



# Friends of the Old Seed House Garden

## NEWSLETTER

Spring 2006

Edition 12

### GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIR

It is hard to believe that it is exactly 10 years since the Big "Dig Your Own" Plant Sale took place the first week of May 1996! That was of course a huge undertaking by the University Women's Club with cooperation from the Georgetown Horticultural Society. I remember it well! It seemed like thousands had descended on Dominion Seed House, with soggy conditions and not enough parking. Imagine creating a road to higher ground while the eager gardeners impatiently stood by watching. Well, it was done and by the end of the weekend we had \$40,000 socked away to start us on our way towards a beautiful public garden at Dominion Seed House. At the time I foolishly thought that we had most of what we would need to build a garden. I was only wrong by 1 order of magnitude. We really needed \$400,000! But it was a fabulous start and well beyond our wildest expectations.

Raising the additional \$360,000 was the next challenge, but with great volunteers and a generous community who bought into the dream, the money was raised and the garden was created. It took a little longer than expected, but the important thing is that it happened.

At last we are in a position to recognize all of the individuals and businesses that contributed to the Garden. We are delighted to be hosting a celebration and unveiling of our permanent donor plaque that recognizes donations of \$500 and greater. Also we will be unveiling the plaques for all of our tree and bench donations. This is a cause for great celebration for all who have been involved in Garden over the years and for the community that now enjoys the benefits of this wonderful asset.

I hope that you will be able to join The Friends of The Old Seed House Garden on the May 31<sup>st</sup> as we honour our generous Garden supporters.

#### Jane Fogal , Chair

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*The Friends of the Old Seed House Garden cordially invite you and your guests to attend a*

### **Donor and Volunteer Recognition Event**

**Wednesday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2006**

4:00 p.m. – Refreshments served in the Gazebo

4:30 p.m. – Unveiling and Dedication

**A Donor Recognition plaque will be unveiled and Trees and Benches will be dedicated with their plaques.**

**Please RSVP Barb Baron by Friday, May 19<sup>th</sup>.  
(905) 877-3455 or [rjbaron@sympatico.ca](mailto:rjbaron@sympatico.ca)**

### **Thank You to all Volunteers!**

Last season there were dedicated volunteers whom we owe many thanks for keeping the gardens looking as good as they did throughout the summer and fall. Weeding, mulching, and picking up garbage, though not exciting jobs, were done regularly. The pathways were raked for debris, and the formal gardens were edged with stone requiring a lot of moving and replanting of the lavender borders. Barb Baron's team of elves from the University Women's Club came on masse once a month and made a huge contribution to the maintenance. All of your hard work is evident today!

**This year we will be meeting on Tuesday mornings from 9:30 – 11:00 a.m. (weather permitting) from April through to the end of October.**

Many thanks also to the Garden inspectors who helped to keep vandalism and its effects to a minimum.

I am looking forward to another fulfilling season at the Gardens and hope to see you (and new friends) there this summer. Your dedication shows that we all have a personal sense of ownership and responsibility to the Garden. Spring planting will likely happen mid-May.

**Sue Balogh**

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