

# GROWING



# TOGETHER

P.O. Box 294 Cobourg, ON K9A 4K8

Editor: Judith Goulin (905) 372-7684

*A member of the Ontario Horticultural Association*

## President's Message - 2007 Cobourg Horticultural Society AGM

This has been another successful year for the Society and one in which your Executive has taken steps to address both challenges and opportunities. Some of the highlights were:

- Our annual plant sale that way exceeded expectations thanks to the skilled leadership of **Shirley Embree** and many, many volunteer helpers.
- We were able to award two \$500 bursaries due partly to the financial success of the plant sale; thanks to **Carol Evans**.
- We enjoyed a most excellent photographic slide presentation at the annual photo competition.
- The Society hosted the annual OHA convention which was a great success thanks to the help of **Sarah Holland, Ann Hancock, Helen Lackey and many other volunteers**.
- We have had good publicity for the Society thanks to an article in the local paper on our history.
- Thanks to **Marlene Davison**, a website especially for our Society has been planned and is now in the process of development.
- We enjoyed a great members' potluck supper – thanks to **Sue Speirs** generously hosting this. Our summer flower show was well-attended, thanks to the organizing skills of **Suzanne Anderson** and lovely teas provided by **Ann Hancock**.
- A decision was made to move to a larger location for meetings in 2008. We are facing up to challenges such as a decline in membership.
- There is a possible threat to our Five Corners Garden arising from a proposed road widening. This resulted in a delegation to Council on behalf of the Cobourg Horticultural Society.

Above all, I would like to express heartfelt thanks to Society volunteers, who have worked tirelessly this year on many activities and initiatives. As well, I should like to recognize the wonderful contributions of retiring Directors – **Jane Frost** for fantastic program organizations and **Marlyne Warling** for her publicity and many other helpful contributions. I think I should also mention the work of the social committee, headed by **Lorraine Klein** for our lovely teas at meetings.

ed. note: 2007 was a great year, but wait until you see what's in store for 2008! !! **JG**

**President: Dilys Robertson**  
**Treasurer: Judy Harris**

**Vice-President: Sarah Holland**  
**Editorial: Judith Goulin**

**Secretary: Sue Speirs**  
**Newsletter Layout: Marlene Davison**

## HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!!!

It can't be emphasized enough: 2008 is going to be a great year for CHS! So that you don't miss out on any of the excitement, PLEASE keep your yearbook in a convenient spot for reference and put your program schedule bookmark on the fridge. [Find yourself some cute magnets at the dollar store. Do whatever you need to do as a reminder. Don't miss out!] Very soon you'll be able to check out events on our website...

## NEW WEBSITE

Check it out at

[www.cobourggardenclub.org](http://www.cobourggardenclub.org)



## NEW MEMBERS' TOUR

A plan to enhance the members' tour is on the program committee's drawing board at the moment. The proposal is to invite three other garden clubs to our members' tour this year. For the first year, the 2008 tour would feature our members' gardens, in and around Cobourg. We would meet at a central spot as usual, give out programs, then everyone would visit the gardens in any order [much like the Big Sisters Big Brothers tour] then meet for refreshments at the end. In the subsequent three years, the other clubs would take their turns in hosting and featuring their members' gardens. The wonderful advantage of this scheme is that for three years out of four, we would be guests in someone else's gardens, with another club doing the planning. As a further advantage we would see many more new gardens over a four year period. [Because it is still in the planning stage, you will not see it listed on your 2008 schedule, but of course we'll keep you updated on the progress of this innovation.]

## NEW MEETING PLACE COLUMBUS CENTRE

232 SPENCER ST.

Our first meeting of the New Year will be **Feb. 6.**

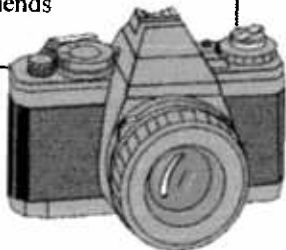
**PLEASE NOTE THAT WE WILL BE AT OUR NEW MEETING PLACE – THE COLUMBUS CENTRE** located on the **northwest corner of D'Arcy and Spencer Streets.** The only entrance is on Spencer. **See you there in February at our usual meeting time of 7:30. Coffee's on at 7:00!**



## NEW PHOTO CONTEST CHANGES

In order to make our photo competition better, our requirements for the 2008 competition have been reduced to the following categories. Shutterbugs please note!!!!

- Mini-Gardens in Pots or Urns
- Summer Garden
- Wildflowers
- Garden Friends



## NEW MEMBERS WANTED

We know what a great garden club we are, so we'd like to share the excitement with more people! Do your part by bringing a friend/neighbour or two to a meeting and talk up the garden club whenever you can.

When you see someone new at a meeting, be sure to make everyone feel welcome by introducing yourself and inviting people to sit with you, or if you see someone sitting alone, ask if you can sit with them. At each meeting, make it a point to meet at least one new person. Visitors who feel welcome will keep attending!

## NEW LIFE MEMBERS

A life membership is a special honour given to CHS members who have demonstrated enthusiasm, devotion, dedication and leadership in our club in many capacities over many years. At the November 2007 AGM, five individuals were recognized as Life Members. Their combined years of hard work and dedication to our club add up to 75 years, three quarters of a century! Their example demonstrates why this organization, the Cobourg Horticultural Society continues to be so strong and active in the Cobourg community after almost 150 years. Our thanks to **Marlynn Warling** for all the hard work she did to recognize these new Life Members.



## NEW BOARD MEMBERS

We welcome **Helen Lackey, Joanne Pearson and Ruth Tessier** to our Board. To our outgoing Board Members: **Jane Frost and Marlynn Warling**: a huge thanks for your dedication to our club.

## NEW WINNERS - FLOWER SHOWS and PHOTO COMPETITION

In case you missed the AGM and Awards Night in November here are the results of the flower shows, based on total points for both events:

1. Audrey Wilson
2. Anna Maria Mutton
3. Marjorie Heaton



<b>Dahlia and Gladiolus</b>	<b>Malcolm McDonald</b>
<b>Houseplants and Displays</b>	<b>Marjorie Heaton</b>
<b>Design</b>	<b>Anna Maria Mutton &amp; Malcolm McDonald TIE</b>
<b>Vegetables</b>	<b>Judith Goulin</b>
<b>Annuals, Perennials &amp; Roses</b>	<b>Audrey Wilson</b>



1. Audrey Wilson
2. Anna Maria Mutton
3. Bill Prawecki

## Thank You Life Members

**Mina Clappison**  
**Ann Hancock**  
**Malcolm McDonald**  
**Christine van Rooy**  
**Audrey Wilson**



## NEW CHS CLUB MEMBERS

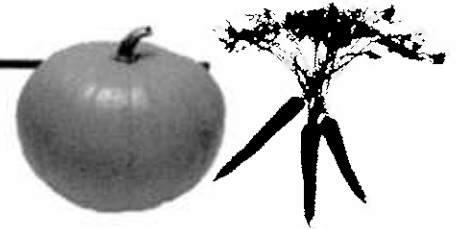
Since September, these NEW members have joined us. **Welcome to all.**

**Laurel Burkmar, Clara Herrygers, Peggy Howden, Lucy Kannstadter, Darlene King, Janice Middleton, Elaine Milne, Rose O'Brey, Joan Prlja, Jennifer Rogers, Kathy Upper**



## Ken Heaton Remembered

We were very saddened to learn that Ken Heaton passed away in October, 2007. If you've been a member of CHS for more than two years you will know that Ken was one half of the great couple, Ken and Marjorie, who worked tirelessly to convene our flower shows from 2002 – 2005. Before that they served as conveners of the Flower and Plant competition for the Port Hope Fair. Ken also organized our photo competition for several years, willingly stepping in to take the leadership when he was needed. Ken learned to love gardening from his parents. Not only did he grow vegetables like his father, but also canned vegetables and made jam like his mother did. His canning won ribbons in the Port Hope Fair! When they weren't working at them, Ken and Marjorie enjoyed attending fall fairs together. Ken was a manager with McDonnell Douglas [later Boeing] Aircraft. He loved anything to do with aircraft: going to airshows, aeronautical museums and even taking flying lessons. Ken will be remembered fondly in our club as a hard worker, a board member and a good friend. To Marjorie, we extend our most sincere condolences.



## Past and Present Meet in CHS Banner

*Traditionally, each garden club has a banner which represents their community. Banners are hung prominently at club meetings and always taken to meetings when many clubs gather. In 1997, Mina Clappison was asked by the executive of the day to create a new banner for CHS. They were surely aware of her great sewing talents and her creativity. Over a cup of tea, I asked Mina to tell me about the creation of this labour of love. JG*

As gardeners, we take time to smell the roses, but here's a new challenge for you. How often have you looked at our club banner at the front of the meeting room without really seeing it? Next time you're at a garden club meeting, take a close look at this banner where past and present meet. It is an original design created by **Mina Clappison**. Lake Ontario and Cobourg's beautiful sandy beach are front and centre in her creation. In the midst of applied multi-coloured waves, which represent the different depths of water, sails the historic Countess of Dufferin, built in 1876 in Cobourg. This ship, the canoes on the beach and the 150 year old willow tree signify Cobourg's past. White roses, long the official flower of the Town of Cobourg, are prominent.

One practically has to be a detective to find all of the elements in this banner. The present is represented by the boardwalk, lampposts and pergolas and the gardens as they looked in 1997, the year the banner was created. Cormorants had just begun to appear around Cobourg then. Look closely to see Cormorants on the beach and gulls over the lake. Notice the minute detail of the multi-coloured flowers embroidered in French knots.

**Mina** used a number of different sewing techniques and at least five different embroidery stitches in the execution of this unique work of art and labour of love.. What a talent! What a banner!

## CHS MEMBER WINS HIGH PRAISE

Be sure to congratulate **Jennifer Darrell** whose floral creation representing Canada appeared in a photo feature in the Winter 2007 issue of the prestigious British magazine, *Flower Arranger*. Her arrangement features red and white flowers and natural elements such as stone and driftwood. *Flower Arranger* is the world's leading magazine for flower arrangers and floral designers. In addition, Jennifer recently received another honour: her horizontal flower design was awarded *Best in Show* in the Milne House Garden Club's Annual Flower Show at Toronto Botanical Gardens. Congratulations, **Jennifer!**



**BE SURE TO VISIT OUR NEW WEB SITE**

## OUR MEMBERS HAVE SPOKEN

In response to a *Growing Together* reader survey, here are our members' favourite garden centres outside of Cobourg:

**Brookside Perennials** east Cobourg

**Lorne Park Nurseries** Salem

**Pickering Nurseries** Port Hope

**Brighton Garden Centre** Brighton

**Pine Ridge Gallery** Pickering

**Baltimore Valley** Baltimore

**Orono Garden Centre** Orono

**Happy Hollow Nursery** Orono

**Viking Nurseries** Harwood

**Connon Nurseries** Trenton

**Griffin's Nursery** Peterborough

**Van der Meer Nurseries** Ajax



### EDITOR'S FAVOURITE GARDEN CENTRE County Road 2 Salem

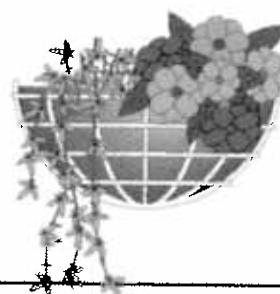
What greater joy is there for a gardener than discovering a new garden centre? Last summer when I was meandering along one of my favourite roads, County Road Two, [formerly Highway 2] I chanced to see a sign for Old Barn Perennials. It looked small and friendly and the name intrigued me, so I turned in. [Actually my car turns in automatically at garden centres.] To my great delight I was greeted by a most congenial woman, **Peggy Howden**. She is a gardener's gardener! In just a few short years of living on her four acre haven she has already created many beautiful gardens. In her large natural pond, a canoe filled with potted bright flowers becomes a floating garden. **Peggy** specializes in old favourites hardy in our zone, recent introductions and native plants. Her nursery is one of the few places around that sells Carolina False Lupin. Look for many different coneflower varieties, as they are one of her favourite flowers. When you visit Old Barn Perennials, expect great plants, friendly service, gardening tips, a tour of the grounds and a 10% discount. The 2008 season begins May 17. Recently we welcomed **Peggy Howden** as a new member of our club. JG

### GRIFFIN'S NURSERY

3026 Lakefield Rd.

Peterborough

Carol Evans is a great fan of this nursery. Griffin's has a most informative newsletter featuring garden tips and upcoming events. They offer a great deal: a customer appreciation card for \$10.00 which entitles gardeners to discounts, seminars and their newsletter. One such informative article culled from its pages gives us hope for annuals which survive well in heat and drought, based on their experience of the past two summers. They suggest we grow Diamond Frost Euphorbia, Solenia Begonia, Coleus, Blazing Rose Iresine, Dragon Wing Begonia, Lantana, Broadway Lights and Callibroachoa in 2008.



### GARDEN EVENTS TO GET YOU THROUGH THE WINTER

#### HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW

Victoria Hall

March 5,12,19,26

Cobourg

#### CANADA BLOOMS

Convention Centre

March 12-16

Toronto

#### FOR THE LOVE OF GARDENING

Evinrude Centre

April 11 - 13

Peterborough

There's an interesting article about **Judy Harris** in the current issue of *Trellis* magazine, a publication of the Toronto Botanical Gardens. The focus of the article is making the transition from gardening on a small city lot in Toronto to gardening on a county property. **Judy's** magnificent gardens will be featured on the Big Sisters Big Brothers Garden Tour this year.

**"Norway Maples belong in Norway!!!"**

Dianne Westlake, speaker at our November 2007 meeting

**Here's a great tip from Beaches Garden Society** for forcing paperwhites which don't bolt and flop over. By using the following method, the stems will be 1/3 shorter but just as fragrant and floriferous as usual: Plant paperwhites in stones, gravel, etc., as usual. Add water. Wait until the roots begin to grow. When the green shoots above the bulb reach 1/2" pour off the water, then add an alcohol solution, in a ratio of 1 part liquor to 7 parts water. Gin, vodka, tequila, rum, whiskey or any other hard liquor can be used. Yes, hard liquor! Wow! Narcissus on the bottle!

Like to tour the county? **Marta Habermehl** says that a **new and improved map of Northumberland County** is available at the County Court Building 860 William St. for \$4.00, or very soon at their new location on the northwest corner of Elgin and Burnham.(Cobourg)

**THINK SPRING** with great easy to grow shrubs suitable for our zone: **White Fringetree/Old Man's Beard** *Chionanthus virginicus*; **Carolina Allspice/Common Sweetshrub** *Calycanthus floridus*; **Bottlebrush, Fothergilla gardenii**; **Bottlebrush Buckeye** *Aesculus arviciflora*; **Butterfly Bush/Summer Lilac Bush** *Buddleia davidii*; **Japanese rose/Jew's Mallow** *Kerria japonica*.

According to local beekeepers Ray Jensen [you've seen him at the Cobourg Farmers' Market] and Fred Clappison, husband of **Mina Clappison**, all is not doom and gloom for the future of **Canadian bees** in spite of a few hysterical articles you may have read recently. Judging by the exquisite flavour of the honey gifted to me [JG] by Fred, the bees are doing okay. Jason Santerre, reporting in Harrowsmith, says that: "Honeybees will be back in force come spring 2008. I've been talking to a lot of beekeepers out there and so far, the bees are looking good."



**Shirley Embree** wants your used baskets for planting herbs to be sold in this year's plant sale.



**Don't forget to check out our new website at:**  
[www.cobourggardenclub.org](http://www.cobourggardenclub.org)