

Omeme & District Horticultural Society

Newsletter

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Our Sept. 19th Meeting

‘Petals & Wings’: Protecting the Karner Blue and Creating a Butterfly Garden

On Sept 19th, please join us to hear Judy Kennedy speak on the topic of butterflies and creating a butterfly garden. Judy is passionate about many environmental issues but none is more important than her love for the endangered Karner Blue. She will share her attempt to protect this little blue flying flower as well as tell us how we can attract butterflies and create butterfly homes in our own gardens.

Also happening that evening :

- the Show Trophies will be awarded
- lots of snacks from 7-7:30
- Monthly competition: “Back to School” a design incorporating Classroom Supplies (not to exceed 20” in any direction)
- Photo Competition: “Echinacea” (Coneflower) one 4x6 or 5x7 photo

Don’t miss this evening of catching up after a wonderful summer. Come and bring a friend!

What a Summer!!! Read on ...

Our June meeting - with plant sale and auction

If you missed this meeting, you missed a great night! Unfortunately our guest speaker became ill and was unable to join us but we had no difficulty filling the evening with fun and laughter as we

viewed the flower show and participated in the auction and plant sale. Read on for details.

June Flower Show: This was a sight to behold! The front half of the Coronation Hall was filled an array of beautiful June flowers. Thank you to Christa and her helpers for organizing and setting up the display and especially to the members who took time to enter. We had approximately 170 entries from 18 exhibitors (some first time.) What an amazing display! Thank you to everyone who went to the effort to enter one or many categories!!

The Plant Sale and Silent Auction: This was also a tremendous success! There was some lively bidding and many people went home with some treasures. Thank you to all who donated either garden items or plants and also to those who purchased them.

The results of the evening were as follows:
Silent Auction: \$362.00 Plant Sale: \$147.55
Donations for tomato plants: \$ 32.85 With a total of \$542.40 for the evening. These monies will be used to subsidize tickets for the District Luncheon, the OHA Convention Expenses for our Delegates and the Volunteer BBQ evening. Thank you everyone. It was a very successful evening in every way.



June 27th : Our Re-Scheduled On-Site Visit

Our visit to the residence of Steven's Landscaping and Custom Landscape Lighting was finally held on June 27th. About 30 members joined Steven Charest and his wife, Anne Sanger at their beautiful property. Steven told us about his business and about some new eco-friendly products that he used and also had for sale. As it became darker, we toured his property as he explained a few of the tricks involved in effective lighting in a garden. The members then sat on the deck or around his pond and enjoyed snacks under the stars. What a wonderful way to spend an evening! We thanked Steven and Anne for their hospitality and hopefully we will see them at our meetings from now on as they intend to join our group.

July 18: Members Garden Tour

The 9th annual garden tour was held on July 18th. This year we had a neighbourhood garden tour of members gardens in the Clearview/Kenver area.

The gardens toured were Rose Shultz, Donna Hollingworth, Linda Krishnan, Dorothy Edwards our newest member and Sue Lajeunesse. Everyone enjoyed the stroll around the neighbourhood, the wonderful gardens and the delicious snacks, beverages and camaraderie served on the waterfront of Pigeon Lake, at the completion of the tour.

Submitted by Sue Lajeunesse (Organizing Chair)

Our August Flower & Veggie Show Aug 15th

The Curling Club was filled with childrens' laughter, and the sweet scent of the many flowers on display as we gathered for our 72nd Annual Show and to also celebrate the 65th anniversary of our Omeme Youth Group!

At 7:30, Heather and Linda presented the awards and prize money to the many excited youth members, as parents and grandparents watched with pride. Following this, Aron Muscutt presented an emotional

slide show of photos taken during the construction of the new Memorial Legion Garden. He then followed up with photos (ranging from very humorous to very beautiful) depicting our past year's activities. These presentations were beautiful and very much enjoyed. A huge thank you to Aron for the many, many, MANY hours of work that went into the creation of these photo presentations. And so ended another successful evening.

A special thanks to all the people who jumped in to help when our chief organizer, Christa, took ill and was unable to lead the set up of this event. We think we did a good job of attempting to fill her shoes but at the same time we know that it wasn't good enough to REPLACE her!!! Welcome back Christa! We missed you and now realize just how much work you do!!!

Youth Show: Out of 25 children that registered 17 entered in 35 categories. 5 trophies were presented plus \$147.50 was given out in prize money. The children really met the challenges of representing something for "65" years. There was everything from posters to a popup birthday cake. The novelties were outstanding. Try to imagine the three stooges made out of vegetables, a lady bug out of a red pepper, or a three eyed alien out of a over grown turnip! Such imagination! After the awards they all enjoyed lots of refreshments. Thanks to Ruth Arndt for judging. Submitted by Linda Jenkins

Our Youth Group's Fall Meeting

The Youth Group will next meet on Saturday October 15th from 10 until 12 noon at Trinity Church. They will be taking part in several crafts and activities relating to nature, autumn and gardening. Linda and Heather would appreciate the help of any members available on that day. Your only duties will be to supervise the various crafts and to enjoy the enthusiasm of our 25 youth members. It is always a great morning. Please try to help out if possible. [Heather: 705-328-0342](tel:705-328-0342) [Linda: 705-749-0019](tel:705-749-0019) A huge thank you to Heather & Linda for organizing such a great experience for our gardeners of tomorrow.



The Village Gardens and Planters

Another very busy gardening season is coming to a close and all the volunteers can take a well-deserved rest until next year. With an average of 6-8 people out for our gardening sessions of one morning or evening a week we have kept the gardens thriving and looking beautiful and have had many compliments from the community when they see us in the gardens. The Communities in Bloom judges were favorably impressed with our efforts and hard work and both Christa Marton and Linda Jenkins our spokespersons impressed upon them that we keep the gardens looking good all season not just to impress the judges. The garden volunteers are responsible for 31 planters through out the village, gardens at the Coronation Hall, the curling arena, the marina, the skateboard park/ beach, the fire hall, the LCBO, and the Royal Canadian Legion. As part of our efforts to help the environment we try to conserve water and control weeds with the use of natural cedar mulch. This year with the hot dry weather we were able to still keep the gardens looking beautiful with very little supplementary water.

The addition of new black iron planters, benches and garbage bins throughout the downtown area as well as our new signs at either end of the village has had a very positive effect on the appearance of the village. The most impressive part of the gardens is the volunteers who help to plant and maintain the gardens. Without your hard work the beautifying of the village would not happen.

Submitted by Joanne Windrem and Aron Muscutt

Who stole the cookies from the cookie jar??

Who Me!???



The Creation of the Memorial Garden at the Royal Canadian Legion

Our major garden project for the 2011-year was the making of a memorial garden to honor two young soldiers who both attended school in Omeme and gave their lives in service for their country in Afghanistan.

Our initial plan was to plant a native Ironwood tree for some shade for a very hot garden but with some funding from the City of Kawartha for ten years participation in CIB we were able to expand our plans. Aron Muscutt and Joanne Windrem planned the garden and sought out the materials for the garden. Due to the overwhelming support and generosity of the businesses and individuals we contacted we were able to create a very beautiful memorial garden that is a credit to the village. We have incorporated some historical elements with the use of wrought iron panels formerly part of the bridge on the main street, some recycled elements with the panels as well as two benches lovingly refinished by Ron and Aron Muscutt. Due to the generosity of several local contractors, companies and individuals who cleared the site, supplied and installed the memorial stone and stone bases for the benches and set the panels in place, supplied topsoil, gravel and mulch we were able to create a garden that would not have been a reality without their support. With the addition of some beautiful plants, a tree and shrubs also supplied at reduced prices the project was completed. The garden volunteers who worked on this project can be very proud of their efforts. The garden committee chairpersons Aron Muscutt and Joanne Windrem thank all of our garden volunteers for their help and support.

Submitted by Aron Muscutt and Joanne Windrem

Remember that the Hosta Virus is still a serious concern. When doing fall cleanup, be sure to disinfect your shears after every Hosta. You can use a mild bleach solution or keep disinfectant clothes in your garden bag.



2011 Sudbury Convention

This year we had five Omemee members, representing District 4, attend the OHA Convention in Sudbury. On Thursday night, a group of delegates participated in some guerrilla gardening. After dark, they marched down the main street to the Market Square, where they picked up garbage, replanted an unsightly flower bed and then slipped away. This set the tone for the weekend. Business mixed with lots of fun! For the next three mornings delegates attended business meetings and collected information which will be shared with you over the next few months. In the afternoon, they enjoyed a variety of speakers or went on tours of local areas and gardens. It was a well organized and well run convention with many highlights. The main focus of the weekend was the history behind the re-greening of Sudbury from slag to today's natural beauty. It was an emotional story and the results were amazing! It was a true example of what can be done by local volunteers if they have a worthwhile goal. We truly had a wonderful time and encourage others to take the opportunity of attending a future convention. It is educational, as well as fun. We brought back many memories and even a few souvenirs for our gardens! Just ask Joanne! :)

Submitted by Carol Mitchell, Heather Grassie, Diane Webber, Ruth Arndt and Joanne Windrem

Guerrilla Gardening: when a group of gardeners (or citizens), under the cover of darkness, convert an unsightly area into a thing of beauty and then slip away unnoticed.

Our 2011 financial year end is September 30th. Please get any outstanding bills to Darlene Hunter as soon as possible!

Is This Guerrilla Gardening in Omemee???

Manse Work Bee Thursday September 1, 2011

The United Church minister's residence in the village of Omemee is known as "The Manse". It is a century old building which had been unoccupied for over a year and the grounds were in need of some attention. The Brooks family was hired to trim the Cedar hedge. The sucker branches on an old Manitoba Maple tree stump and a Forsythia bush and other shrubs were trimmed and pruned and the yard waste was taken to the recycling section at the dump by Paul Grassie. Four Horticultural gals volunteered to do some weeding, taming, edging and planting in the back yard. They were invited to have lunch at the Community Care Senior's luncheon at the Anglican Church. It was a pleasant break to be able to sit down have such a nice lunch for only \$5.00. Thanks to Colleen Hughes, Barbara McGregor, Cathy Sheehey and Heather Grassie for their volunteer time in tidying up the flower beds on the south side of the house. More pruning and trimming could be done on the north side of the house but further plans have not yet been organized.

Submitted by Heather Grassie

Allium Sales

The Allium bulbs are now in! If you ordered bulbs last spring, see Mary Read at our meeting on Monday and she will have them for you. We did order a few extra, so if you would like them, they are \$5 a pkg on a first come basis. Thanks Mary for organizing this project.

"In gardening there are no mistakes only compost opportunities."
Mark Cullen



Volunteer Thank you BBQ Party 2011

Over 50 volunteers attended the BBQ Party at Joanne Windrem's home. After everyone enjoyed some delicious appetizers and drinks, tasty cobs of BBQ'd corn were served along with salads, sausages and hamburgers. Besides a Thank you cake there were other scrumptious desserts. It was a lovely evening to thank all the volunteers who so generously gave of their time and talent to support the Omeme & District Horticultural Society throughout the year. Three young men Justin and Virgil Windrem and Travis Corp were especially thanked and honoured for their contributions of labour and resources for the Legion Memorial Garden. These young men went to school with the two young soldiers who were killed in action in Afghanistan. Without their help the Garden Project would not have been completed in such a timely fashion. A very big round of applause goes to Aron Muscutt and Joanne Windrem for their leadership and direction of the volunteers who cared for the public gardens.

At the end of the year we will have an impressive total number of volunteer hours accumulated for all the Horticultural events and activities for the year 2011. Be sure to tell your committee chairperson your number of hours at the next meeting.

The Omeme Horticultural Society thanks and values all its volunteers. Thank you Joanne for being such a gracious hostess.

Submitted by Heather Grassie & Committee

Wanted: plastic water bottles!

Linda Jenkins needs plastic water bottles for one of the crafts for the youth day on Oct 15th. If you have any—please bring them to the meeting on Monday or if you contact her 705-749-0019 or Carol 799-6282 we will make arrangements to get them.

Up & Coming Events:

Local Horticultural Society Meetings

Peterborough

Wed. Sept 28th at 7:30 at the Peterborough Library: The Garden as a Therapeutic Space, Brian Nichols

Lakefield

Tues. Oct 11th at 8 p.m. Lakefield Marshland Centre: Getting your garden—and your soil—ready for winter, Cathy Dueck

Bobcaygeon

Thurs. Oct 20th - 7:00 Knox Presbyterian Church: *Garden Design Experiences(creating Imaginative gardens in Minden)*

Millbrook Garden Club

Wednesday, Oct 3rd- Gourds, Beverley Williams. cost \$2

Lindsay

Tues, Oct 18th at 7:30 p.m. at St. Paul Parish Hall (45 Russell Street West) The Mae Wests of the Garden, Trish Symons

[The new Memorial Garden at the Royal Canadian Legion](#)

