



***District One***  
**District Director - Anne Kerr**

**Cornwall** society applied for and received a Special Project grant of \$500 from the Ontario Horticultural Association which was used to buy and plant five six-foot white pine trees at their Woodhouse Museum project. They re-established their summer flower show after an absence of several years.

**Martintown** society again hosted the annual Garden Party and Charity Auction, with the funds raised going to the Children's Treatment Centre in Cornwall. Special speakers were invited and spoke on various subjects including purple martins, bats and growing flowers for drying. The society hosted seven guest speakers, an open garden tour, a stepping stone workshop, a flower show and two potluck dinners.

**Maxville** society continues to support local beautification projects and organizes annual competitions that are held prior to the Highland Games and Christmas, for the best decorated residences etc. This society was to host the district convention in April, 2003 and held a flower show in August. A bus trip in July was also on the schedule of events. They also decorated with evergreens and flowers at the Hol-

stein show held in May, as well as putting on a party and buying gifts for all with a birthday in October at the Maxville Manor. Verna MacGregor was presented with the District Service Award.

**Russell** society concentrates a lot of its effort on MacDougal Park, planting flowers in summer and feeding the birds in winter. They had an excellent Flower Show with an exceptional contribution by the children, who provided a great display of garden produce and many exciting and imaginative designs. They also plant area nursing homes on various occasions and provide an information booth at the Russell Fair, as well as replenishing of the bird feeders at a local park. In June they held a mini peony show which went well despite the lack of rain. A local beekeeper shared his knowledge of an all-encompassing hobby.

**Societe d'horticulture d'Alfred** encourages its young horticulturists by providing a grant which is used to purchase perennials for the flowerbeds at their school. Workshops on stepping stones and building garden ponds were held and the societe also participates in a show entitled Pour vous mes Dames, where horticultural brochures are handed out

and memberships and seedlings are sold. In addition, three \$50 grants are given to communities to plant perennials at the church and local schools. They donated \$100 to the Alfred College as well as another \$100 scholarship to a deserving student attending the College.

**Vankeek Hill** society hosted the annual general meeting for District 1 on April 27, 2002, and at that time planted a Japanese silk lilac tree in Mill Street Park to commemorate the 95th anniversary of their society. They also hosted a special banquet in honour of this anniversary where members were encouraged to come dressed in period costumes with prizes awarded for the best hats. Some members participated in the *Communities in Bloom* event and the Vankleek Hill Garden Tour. Two Service Certificates were presented to Eleanor Willis and Norma Rose.

**Williamstown** Green Thumbs undertook the refurbishing and enhancement of the Cenotaph, 47 years after it had been erected. This was a two-year project. They received the cooperation and support of many businesses and organizations within and outside the community. The result of this thoughtful effort was a beautiful landscaped site with stone pathways and plantings, to honour their fallen heroes. Numerous members 'babied' geranium cuttings throughout the winter. They were then planted in various locations throughout the village of Williamstown including the

Charlottenburgh Recreational Centre, the Nor'wester Museum and the old township office.

## At a Glance

The boundaries of the seven societies in District 1 reach from the Quebec border in the east to Ottawa (formerly Ottawa-Carleton) in the west, encompassing the townships/municipalities of Champlain, Nation, North and South Glengarry and Russell.

All societies continue to support many local projects and organize educational workshops for youth and adults. Here are just some of the topics: bees, peonies, hypertufa containers, purple martins, bats, birdhouses and feeders and wreath making.

Our societies exist because we have dedicated members who give many hours of their time (volunteering) to organize meetings, workshops, bus trips and flower shows. They also plant and maintain flower beds, containers etc. to beautify our towns and villages.



## ***District Two***

**District Director - Helen Halpenny**

**Almonte** helps clean up the town during Pitch-in Week and looks after the main street planters or the cenotaph. In 2002 work continued on the hardy rose garden, the newest sector of the library gardens. A member of the society sat on the Mississippi Mills beautification committee and was involved in choosing a 'garden of the week.' Pictures were published in the local paper during the summer.

**Beachburg** introduced community beautification competitions to the village. Members enjoyed a bus tour to Almonte's Herb Garden, Gardens North and the Experimental Farm in Ottawa.

**Carleton Place** hosted an excellent garden tour, 'Just Add Water.' All of the gardens had water features. The schools in Carleton Place benefit from support of the society's bursaries and supplies.

**Deep River** has 610 members and also an excellent 24-member youth group, 'the Green Thumbs.' Civic beautification is an important component of its activities.

**Eganville** has the prettiest bridge in Eastern Ontario, thanks to the society's dedicated volunteers. A highlight of the year was a bus trip to Upper Canada Village.

**Gloucester** heard a talk about gardening with zone denial, then visited the speaker's garden to see first hand the amazing plants he was able to grow. A new venue for Flower Shows at a mall increased its visibility in the community.

**Kanata-March** planted a grove of trees and recognized a member for 30 years of service. A bus trip to the Montreal Botanic Gardens was enjoyed.

**Kemptville** is developing a garden in Rotary Park and had two garden shows.

**Madawaska Valley** had many social events to promote unity and beautified the villages of Barry's Bay and Combermere.

**Manotick** is very involved with community beautification and a youth program was initiated. Members enjoyed a unique tour of Les Quatre Vents, a 20-acre garden on the banks of the St. Lawrence River in Charlevoix County, Quebec.

**Ottawa** is redesigning and planting a garden at a Veteran's Health Care Centre. A team of gardeners went weekly to redesign and develop a garden area in one of the centre's courtyards.

The **Ottawa Rock Garden Society** marked its 10th anniversary. Members continued cultivation of the Experimental Farm's Rock Garden. The internationally prominent speakers at meetings attract many gardeners throughout the Ottawa Valley and beyond. As well as having a seed exchange, they sorted and distributed seeds for OVRGHS and NARGS.

**Nepean** holds garden competitions and an excellent photo contest. At meetings there is an opportunity table where members can donate plants, dried or fresh, containers, gardening books, magazines, etc.

**Packenham** has a youth program to be envied. The 36 young people had demonstrations of basic gardening, mulching and composting. The society planted a blue spruce and several plants around the village.

**Pembroke** keeps up its excellent program of civic beautification and co-hosted the District 2 Show. Youth competitions are held for the young gardeners. A tea provides a venue for the spring Flower Show. They rely on a gigantic plant sale for revenue.

**Perth** held a garden tour for its members.

**Petawawa** co-hosted the very successful 2002 District Show. On Earth Day it planted \$1,500 worth of Crimson King maples.

**Renfrew** members learned

about xeriscaping, iris and composting and even entered a prize-winning float in a town parade. An interesting workshop taught them how to make a 'living wreath.' Each year they honour a 'member of the year' by planting a tree for them.

**Stittsville/Goulbourn** celebrated its 40th anniversary in style. Other noteworthy events were a rose appreciation and strawberry society tea, a garden tour and two shows. There were many photographs at the fall competition.

**West Carleton** is becoming more proactive and innovative to respond to the needs of its growing community. They try to maximize personal interaction and involvement. Awards include Volunteer of the Year and Leadership and Outstanding Contribution. Among its most popular activities are its annual Christmas potluck supper which includes entertainment and a fall plant auction. Work is continuing on the library reading garden.

## At A Glance

District 2 is composed of Ottawa and Renfrew, Lanark and Grenville counties. A warm welcome awaits you from over 3000 members in 20 societies. Our district website is: [http://ca.geocities.com/khs\\_oha](http://ca.geocities.com/khs_oha)



## ***District Three***

### **District Director - Judy Scott**

**Ameliasburgh** celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2002. They maintain gardens at the Marilyn Adams Genealogical Research Centre and Ameliasburgh Museum, library and Purdy Lane planter as well as participating in the Ameliasburgh Fall Fair. Thelma Coulter is president.

**Bancroft** works with area Scout groups to maintain the flower beds by the fountain in Millennium Park and lends its expertise to area organizations regarding planting strategies. The society also assigns projects to local high school students as part of the students' mandatory 40 hours of community service. Larry Connell is president.

**Belleville** has reintroduced its Trillium Awards program for outstanding area gardens, which its members judge, and donated Canadian roses for the Corby Rose Garden. Society members also work with students in the Moira Secondary School greenhouse and award a \$350 bursary to a graduating student who will go on to study a horticultural-related course at university. John Follen is president.

**Brockville** is continuing its permanent planting of lilac and willow bushes and nine flowering crab trees along the 6 km Brock Trail, as well as planting annuals at the Brockville Museum and hospital. Two \$500 bursaries are available to two students of Leeds and Grenville who

are pursuing a college course in horticulture, greenhouse management or another comparable course. The society also collects non-perishable food for the local food bank. Annuals were planted at the Brockville Museum and Brockville Hospital. Girl Guides were given nasturtium seeds with information on how to plant and care for them. Marilyn MacKenzie is president.

**Collins Bay** is involved in plantings at the Loyalist Gates at Amherstview, the Isabel Turner Library in Kingston, the corner of Bayridge Drive/Front Road and at St. Peter's Church on Bath Road. Marilyn Chilton is president.

**Gananoque** was one of the five winners of the Ontario Horticultural Association's \$500 Special Projects for its work in revamping a small horticultural park with new plantings and restoration of stone work. They are also involved in plantings of large beds at the Gardens of Landon Bay which is a well-known fully accessible garden in the area. They also planted over 2000 tulips at the town hall and the gates at the entrance to the town to inspire other gardeners. Carolyn Scott is president.

**Kingston** is the largest society in the district, with over 290 members. It held an Open Garden Tour involving six Kingston gardens which drew over 400 visitors. The Paterson Awards, given for front gardens

judged to be the best in each of the city's 12 wards, showcased a wide variety of garden styles. They also had a display at the Lung Association Garden Festival. Jane Murphy is president.

**Lennox and Addington** holds garden tours in Prince Edward County as well as plantings around the town hall. The society has increased its support of the Community Garden project in downtown Napanee. The society's newsletter, *Bittersweet Mews*, won two awards at the Ontario Horticultural Association convention in Sault Ste. Marie. Harold Bentley is president.

**Prince Edward County** donated \$50 to each of 20 local groups to put toward their plantings. They did plantings around the hospital and library. One of its members planted the town square and another the Tourist Bureau. Two evenings of workshops were held on topiary, container gardening and seasonal arrangements. Philip Kennedy is president.

**Rideau Lakes** maintains welcome gardens in Westport, Elgin, Forfar and Portland and has planted in barrels at the docks in Portland and at the municipal parking lots in Westport. It also plants a labelled herb garden at the Westport Museum. Work is ongoing at the Country Roads Community Health Centre, for which the society arranged and paid for a five-year planting plan. Sandra Touzel is president.

**Stirling** plants and maintains the Cenotaph and library flower beds, planted and cleaned up the Covered Bridge beds and arranged for a new horticultural road sign on Highway 14. They also organized a website for the society and donated \$200 for

new books and videos to the Stirling library. Barbara Jones is president.

**Trenton** held its first Fall Flowers Arranging Contest and is putting its resources into establishing a beautiful garden in Victoria Park. They donated \$200 to a student interested in horticulture and hold a yearly perennial sale at the local Farmers' Market. They also participate in Arbor Day celebrations at College Street School. Diane Cormier is president.

**Tweed** has an annual plant sale and participates in the Flowerama Flower Show. They have displays in the local agricultural fair and plant beds and boxes in the Village of Tweed. A garden tour of some of the most outstanding gardens in the Tweed area was also scheduled during the summer. Darlene Elson is president.

## At A Glance

District 3's 13 societies are located in Frontenac, Hastings, Leeds, Lennox and Addington and Prince Edward counties.

The over 1300 society members do all the usual - and often unusual - things that most societies do including beautifying their communities, awarding bursaries, educating their members and encouraging their youth groups. Several societies have been actively involved in helping their municipalities achieve national recognition from the *Communities in Bloom* program.



## ***District Four***

**District Director - Muriel Flagler**

**Bobcaygeon** celebrated its 80th anniversary and assisted Kawartha Lakes in winning Five Blooms from *Communities in Bloom*. Society members held workshops at Strang's Garden Centre, planted seven gardens and installed 50 hanging baskets. In the past two years the society has regenerated the Point and completed a bird study for the Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas.

**Brighton's** membership grew to 173. The society introduced its first seed and bulb exchange in October and January. A Vesey's fundraising program, bus trip, garden tour, plant auction and speakers made an interesting year, along with youth presentations at two schools involving planting seeds and rooted slips.

**Campbellford** continued its waterfront project, planting the gardens and entrance into town with trees, shrubs and perennials. The society adopted the Picnic Island Park and also planted the gardens at the Resource Centre. Members also worked with the public schools to grow seeds for a pumpkin contest and other projects.

**Coboconk** assisted with a Coby Days Clean-Up along with the Cubs in May, placing garbage bins and benches around town, purchased hooks for hanging baskets and

planted flower boxes at the dock and in town. The society looked after the river bank near the dam, planted perennials at the Legion, started a new garden area at Shadow Lake Dock, placed corn stalks around the village for Thanksgiving, entered the Santa parade, decorated boxes with live branches for Christmas and presented a plaque to the most improved business in town.

**Cobourg** held a garden tour to locations in Grafton and continued to maintain flower beds at The Golden Plough and at Illahee Lodge and the Five Corners Parkette. Two society members were recognized by the Ministry of Citizenship with 2002 Ontario Volunteer Service Awards for their fundraising efforts.

**Colborne** planned and planted 14 flower beds, judged a June Flower Show, two mini-shows and two plant sales and had a booth at the Apple Blossom Tyme festival. They also donated to Heritage Cramahe to be used for landscaping the new fountain located in Victoria Park.

**Fenelon Falls** worked with the Chamber of Commerce, the village and the museum in their gardens. They also worked with the residents of Fenelon Long-Term Court in

planting and maintaining their property and had a garden tour. They were part of *Communities in Bloom* 2002.

**Grafton's** Murial Braham won the OHA Environmental Award for her dedication in preserving the Lone Pine Marsh. A busy junior gardeners program submitted entries for the convention and society shows.

**Lakefield** celebrated its 40th anniversary and planned two garden workshops on planning, constructing and planting a garden. Members plant and care for five gardens, nine planters and 28 hanging baskets in the village.

**Lindsay** held three sessions on gardening at the library on PD day to organize a Youth Group as well as a presentation at Little Britain Scouts. Bus tours visited Rural Roots, Omemee and Lang Perennial Gardens at Keene.

**Minden** provided funds for barrels, flowerbeds, concrete planters, County Building, Village Green and Millennium beds through two perennial plant sales. They successfully petitioned Minden Hills Council to water the plantings and contribute financially toward the annuals' cost.

**Norland** did plantings in Riverside Park, the old School and in barrels along the highway. They also held a garden party and a plant sale.

**Norwood** plants and maintains flower barrels around the village and plans on adding to the number

of barrels and trees. The annual Flower Show is held in July at the Norwood Legion.

**Omemee** has an active youth group with crafts and garden-related demonstrations. They hosted the District 4 meeting and had a table at the Pioneer Day celebrations.

**Peterborough** held several garden workshops outdoors and co-hosted the For Love of Gardening Show at Easter, with over 90 booths, along with the Master Gardeners.

**Port Hope** provided financial support for gardens at the nursing home, landscaping at the new library, new trees and prize money for top points at the Fall Fair. Eight members opened their gardens for other members in July.

**Rice Lake** continued planting the round Floral Garden and this year it was dedicated to the Big Sisters. They are working on the Heritage Gardens that are being made in memory of the Pioneers. The dockside area is also being updated.

## At a Glance

District 4 consists of 17 active societies encompassing the areas of Haliburton, Northumberland, Peterborough and Victoria. Two societies celebrated their 80th and 40th anniversaries of service to their communities.



***District Five***  
**District Director - Nikola Warnock**

**Agincourt** celebrated its 50th anniversary by planting a Chantecleer pear tree with a plaque. Many past presidents attended the celebrations and two life members entertained guests with the history of the society and its past presidents. Public plantings were done at six locations.

**Aurora** planted 40 containers on the main street and members were very active in competitions at the CNE.

**Beach** was involved with the gardens at the library and L'Archel/Greenwood House. They initiated a program to take children to the Teaching Garden at the Civic Garden Centre.

**East York** participated in East York Day. Their June garden tour and August flower show were a great success. They also won first prize in the window box competition at the CNE.

**Greater Toronto Rose and Garden Society** was pleased to complete a name change. They hosted the Canadian Rose Society Annual Rose Show at the Scarborough Town Centre. There were more than 745 entries.

**Lake Simcoe South Shore** es-

tablished new gardens for the Family Life Centre in Bellhaven and the Georgina Arts Centre in Sutton and planted and looked after two community gardens in Keswick and the Briarhill Cemetery. The youth group planted containers.

**Leaside** created a garden at the new library where they meet, planted and maintained gardens at Trace Manes Community Centre, the Father Caufield Parkette and the Lyndhurst Centre. They again involved young school children in community plantings and assisted physically challenged children at Sunnyview in gardening projects and have a program with the children from Thorncliffe Park School at the Teaching Garden in the Civic Garden Centre.

**Markham** was very successful in mounting a garden tour and members worked hard on the Markham/Stouffville Hospital and the museum gardens.

**Mount Albert** had a garden tour, two plant sales and maintained numerous flowerbeds throughout the community. New this year was a baking competition which was well received. They also had a successful Christmas social at which they received donations for local needy families.

**Newmarket** donated \$500 to purchase plant material for All Our Kids Playpark and supported Newmarket Library's Adopt a Magazine program by sponsoring three gardening magazines. They worked on three community gardens, one with their youth group and helped out the town at the Kanada Booth.

**North Toronto** was one of the hosts of the district annual meeting and worked hard to move us into the age of computers with a state-of-the-art-show program that tallied the results in record time. They also spent some time revamping their newsletter and yearbook. This society's current claim to fame is that most of their newsletters go via e-mail.

**North York** had a super plant sale and was able to provide 400 kalanchoes for Meals on Wheels in December. They supported the Nature Conservancy of Canada in a project at St. John's Rehabilitation Centre and had time to increase their membership.

**The Rhododendron Society** won first in the garden club category at Canada Blooms and maintained 20 rhododendron and azalea beds at Edwards Gardens. At the District 5 annual meeting they created a sumptuous display of 100 forced rhododendrons – gorgeous.

**Riverdale** took first prize in the window box competition at the CNE. They have initiated an In Memoriam award at Humber College in the Landscape Technicians

Program and keep themselves busy with plantings at Withrow Park.

**Scarborough** helps out at Pearce House, Christchurch and the public woodlot, and Scarborough Consilium. The youth group gardens at Cedar Ridge and Pearce House.

**Stouffville** had a busy year. The speakers' lineup included a dynamic flower arranger who inspired the society. The plant sale was a success.

## At a Glance

York District 5 consists of 16 societies in a long and winding area that runs from Lake Simcoe down to Lake Ontario. The year 2002 was challenging as societies were faced with gardening with little or no water. It definitely made flower shows and garden tours a little different!

The presidents' workshop was hosted by the Newmarket Society and the district annual meeting was at the Civic Garden Centre, innovatively jointly hosted by North Toronto and the Rhododendron Society.

The district's youth groups were second highest in points at the OHA convention.