcoe all the way down to Lake Ontario. Our District encompasses an exciting diversity; specialty societies, rural and urban locations. Societies are actively involved in their communities. Exposure of youth to the world of gardening is critical. After all where do new gardeners come from?

The **District 2006 Annual Meeting** was hosted by **Markham**. The day was a fabulous success! Everyone loved the flamboyant flower arranger who auctioned off all his extras for the benefit of the host society!

**Agincourt** had a well rounded year with good speakers, a fund-raising auction, plant sale and a workshop.

**Aurora** had a great plant sale...as always and a July garden tour. The Juniors participated in community garden plots and did lots of artistic projects.

**Beach** had a series of workshops that they felt increased participation and the quality of their flower shows. They sold 100's of tickets for their garden tour where weather, gardens and home baked goodies were at the peak of perfection.

**East York** had their 80th Anniversary. They continued their good work on The Rockery at Stan Wadlow Park. New projects were participation in the revival of the **East York Blooming Contest** and a display at their Multicultural Day.

**Lake Simcoe South Shore** donated boxes; each packed with vegetable plants, seeds, soil, fertilizer and a trowel to the Food Bank...what a fabulous way to empower people! For the second year they had an autumn garden tour.

**Leaside** had a busy year with interesting speakers and a successful garden tour. They continued their work introducing community children to the joys

of gardening.

**Markham** definitely had a busy year! They hosted the District Annual Meeting which was a big undertaking. The meeting was an acknowledged success by the almost two hundred attendees. They also had a bus trip to the Niagara region and a floral design course.

**Mount Albert** had a garden tour of century home gardens to celebrate the O.H.A. Centennial. The tour was complete with some club members in century costume and vintage cars. One new and one to be renewed water wise gardens were made possible by the receipt of TWO "Water for Tomorrow" grants of \$1000. each!

**Newmarket** took a bus tour to the Niagara Botanical Gardens. They maintained the garden at the community centre.

**North Toronto** held four flower design courses. Their speakers program varied from renovating a garden to the joy of houseplants. **The society** held two free workshops in the spring for members and the public. One was on lavender and herbal teas from the garden for good health. The second was floral designs for novices and the more experienced designers. Something for everyone! They also went on a visit to Merlin's Hollow; an Aurora garden.

**The Rhododendron Society** was active in their efforts to raise interest in rhododendron cultivation and keep their

members up to date on the latest rhododendron news.

**Riverdale** celebrated their **90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary! WOW!** They have a new president. They received the District grant to help them revamp their public planting and they worked really hard to raise public awareness of their role and presence in the community.

**Scarborough** had a wonderful bus tour and a successful plant sale. Dave Money received the O.H.A. Silver Fir Award. The Juniors as always were extremely busy planting gardens, entering competitions and their annual field trip was to Humber Nursery's Butterfly House.

**Stouffville** worked hard on their community plantings. The lineup of speakers was stimulating for members!

**Toronto Rose and Garden** hosted their Annual Rose Show. They went on two bus trips...one to Ottawa and the other was a local open garden tour.

**Toronto Water Garden** joined the O.H.A. this year! Their focus is to introduce water gardening to the public and to help members learn about new products and techniques to improve the environment in and around the water garden.

**Nikola Warnock**

***Carolinian District 6***  
***19 Societies***

**Tachinid Fly on a  
Michaelmas Daisy**

Photo: David Waddell



District activities included the Annual Presidents' Meeting hosted by St. George, a very successful Spring Workshop, Flower Show AGM hosted by Burlington, and a Fall Dinner hosted by Haldimand. Known as the Carolinian District, all of us take pride in our District activities. Volunteers assisted with booths at the Ontario Garden Show and the Hamilton Mums Show.

**Acton** spent the past year maintaining existing gardens. One of their new projects honours their Past President, Max MacSween. Their plant sale was the usual success, and the planting for the local BIA was a major accomplishment as the town was abloom with colour.

**Ancaster** held its usual events: a very successful plant, baking, and artifacts sale, the popular Trillium Awards Program, a beautiful flower and vegetable show, decorating the Old Town Hall for Christmas, and caring for several municipal flower beds. A garden tour and a Past Presidents' Tea were held to celebrate its 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

**Brantford** celebrated its 155<sup>th</sup> year. Many projects included horticultural therapy sessions and donations of trees and shrubs to municipal plantings for the grand opening of the xeriscape garden. Their annual perennial sale and flower show were very successful.

**Bronte** actively participated in three ongoing community projects and added two new projects, all of which contribute to the beautification of the Town of Oakville. A plant sale, garden tour and monthly meetings rounded out their activities.

**Burlington** hosted the District's Spring Workshop, Flower Show and AGM at the Royal Botanical Gardens. Donations were made to several local institutions. Volunteers worked in two community gardens, and participated in several local garden shows. Fund-raisers included a perennial sale and a garden tour.

**Delhi & District** held a spring and fall plant sale & made tote-bags for sale. Municipal plantings included the Adopt-a-Planter Program with the BIA, herb and flower beds at the museum, and joining with three other societies to plant and maintain a 100-foot long flower bed in Simcoe.

**Flamborough** held its usual events, with two being opened to the public: a garden tour followed by a pot-luck supper and a silent auction, thus adding 18 new members. The ever-popular Trillium Awards Program was continued. They held their annual successful plant sale and five in-house flower shows.

**Georgetown** continued its municipal planting program. The year's activities included a garden tour, plant sale, and two workshops.

Monthly meetings included a photo contest and three flower shows.

**Glen Morris Society** plants and maintains several community beds. They joined with other organizations to enter Communities-in-Bloom, winning 5 blooms. They hosted a perennial plant sale, Spring and Fall flower shows, a coffee party and a members' garden tour.

**Haldimand** held their annual plant and bake sale, flower and vegetable show, and a bus trip to neighbouring societies. They hosted the Carolinian District Fall dinner, catered by students. They continued to care for existing gardens in adjacent areas and added one new garden.

**Lynden** always maintains gardens at the Lions Den and at the Cenotaph. They held two bus tours, a plant sale, and several workshops, and interesting monthly meetings.

**Milton & District** designs and maintains several gardens. Two flower shows plus monthly in-house shows are held. Workshops on flower arranging and design, propagation and pruning were held. The annual plant sale was the major fund-raiser.

**Mount Hamilton** held several fund-raisers including an annual plant sale, a garden marketplace, & their usual sale of pansies. They had an excellent roster of speakers at their monthly meetings & held an unusual bus tour & their annual flower show.

**Oakville** held two fund-raising events; the May plant sale and the June Garden Tour. Flower beds were tended at several area locations. Assistance was given to complete native flower plantings around town. Allotment gardens were prepared for local children. Gardens were opened for the Gardens-Off-Drugs Tour.

**Paris Society** planted & tended several flowerbeds; they participated

in the **Adopt-a-Road** program. Their annual garden tour and plant sale were successful fund-raisers.

**Port Dover & Woodhouse Society's** activities included their annual auction sale, a mini-spring flower show, the traditional Summer Flower Show, Tea Room & Country Store. Members cared for 9 local gardens. Membership has increased dramatically. They won 1<sup>st</sup> place in a local parade and at the county fair.

**Simcoe & District** Members looked after 7 public gardens and a special garden at a local nursing home. Other activities included their annual spring plant sale & the annual flower and vegetable show as well as a unique Dahlia exhibition at a local mall. They participated in a junior horticultural society program involving 62 children.

**St. George** hosts the District Presidents' Meeting each February. They held a very successful plant sale, hosted a Lilies-in-Bloom show and sale, and helped out at a children's camp. Members' main focus was on the beginning of a heritage apple orchard.

**Stoney Creek's** activities included their annual plant sale, annual garden tour and picnic, photography contest, a Christmas workshop, and a special planting at Smith's Knoll.

**Waterford & District Society's** new xeriscaped garden of grasses, boxwood, lilies and sedums withstood the dry summer season. Their annual plant sale and flower and vegetable show were held. They had 2 garden tours for members. A pumpkinfest contest for schools was also staged.

**Winona** held its popular plant sale & its flower show at the Winona Peach Festival. Municipal gardens were tended at the meeting hall, bank and post office.

**Barbara Waddell**

***District 7***  
***14 Societies***

**Farmland  
in District 7**



**District 7** is comprised of 14 societies ranging from those in a city to those in rural locations. We all benefit and learn from each other. We encourage our young people, in various ways – some formal youth groups, some mentoring programs, others work through the schools. All have a section in their main summer show for youth.

We kept our communities beautiful with a spring clean-up, and numerous fresh plantings. We provided healthy, inexpensive plants for the public at our plant sales.

All societies held regular meetings with interesting speakers and invited the public to attend. They participate in the workshops offered. In 2006 District 7 held 2 presidents' meetings, a district youth competition, a day-long update workshop for our judges and 2 District meetings - the AGM in April, hosted by Elora & Salem Societies and a Fall meeting,, hosted by Shelburne, each with 2 very interesting speakers.

**Arthur & District** (53 members) had a plant sale, BBQ, plant auction, pot-luck supper meeting, photography competition and a Christmas design workshop. They had a small spring show and a main flower and vegetable show. A flowerbed was replanted with shrubs while trees were planted in another. Lighting was put in existing beds.

**Clifford & District** (235) held a plant sale, and both a spring and a summer flower show. They assisted the town of Minto in Communities-in-

Bloom. Flower beds, planters and hanging baskets were well-tended in numerous locations. A bench was purchased for the local park. Youth members planted 100 trees, helped with the maintenance, spring and fall clean-up, and on the Food Bank days.

**Elora & Salem** (78) held its annual Garden Conference with 3 interesting speakers. They hosted the District AGM. Thank you for a very enjoyable day. A tree-planting weekend to replace those lost in the tornado was held. A major expansion of bulb planting was completed. Two plant sales, a garden tour, a bus trip, 2 mini-shows and a flower and vegetable show were held throughout the year.

**Erin** (207) A corsage- making and a design workshop were held. A spring plant sale, a day-long bus tour, summer garden shows, a garden tour and an annual garden picnic followed, in the late fall. Participation in the Santa Parade, completed the year's activities.

**Fergus** (89) offered a bus tour to Canada Blooms. Plant sale profits enabled them to continue to support a bursary program at the high school, the fall fair and to donate to the Women in Crisis. Donations were received for the Food Bank. Numerous flower beds and grounds were tended, including some work done on pathways and retaining walls. Garden tours, a pot-luck picnic, 2 flower shows, a wreath workshop, a silent auction and regular meetings rounded out the year's activities

**Guelph** (208) took bus trips to Canada Blooms and the Niagara Flower Show. A plant sale, garden tour, design workshops, living wreathes and Juniper topiary, 2 large shows, a pot luck evening and a penny table evening were included in the years activities. They had an active youth group, tended a number of flower beds, and with fund-raising, were able to support their commitment.

**Guelph Township** (203) held a photographic competition, a plant sale, a BBQ, 3 shows and workshops on nosegays and hypertufa troughs. They have a very active youth program that met monthly. Members beautification program included tended flower beds and gardens, planting 92 trees, and planting native plants to attract butterflies. They also had an adopt-a-road program.

**Harriston Society** (242) held their 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Garden Festival and a community breakfast. They planted a Golden Crabapple to mark the OHA's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. They had several design workshops, a plant sale, a large summer show, and actively worked with Communities-in-Bloom. Numerous flower beds and hanging baskets were well-tended. They worked with young people who cleaned and maintained local trails and planted 400 tree seedlings as part of their community service. A society member made benches and picnic tables for the Greenwood Trail.

**Hillsburgh** (66) held its annual plant sale and enjoyed various workshops. Members worked hard tending to local flower beds. They prepared and donated hanging baskets to beautify the village. Interesting speakers educated both members and the general public in the community.

**Maryborough** (108) held its 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration. Over the year they had 3 shows, a flower design workshop, 2 plant sales and a bus trip to

Bruce and Grey Counties where they toured 4 gardens. They looked after flower beds at several downtown locations and a new bed by the Optimist Hall. They have an active youth program that meets during the school year. They also visited schools and donated to various youth clubs.

**Mount Forest** (105) Bus tours to Canada Blooms and to 3 gardens in near-by counties were enjoyed. Their theme this year was **Garden Magic**. They had a garden tour and a plant sale and ended the year with two magicians who delighted everyone with floral tricks. They had a small, but active youth group, They worked with community youth in schools and made donations to youth clubs. Members continued to tend 8 flower beds in the community.

**Orangeville** (215) had 3 small and 1 large flower show, a garden tour, 3 gardens-of-the-month, 3 workshops on How-to Banish the Blahs, vegetable gardening and hypertufa containers. A bus tour to a Heritage Home and Garden 2 plant sales and a Christmas Party finished their year. They had their **Gardening Angels** who looked after 2 small, 3 medium and 4 large gardens in the community. These were viewed and judged and awards were given. Youth were encouraged to participate in their own section of the shows.

**Shelburne Society** (66) had bus tours to Canada Blooms, the Toronto Botanical Gardens, and Humber Nurseries. They held 3 flower shows and a plant sale. Shelburne also hosted the District 7 Fall General Meeting - Thank you for a great day! Seven gardens in the community were well tended. Members completed a project begun in 2005 to donate 2 A-frame planters (built by local high school students) to a seniors complex. These were designed to be used by people unable to garden on the ground.

**Monica Skinner**

***District 8***  
***20 Societies***

**At a public park  
in Hanover**



***District 8*** Horticultural Societies number twenty and are responsible for much community work and beautification in their municipalities throughout Bruce, Grey and Huron Counties. They all participate in the life of their towns and villages making them better places to live. Their plantings along streets and in parks make them beautiful communities to drive through and welcome visitors to stay a while.

***Bayfield*** changed its name this year from Bayfield Garden Club to Bayfield & District Horticultural Society in recognition of their extended lakefront geographical area and their striving to go beyond backyard gardening to a broader horticultural focus. Already active participants in community events including Home and Garden Show, Agricultural Fair and Community Gardens, Bayfield is planning new projects to forge greater links with the municipality.

***Brussels*** had a busy year highlighted by several garden tours. Funds raised at plant sales and a silent auction were used to plant 8 flower boxes & 10 hanging baskets on Main St. Guest speakers were invited to present new ideas and information to members.

***Chesley*** has a very popular

flower show every year. In August fifty members met at the private garden of Ron Klages for a celebratory BBQ. They participated in the Chesley Santa Claus Parade.

***Clinton*** had a successful year. It included a plant sale, a social in the park, a garden tour to Bayfield and a colourful flower show. Workshops and speakers were also enjoyed.

***Durham*** was kept very busy planning gardening events for members and participating in the local fair and parades. Highlights included a garden tour, organized with the Art Gallery, and featured artists in the garden. A bus trip to Niagara Flower and Garden Show was enjoyed. They work with the parks committee to maintain many public gardens..

***Goderich & District*** members maintain a total of 8 gardens within the community. This year a new stone garden bench was added to one of them. Four garden tours were enjoyed. Several interesting speakers were at their monthly meetings.

***Hanover Society*** continued its beautification work with the planting of bulbs at the hospital. They plant and maintain eight beds around town. A fund-raiser is the well-attended Craft Show held each year.

***Hensell & Community's*** main project in 2006 was having their raised

perennial beds professionally landscaped . The result was a modern minimalist look that is a real change. Visits are made to village churches and the local nursing home for therapeutic gardening programs.

**Kincardine:** A highlight for this society is the Annual Garden Seminars that attract over 150 local and out-of-town gardeners. Members participated in the 2006 International Communities-in-Bloom competition. Members were the backbone of this effort, as they mentored, planted and maintained 30 floral beds containing 15,000 annual plants.

**Lucknow** Major fund-raisers for this society are a card party and a soup and sandwich lunch. The funds are put to good use in maintaining 32 barrels and flower-beds around town.

**Markdale** A great design workshop was put on by three newly accredited judges and enjoyed by the membership. One of the community events this year was participating in the Santa Claus Parade . The annual plant sale is a major fund-raiser.

**Mildmay Members** worked with others in the community, participating in the :Christmas Lights Communities-in-Bloom Competition. They won! They enjoy a successful mini flower show as part of their their regular meeting.

**Neustadt** This society maintains barrels and boxes in the villages of Ayton and Neustadt. Over the year there were many excellent speakers on a wide range of topics from making stars to a presentation about the flowers of New Zealand.

**Ripley** prides itself as being a very active group, working together with a lot of fun and friendship. The entire community enjoys the Christmas decorations put up in Lewis Park. They maintain public plantings and raise funds with a plant sale.

**Seaforth & District** boasts 97 members. They work with the Communities-in-Bloom group and they plant and maintain beds at the Legion, Town Hall, library, and Northside Church. They participate in the annual Ciderfest.

**Southport** is a society that includes Southampton and Port Elgin. A February ice storm caused devastation at North Shore Park and resulted in many volunteer hours spent to clean up and maintain affected areas. Garden design consultation was provided to the Rail Trail committee to establish a Memorial Garden.

**Tara** 2006 was the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Village of Tara. The Homecoming was a very special time for this scenic rural community. Members dressed up the hanging baskets, beds, and planters in red and white, and themselves in red and white costumes for the Homecoming Parade.

**Walkerton** 2006 was a very busy year with the community earning, for the third year in a row, 5 blooms in the National Communities-in-Bloom Competition. Their hard work had gardens and streets looking spectacular for the 135<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Homecoming. There were many native trees planted and garden beds were extended.

**Wingham** In September, they celebrated their 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary by inviting all past presidents, members and the public to a special celebration. They have several projects they are working on and participate in community events including the Muskrat Festival and the Alice Munro Literary Day.

**Valerie Neal**

***District 9  
13 Societies***

**Special Project  
Award winner  
Pelham Library**



District Nine's 13 societies encompass Niagara North, Niagara South, and Haldimand. We eagerly look forward to the debut of our District 9 web site, on Garden Ontario, designed by Susan Lusted.

Thank you to all of my societies, for all you accomplish as volunteers, for your support, and especially your comradeship and ability of working well with one another. This is my fourth year as your Director, and I want you to know that I have been blessed with a wonderful group. My appreciation, to all of you. I think you are **The Best** ! Diane

**Dunnville** Greetings everyone. Our town sprang into spring with the OHA Centennial Tulips. WOW! We experimented with our 1<sup>st</sup> garage sale. The children and their leaders created beautiful gardens and discovered that things don't always go the way you had hoped, but always had fun! We are very proud of all who participated and took the time to say thanks!.

**Fort Erie** Members enjoy working together to beautify their community. They earned a 5 Bloom Award in the Communities-in-Bloom Program. Congratulations! Youth involvement continued by hosting a tulip-planting workshop for the Girl Guides. It was a successful year.

**Grimby** – 2006 was an exciting and profitable year. Highlights

included an amazing trip to see a fabulous flower show, and a well attended garden tour. A new venture was in offering advertising space in their newsletter. They partnered with the hospital auxiliary to renovate their neglected Memorial Gardens.

**Lincoln** – Members enjoyed excellent presentations on rose propagation, rhododendrons and azaleas, floral design, Christmas arrangements; and the development and growth of new Poinsettia cultivars. Donations were made to Niagara College, a local high school program, and the Memorial Park.

**Niagara Falls** had a successful year. Meetings included a Rose Show, a Garden Walk, the August Flower and Vegetable Show, floral design seminars, garden strolls, and a spring plant exchange. Civic projects are flowerbeds at 3 city fire halls and a special project at the Historic Armory. They sponsored the Trillium Awards, a student bursary and Schools-in-Bloom Competition. The society won an award for the best- combined attendance at District 9's Spring AGM & Fall Forum.

**Niagara Hort. Society**  
(formerly **Niagara-on-the-Lake**)  
Horticultural interest and environmental garden practices are evident everywhere. Members visited a rose grower and area greenhouses Their 15<sup>th</sup> annual garden tour was held. Rose bushes were

donated to commemorate deceased members and to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Historical Museum. They also support an annual student bursary..

**Pelham** Special Project funds from the OHA enabled the Society to complete the garden at the Fonhill Branch of the library, contributing to the celebration of Fonhill's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. . Donations were made to the College's tree fund and to the secondary school Horticultural Program. Potted plants were donated both at Easter and Christmas to the library. A Plant, Lawn, and Bake Sale, an evening garden walk, and a Flower and Vegetable Show were held.

**Port Colborne** Members enjoyed an excellent plant sale, a Rose and Flower Show, a garden tour, and their annual pot-luck dinner. Three flower beds were planted with donated Pachysandra and trees were planted on Earth Day. Flower planters are to be made for the Museum. A growing membership makes the President confident that 2007 will be more rewarding and a year, to look forward to !

**Ridgeway** Beautification projects are supported throughout the area, especially at their regular meeting hall. Thank you to Erwin and Sandy Mako, who opened their yard and barn for a highly successful annual fund-raiser and plant sale. Enthusiasm continues for the photographic competitions! A trip to Sweet Grass Gardens was enjoyed. Members who are accredited judges gave Candle Design demos, inspiring Christmas decorating .

**Smithville** Community involvement is seen in their supportive encouragement to Youth. Younger members took part in a workshop on endangered species in

southern Ontario. Members were encouraged to Visit and enter their fall fair and society flower show. Commemorative OHA Centennial Stamps were given as door prizes. An OHA Service Certificate was awarded to Sue Hancock as well as Volunteer Service Awards for other members.

### ***St. Catharines***

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#### ***Project of Note***

the sale of their very own  
St. Catharines Horticulture Society  
**1857** white tulip bulb  
commemorating **150** years

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(thanks to Dennis Fallat) This 1857 bulb aptly commemorates their upcoming 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The society gave their city's **Gateway Project** a donation of \$2,000.

**Thorold** held a giant plant sale, 2 major flower shows, a Rose Show, and a flower and vegetable show. Community projects include the landscape and care of several flower beds. Scholarships were awarded to horticultural students. Trees were donated and planted at local schools.

**Welland** A real first, they partnered their acclaimed Rose Show with the City of Welland's Rose Show. This beautiful show was held at the Seaway Mall. Other events include an annual plant sale, garden walk, and Merit Awards , given for well landscaped churches, apartments, and local businesses. Scholarships are awarded to Students of Horticulture at Niagara College, Civic plantings are done at Welland's Extended Care. President Corinne Walsh considers that Welland is very fortunate in having active members who volunteer with enthusiasm !

***Diane Kiers***

***District 10***  
***23 Societies***

Thames River



The Thames Valley District 10 consists of 23 societies covering a large and varied area. The picture of the Thames River above is the thread that binds us all together. The river flows through many of the communities where societies work so hard to beautify and improve everyone's way of life. I would like to thank all for their dedication to horticulture.

***Aylmer & District*** held a tour of eight gardens. They presented varied programs throughout the year.

***Belmont*** held a yard and plant sale and a box social. A very successful garden tour which consisted of locating Heritage trees growing in the area. They planted 30 barrels along the main street.

***Dorchester*** celebrated their 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with cake and strawberries at the Strawberry Social. They helped the Thames Centre achieve 5 blooms in 2006 by planting 12 public areas, 50 barrels and hanging baskets.

***Dutton/Dunwich*** have two main gardens they plant and maintain; Centennial Park and Buttermilk Bog. They are looking forward to 2007, their 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, with many new projects planned.

***Kirkton*** held several workshops during the year. The Youth Club planted succulents in old boots and showed them at the society's fall

meeting. Another group of children made cement stepping stones. The adults held several workshops.

***Glencoe*** established a perennial garden in front of the library. They varied their program locations e.g. at local nurseries and wrote a letter-to-the-editor openly stating how the Club has bestowed benefits on the region and requesting that residents consider becoming members (with great success!)

***Ingersoll & District's*** plant auction was once again the biggest fund-raiser. There were lots of donations from local businesses and members. The annual **Parade of Gardens** was well-attended., with seven gardens on the tour.

***Lambeth*** organized bus trips to Canada Blooms, Niagara Falls Flower and Garden Show, and a fall trip to Neustadt and points north. They held a garden tour and the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Rose and Flower Show.

***Listowel & District*** continues to work for the community with a scholarship to a local secondary school, books to the library, and flowers and trees to local parks. The plant and produce sale raised over \$100 to support the activities of the Juniors and two junior members attended the 100<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention in Ottawa.

***London*** kept busy maintaining community projects. At the AGM ,