

Florascape

64 Years of Beautifying Ancaster

Welcome to our fall season!

After a busy summer of Trillium Awards, tours and gardening we enjoyed an excellent speaker on Trees at our September meeting. Orchid lovers will want to be at our October meeting when a hobbyist will talk about growing and breeding orchids. (Hint: there might be a purchase opportunity!)



Monarch at Fieldcote Park

Photo: D. Puskas

The annual **Pot Luck Dinner and Annual General Meeting** takes place **November 18th**. Mark this date on your calendar. It's a great opportunity to meet and to catch up with people. (More to come about food.) The Annual General Meeting is also an opportunity for you to learn how your Board of Directors has worked for you this year.

Thanks to all of our members who volunteered over the summer doing weekly garden maintenance at Fieldcote Park and the three Municipal Gardens that the Society maintains. Thanks to the Trillium Awards committee for another successful year. And special thanks to Program Director, Betty Howitt, for arranging three tours and a great lineup of speakers. (2026 List coming in Winter Florascape)

Come and join us and find the many ways to get involved. **We'd love to see you!**

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Welcome New Member

Teresa Zywuiko

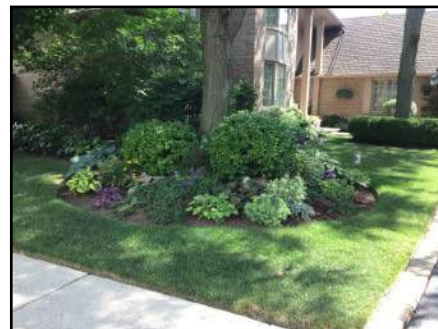
Diamond Trillium Award Winning Gardens (15 years of Trillium Awards) **Congratulations!**

by Carol Howe, Co-Director of Trillium Awards

The judging for the Trillium Awards is over for another year and the gardeners of Ancaster didn't disappoint! The gardens this year were gorgeous! Our 39 volunteer judges looked at 230 front gardens and gave out 110 awards: 3 Diamonds (15th), 7 Ruby (10th) and 10 Gold (5th) and 90 annual awards.

Many thanks, once again, to all of our volunteer judges and the committee for their time and commitment. We couldn't do it without you! **And Congratulations to all of the winning gardens!**

Diamond Award Gardens



435 Golf Links Rd



671 Highvalley Rd.



10 Tinder Lane

Photos: C. Howe



New Entry Garden Bed and the
Pollinator Garden

Photos: S. Lee



Our committed, knowledgeable and fun crew of regulars took on all kinds of tasks this summer—weeding, planting, fertilizing, designing, pruning, composting and more. A new Site Supervisor has been dedicated, by the City of Hamilton, to **Fieldcote Memorial Park & Museum** demonstrating improved communication with our volunteers and more immediate attention to some maintenance needs. The hot summer made weeding a challenge but the gardens are thriving!

Volunteers meet at Fieldcote Park every
Thursday, spring through
fall, from 9:30-noon.

Contributed by Sharon Lee

Our Society's outing to the historic **Dundurn Castle** site on August 21st. was a lot of fun! The visit started at the Coach House with our costumed guide, Cameron. We explored over 40 rooms and discovered the history of the McNab family. Next we toured the castle kitchen with cook demonstrator Fiona. Our group of 22 worked with her to make a traditional recipe using ingredients from the kitchen garden. The last part of the visit was spent exploring the lovingly restored historic kitchen garden where over 200 heirloom varieties of fruits, vegetables, herbs and flowers for use in the kitchen.

Contributed by Betty Howitt

Our Tour of Historic Dundurn Castle



Photos: R. Sherrard



Members' Page



Stock Photo

The BEST TOMATO

I Grew this year.....

'Rosa de Barbastro' "It has what you want a tomato to taste like—good flavour, low acid and good yield!" ...Marilyn Burjan

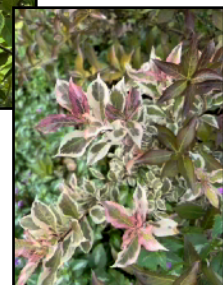
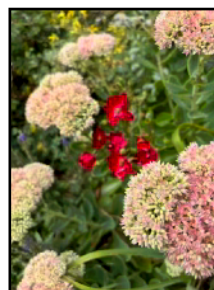
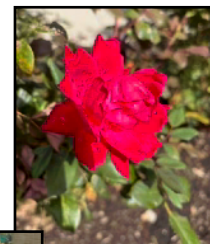
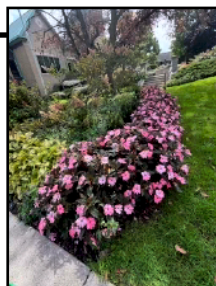


Photo: D. Parker

'Black Cherry' "The most abundant and disease-free tomato I've ever grown! Grown in a pot it yielded over 100 large, tasty tomatoes. A winner!" ..Donna Parker

Pretty in Pink

While doing routine maintenance at the **Old Town Hall gardens** I noticed so many shades of pink. The Sunshine Impatiens, despite the hot summer, are looking very full and are blooming non-stop. Other signs of pink can be found throughout the gardens with Sedums, shrubs and Hydrangeas. ...Jill Macaulay



Photos: J. Macaulay

In Memorium

Anthony Vallentin

Anthony was the ultimate volunteer for our horticultural society for 17 years. I can't count the number of times he helped us and touched every aspect of our group. We officially called him Director of Properties but he also helped immensely at Fieldcote and the municipal gardens because he so loved pruning the plants into beautiful shapes. He was also a major support at the Plant Sale. Anthony was so very interesting to work with because he had so many other hobbies and interests. He has also volunteered within the community and at St. John's Church. We were so lucky to have his friendship and his help over these years, I'm sure he's helping someone in the next world.

Contributed by Bob Wilt



Photos: Contributed by B.Wilt & the archives

Dorothy Macintyre

On August 31 our Society lost a long-time friend, Dorothy Macintyre. She was a 20-year veteran member, 15 of them as Membership Secretary. She also helped with municipal planting, the plant sale and anywhere a helping hand was needed. Everyone knew of her beautiful garden in Dundas where she, and her husband Andy, spent time with friends and neighbours. After Andy passed in 2023, she moved to Highgate Residence where she spent the last 21 months. We will miss her spirit and her friendship.

Contributed by Lorraine Held



Photos:
From the archives



Coming Events~

Meetings are held at Ancaster Old Town Hall,
210 Wilson St. E, Ancaster, on the 3rd
Tuesday of the month from September to June.

Meeting format:

- 7:30 Informal Chat & Refreshments
- 7:45 Brief business meeting
- 8:00 Speaker Presentation & Questions

October

- 4-13** Fall Garden & Mum Show
Gage Park Greenhouse, Hamilton
- 4** District 6 Fall Lunch 10-1:30
St. Thomas Church, Waterdown
Speaker: Sean James
- 21** **AHS Monthly Meeting** 7:30pm
'Breeding and Growing ORCHIDS-
-A Hobbyist's Journey' with
Drew Goddard

November

- 18** **AHS Potluck Dinner & AGM**
Bring your favourite side dish or
dessert, your own plates & utensils &
join us. It's fun and it's free.
6:30pm Ancaster Old Town Hall

December

- 3** **AHS Decorate Old Town Hall**
9:30 am - Noon
Bring along your secateurs and join
the fun as we make decorations for
the front doors and window ledges

We need your help...

If you have a little time we
have an opportunity for you to
share your experience and skills to
support the Society!

We're looking for:

- Co-Treasurer-work with treasurer
Bob Wilt and gradually
assume the role.
- AGM/Potluck Dinner Organizer
-organize the potluck
dinner arrangements
(Work with Wendy this
year & see how it's done)
- Municipal Gardens Co-Ordinator
-organize the volunteers
and planting. (Jill has
all the details)

Reminder for Board of Directors

Please have your year-end reports
and volunteer hours handed in to
Jill by the end of October.
(Oct. Nov. Dec. hours can be
estimated.)

Don't forget...

Your plant donations form the major
portion of the sales at our annual
Plant Sale.

You can help by marking
or photographing those plants in your
garden, **now**, that could be divided in
the spring and donated to our sale.