

District 9 2010

Haldimand, Niagara

District Director - Marvin Myhre

Dunnville completed the downtown fountain. Participation in the Home and Garden Show and the Mudcat Parade increased our membership. To celebrate the Sesquicentennial, flowers in the colours of red, white and blue were planted. This year, we combined our plant sale with a garage sale and raised over \$1 000.

Fort Erie thanks their student co-ops who assisted in greenhouse work for the plant sale. A memorial garden was planted at the Douglas Lions' Centre. An initiative with the Rotary Club enabled the club to begin beachfront plantings in 2010.

Grimsby planted a garden at the new Grimsby Benevolent Fund's building. They continued to maintain town gardens, and planted the 32 baskets which hang in the downtown area. A tree was planted at Nelles School in conjunction with Land Care Niagara as part of a programme where a tree will be planted each year.

Lincoln had a successful Plant Sale that enabled them to donate \$2000 to Niagara College, to the library, planters to both the Vineland and Beamsville libraries, an award to a horticultural student at BDHS, and daffodil plantings in the woodlot and at the town hall. Trees were also replaced and repairs done in the Millennium Forest. The club participated in judging for Communities in Bloom, a booth at Niagara College Open House and Pamperfest, the Stand By Me program, two annual potlucks, a tour of a Dahlia Garden and a potting Demonstration.

Niagara Falls raised \$4000 in funding which helped to provide a Niagara College Horticultural Bursary and scholarship to students at the NPC School of Horticulture. Plantings were made and maintained at the Armoury bed and three Fire Hall flower beds as well as the Northgate flower bed at Fairview Cemetery. Garden strolls of members' home landscapes were a regular and popular activity. The Best Neighbourhood category in the Niagara Falls Trillium Awards was supported and all five Secondary Schools in the Schools in Bloom competition. The society hosted regular Floral Design Workshops.

Niagara-on-the-Lake held two wonderful social and education evenings "Behind the Scenes of the Butterfly Conservatory & the Niagara Parks Botanical Garden and "Harvest Bounty" - Chili Corn Night at Kurtz Orchards. Members provided arrangements for nursing homes and the local hospital, and donated to a food bank. Funds were also donated to the Town for beautification, to the Community Centre, and to the Daffodil Garden of Hope. The society brought back the annual plant sale, held an Annual Tree planting, enjoyed a hugely successful garden tour, a members' garden stroll and are now hosting a Garden of the Week Contest.96

Pelham celebrated over 80 years of civic beautification and in addition to maintaining an active schedule of meetings, flower shows, garden walks and flower shows, introduced a new item to District 9 last year - they hosted the first District wide photography show. The theme was Capturing Niagara. Innovative categories such as "Don't Keep Me In" for container gardens attracted entrants from across the District. The show was well attended and proved to be very popular.

Port Colborne with the help of local students cleaned up the Roselawn Centre, recycled the material and then planted flowers along historic West Street. Two native trees were donated to the museum. In addition to the plant sale, they hosted a flower show and tea and sponsored the flower show at the Wainfleet Fall Fair. Two scholarships were donated to high school students.

Ridgeway participated in the Ridgeway Summer Festival and increased their membership. Monies raised from the sale of solitary pollen bees' nests provided for the purchase of an LCD projector. A banner was purchased for use at society events. They also hosted a Daylily garden tour and a beginner's Floral Design Course.

Smithville held a Youth Workshop, planting cherry tomatoes, banana peppers and herbs in pots. The society donated hanging baskets throughout downtown, and four barrels and a raised bed were planted with annuals at the train station. Cherry tomato plants were given to the community care food bank. A gardening book was donated to the library in memoriam. A large tent with ivy and roses was decorated for a 25th anniversary. They also donated to the Smithville Fall Fair Flower Show & Children's Pumpkin Contest and held a child's Floral Workshop. A bursary of \$150 was given to a high school student.

St. Catharines in addition to providing jam packed newsletters and holding interesting meetings with diverse speakers, had a fabulous year in 2010. Monies raised from the annual plant sale enabled the society to revitalize Sir Casimir Gzowski Park. The garden tour provided scholarships for Niagara College as did funds raised in a raffle. Volunteers maintained local gardens and two Trillium Awards were sponsored.

Thorold is one of the district's oldest societies and hosted the annual Fall Forum in September. As well as maintaining a busy schedule of garden plantings, meetings with interesting speakers, Thorold also introduced something innovative in District 9 in the form of a Garden Blog. Thorold is the first society to be on Facebook!

Welland sold "Welland Rose" bushes as a fundraiser for the society. The plant sale was so successful that it was moved to a larger venue. Members hosted a natural art Contest using horticultural materials to make faces, and the annual Rose Show. A scholarship was given to Niagara College. They helped at a local seniors home to clean up and plant flowers. In 2010, they held our first photographic competition and winning entries made it into a calendar for a fundraiser.