



Friends of the Old Seed House Garden

NEWSLETTER

Winter 2004

Edition 8

Message from the Chair - Jane Fogal *Greetings Friends!*

Spring is coming! In a few months the bulbs will poke their bright green shoots up through the cold earth and herald a new gardening season. Get ready for a special display this year as a result of an unexpected donation and a crew that thinks Christmas is a great time for planting bulbsicles. Thank you Sue and Belinda.

I would like to invite you to our Annual General Meeting. In an effort not to be boring, we are changing the format. For the most part we want it to be more of a conversation among friends. We would like to talk about options for completing the garden and fulfilling our vision. For example, how do we attract more visitors and volunteers? Should we be looking at special events or continue with our educational seminars? We have lots of questions and perhaps you do too. Together we will dig up some answers. Please join us on Feb. 26th to chat about the coming year in the garden.

Jane Fogal
janefogal@aztec-net.com (905) 877-5806

Open House and Annual General Meeting

Thursday, February 26, 2004 7:00 pm
Esquering Room
Civic Centre

Everyone is welcome!
Refreshments served.

Design and Development Committee

TURNING A CORNER

Two years ago, we had a five-year plan. Today, a mere fraction of the vision remains to be completed at the Old Seed House Garden.

We had another banner year of accomplishments; spectacular signage, blooms from April until November, and lots of construction culminating in the **beautiful water feature** inside the foundation garden (built by Grass Roots Lawn and Garden) and the **picturesque gazebo** (built by Limestone Trail). Now as we look upon the site it is hard to imagine the void that was there two years ago.



2004 will be a year of signage and finish work. Permanent donor signage in several forms (trees, plant collections, benches, etc.) will be put in place. A cement floor will be poured in the gazebo, and some pathways will be changed to interlock brick. We will add a few more benches, a flagpole and bike rack to the garden. Plantings will be finished and directional signage will be erected. Lighting will be added to the kiosk, garden shed and gazebo. We also plan to install garden art and a decorative trellis in the formal garden area.

BY-LAW CHANGE RECOMMENDED

The following will be presented to the membership at the AGM for discussion and approval.

Article II - Executive Committee

Section 1, **Delete** "Resource Development Chair"

Add "Corresponding Secretary/ Newsletter Editor"

The fact that we are almost three years ahead of schedule is a tribute to this community and to all of you, the Friends of the Old Seed House Garden. And because we are ahead of schedule, we have turned a corner and now we are looking towards the future of the garden.

We need you to help us in this long term planning. Design and Development will no longer be a 'construction committee'. Instead we will need to develop a role for the garden within the community. Will we educate? Entertain? Will we be a tourist attraction? Or will we be all of these things.

Please join us at the Annual 'Celebration' (AGM) and share your ideas for the future of the Old Seed House Garden.

**Belinda Gallagher,
Chair Design and Development**

Executive Nominations

Executive Members are elected for 2 year terms. Nominations will be accepted from the floor.

We are looking for enthusiastic, fun-loving individuals to serve on the Old Seed House Garden Executive. Experience not necessary. Salary negotiable (up to \$00.00 Canadian). Contact **Belinda Gallagher**, Vice Chair for more information.
belinda@triffids.com (905)877-7523



You are invited to renew your annual membership in the Friends. The fee continues to be \$10. This money covers the cost of producing and distributing the newsletter. Those of you who have achieved lifetime status need not renew.

Friends of the Old Seed House Garden

- I am renewing my membership with Friends
- I am becoming a new member of Friends

- Single or Family (\$10.00)
- Senior or Student (\$8.00)



Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Province: _____ Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Thanks for your support.

Your annual membership entitles you to newsletters and voting privileges at general meetings.

Please make your cheque payable to "The Friends on the Old Seed House Garden"

7 Park Avenue , Georgetown, Ontario, L7G 1 Y5

Volunteers:

There are so many ways to help at the garden – plant, weed, site inspection, special events, the garden tours, deliver newsletters. A SPECIAL THANK YOU for YOUR TIME & TALENTS-

- | | |
|---|-------------------|
| Dianne Anderson | Marg Megelink |
| Marjorie Allan | Chris Walker |
| Betty & Pete Koperdraad | Ann French |
| Bob and Sue Raine | Ann Lawlor |
| George Takahashi | Ruth McMulkin |
| Elizabeth Hayes | Mitchell Sproule |
| Christine Williams | Jane Petrovich |
| Sean McNally | John Day |
| Zyta & Roger Daykin | Jo MacLean |
| Marion Jonassen | Janet Duval |
| Martin Boomsma | Dawn Falls |
| Maureen Walker | Theresa Ball |
| Ron & Elaine Chatten | Jan Cook |
| Marjorie Bryant | Marna Brearley |
| Georgie Hebb | Chris Denomme |
| Diane & Dave Norton | Rick & Jane Fogal |
| Art, Sue, Kristen, Leanne, & Mark, Sarah, Bryce, Thomas & Christian Burrows | Wes Balogh |
| Belinda & Coleman Gallagher | |
| Mattie & Gordon Spencer | Barb & Bob Baron |

*To Volunteer ANY amount of time, contact **Sue Balogh** sbalogh@cogeco.ca (905) 702-0180

Fundraising Report:

As we approach our Annual General Meeting, I contemplate what it has meant to be the Old Seed House Garden Fundraising Chair for the past two years. The challenge seemed enormous at first: to try and garner support for a three- phase program and raise almost \$370,00.00 to build a dream!

Little did I know that so many in our community would respond with enthusiasm and generosity. The vision that was developed by the Friends’ membership appealed to everyone who wanted to enhance the quality of life in our area. In the course of meeting countless individuals and businesses, I received the unexpected bonus of gaining much knowledge about my town, and making many new friends. In addition, support was offered by many from much farther afield: companies in Fergus,

Acton, Toronto and Mississauga have all been generous supporters of the garden.

The results are now obvious to all. Just to stroll around the winding paths, through the sunken garden, past the new water feature, the planted beds, healthy young trees, and on to visit the brand new gazebo, stirs a sense of wonder and pride in the efforts and commitment of so many.

One cannot find enough words to thank the donors of money, supplies and hours of hard labour. Thanks to you and everyone involved from the beginning, approximately **\$370,000** has been raised, and the final steps are in progress as I write! We will continue to try and raise approximately **\$22,000** in order to complete the promised permanent donor plaque in the garden, the tree plaques, street signage, and the final touches that will add to the extraordinary beauty of the garden site.

The AGM will be a true celebration, and a time to further recognize your efforts and faith in supporting this project. If we all stay committed to the dream, and volunteer our help to maintain the beauty of the garden for present and future generations to enjoy, all of our fundraising work will have been rewarded many times over!

With sincere appreciation,
Barb Baron
rbaron@aztec-net.com (905) 877-3455
Fundraising Chair



Thank you, 2003 Donors

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Halton Camera Exchange
My Hometown
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Aquality Irrigation & Illumination
Caroline O'Driscoll
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Wayne & Cathy Weldrick
Neil & Chris Isaak
Frank & Lisa Pointner
Gary & Fran Herbert
George & Josephine Gruter
Roger & Zyta Daykin
Elliot Halparin
Heike Ciufu, Halton Hills Sewing Machine/Vacuum
Janine Stopforth, Shoppers Drug Mart #707 Staff
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Jo MacLean
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