



Friends of the Old Seed House Garden

NEWSLETTER

fall 2003

Edition 7

Message from the Chair - *Jane Fogal*

It has been 11 months since our garden suddenly sprang to life and it looks better every day. The perennials have flourished in and around the foundation walls and the selection of unusual plants has created a delightful surprise for visitors. Belinda has done a marvelous job of designing this thriving oasis using drought resistant plants.

The garden has been very well maintained by our troop of volunteers led by Diane Norton. This is a difficult yet critical function at the garden. The volunteers have done a terrific job making our garden a continuing source of great pride.

It was with great pride that we accepted the Chamber of Commerce Civic Pride Award in July. This was a wonderful recognition of the efforts put forth by our volunteers and supporters. Congratulations to all of you for making a very significant contribution to our town!

Substantial donations from Mattamy Homes and Howmet Castings this summer will allow us to move forward with several remaining elements of the garden this fall. Keep watching for exciting new developments in October. Remember, a garden is never done, so your ongoing support whether financial or voluntary, will always be welcomed and appreciated.

Jane Fogal - janefogal@aztec-net.com 877-5806

Fundraising Report ~ *Barb Baron*

Our successful opening in June, and the growing beauty of the garden have encouraged much new support for our completion phase.

I am very pleased to announce that our total fundraising efforts have reached the total of \$340,000. Along with continuing card sales, the purchase of trees, and individual donations, we have received two major new donations from **Howmet Aluminum Castings~\$2000.** and **Mattamy**

Homes~ \$25,000. We are tremendously grateful for this fantastic support!

I am also excited to announce our major fundraising effort this fall:

GEORGETOWN LITTLE THEATRE

BENEFIT PERFORMANCE OF

COOKIN' WITH GUS

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 6, 2003

In support of

**THE FRIENDS OF THE
OLD SEED HOUSE GARDEN**

Tickets are on sale for \$25.00 each, and will again include a wine and cheese reception in the gallery during intermission and after the performance.

This delightful event quickly sold out last year, so please order your tickets as soon as possible. You may call me at 905-877-3455, or contact any other member of your executive for reservations.

Thanks to everyone, the vision grows brighter!

Barb Baron - Fundraising Chair

Grand Opening Celebrations ~ *Sue Balogh*

On Sunday June 9th, the Old Seed House Garden was officially opened. Many members of the community, corporate sponsors, town officials, and volunteers turned out to mark this special occasion. With Phase two of the gardens completed, the Friends of the Old Seed House Garden took this opportunity to thank all of its supporters and show off the gardens.

Audrey Brown presented a hand painted rendition of the Dominion Seed House on a slate roof tile. (over)



Following the ribbon cutting ceremony, people were invited to tour the gardens, enjoy a barbecue, cake and refreshments and participate in a raffle. Many thanks to the opening days sponsors: J.S. Jones & Sons Funeral Home, McMaster Meats, Neilson Dairy, Brian's Food Basics. Raffle prizes were generously donated by Canadian Tire, Halton Camera Exchange, Georgetown Fruit Market, My Hometown, and the Freckled Lion.

Design and Development ~ Belinda Gallagher

"Boy, do we have a nice garden!"

When last I wrote, the snow was falling and all the activity for 2003 was just plans on paper. This morning as I awaited the delivery of the donated, Unilock stone, I was able to stroll the completed paths, smell the fragrant flowers in the formal garden, sit on a bench and admire the signs depicting the history of the site and of our project. I had to smile as youngsters and adults alike passed through the garden on their way to their morning activities.

We had a very hard winter and several of our trees and large shrubs did not survive. These we hope to replace in the next month. We also plan to plant many of the trees designated for the rest of the garden. Some trees are in very short supply or unavailable. For those we will wait until next spring.

We also have more trees available for adoption as we begin to complete the periphery of the site.

Our perennials, ornamental grasses and bulbs took the winter in stride, as well as the wetness of spring and the dryness of summer. They have performed exceptionally, providing some bloom in the garden non-stop since April. We will plant bulbs and perennials in the formal area of the garden this fall, leaving some space for those showy annuals!

Several things are still in the works for the final Phase. During the fall a water feature will be constructed inside the foundation area, our remaining lights will be installed, and two areas of Unilock stone will be completed. But the BIGGEST NEWS is that we have placed a deposit on a beautiful Parkland gazebo from Limestone Trail. We hope to have the foundation in place before winter so that the construction of the gazebo can be completed in early spring.

We are all so very proud of the progress we have made to this point, progress due to the continued support both physical and financial from you, our "FRIENDS".

Belinda Gallagher, Chair

Membership and Volunteers ~ Diane Norton

We Did It!!

Volunteers have made our first full year of the Old Seed House Garden very successful! The garden looks fabulous and has been a source of enjoyment for many people (and dogs). We have planted, weeded, watered, painted, whipper-snipped, mulched, inspected and then sat back to admire our accomplishments. Thank you to everyone who has volunteered time and effort to the garden this year.

Saturday, October 4th from 10am.-noon will be our fall clean-up time for the garden. Come to help pull out annuals, and plant bulbs and perennials. Join us for some community fun!

**Contact Diane Norton,
volunteer coordinator at 905-877-7601.**

Newsletter Editors:

Diane Norton
dianenorton@sympatico.ca
(905) 877-7601

Mattie & Gord Spencer
mspencer31@cogeco.ca
(905) 877-4409