



# SCOTIA GARDENER

Newsletter of the Nova Scotia Association of Garden Clubs

## President's Report

Hello Fellow Gardeners!

Thank you to District 7 Garden Clubs, Ann Jones and Vivian Kennedy, for a wonderful Convention! The Ghost Walk on Friday was a lot of fun! Speakers were excellent, offering great advice and suggestions. The relaxed atmosphere provided opportunities to mingle and get to know one another. Now we look forward to what District 2 has planned for us in 2016.

Our AGM went well with a good attendance from the various clubs. It is important that at least 2 voting representatives from each club attend (8:45 am - 10am). This is your opportunity to hear and have input on the activities of NSAGC.

There is even a chance to win the door prize for attending the meeting! Nancy Doane was the lucky winner this year.

The NSAGC Executive & Board met in Truro April 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>. We are working hard on your behalf - promoting Provincial Gardening Week, updating & redesigning our website to make it more user friendly, finalizing the Flower Show Handbook, & keeping "you" the membership informed.

As your Chair, I did an "on air" interview with CBC & our local newspaper "The Cape Breton Post", promoting Gardening, the NSAGC & PGW. A press release went out across the province in an attempt to get the word out - June 1<sup>st</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> is Gardening Week!

By now most of us have planted our Delft Lace Astilbe's. Just imagine - 1800+ gorgeous perennials in our gardens because of the annual plant give away. Thank you to Arthur Haskins for all of his hard work making sure that they are delivered to your District Director's at Convention.

I would like to welcome Debra Carey to the Board as the Valley District Director. She is replacing Paul Despres who has worked very hard on behalf of his District over the last number of years. We look forward to having you Debra!

I would like to mention three Board members who have passed away, all of whom served as the Chair of NSAGC, recognizing them for their hard work & many contributions.



President Patsy MacKenzie



Secretary Susan Hazelwood and President, Patsy MacKenzie lead us through the AGM Agenda

Doug Beamen  
Vernon Oickle  
June Robertson

I would like to have the names of any Board member who has passed away for our next AGM. We are spread out across this lovely province of ours so your input will be appreciated as I would hate to miss someone.

Happy Gardening Everyone!

Patsy MacKenzie



NSAGC Annual General Meeting 2015 as part of the 2015 Conference in Yarmouth



### Provincial Gardening Week

The government of Nova Scotia has declared the week of June 1<sup>st</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> Provincial Gardening Week.

According to Patsy MacKenzie, president of the Nova Scotia Association of Garden Clubs, "this past winter has been a very harsh one which lingered well into spring. Now, as we look around our gardens there is much to do and to celebrate." And sharing is a key word according to MacKenzie. Garden club members give of their time, talents and knowledge in so many ways.

With almost sixty clubs from Yarmouth to North Sydney, this organization is well known for the beauty it brings to individual gardens but on a wider scale, for the beauty it brings to entire communities. Chances are those hanging basket you see in the towns of Inverness and Pictou were placed there by garden club members as well as the flower beds welcoming you to towns such as Chester and Westville.

"We are very excited that our government has recognized the work of garden clubs throughout the province. Like many, many other volunteers in the province, we are pleased to enhance the beauty of our province," MacKenzie said.

During provincial Gardening Week, 2015 many NSAGC Club had special project in celebration. There were also displays at garden centers, and at public locations such as churches, post offices and libraries in celebration of this event.

Gardening is the number one physical activity of North Americans. Every year in Nova Scotia, June 1st to 7th will be Provincial Gardening Week. We welcome reports from Clubs on their PGW activities, 2015 and start planning now for 2016.

### Garden Clubs Join Forces for Provincial Gardening Week



The New Glasgow and Area Highland Garden Club and the Lismore Garden Club each presented the Aberdeen Hospital with a cheque of \$150.00. The gardens at the hospital are beautified with the assistance of some hospital workers on their free time and one paid assistant. In the

photo we have Doug Allen and Carol MacDonald, Treasurers of the garden clubs (center) presenting Jennifer Thibeau and Jill Claussion Munroe, Hospital Garden Leaders accepting each of the cheques

### Yarmouth Garden Club Plants Red Maple in Frost Park

The Yarmouth Garden Club, to recognize Provincial Gardening Week, planted a Red Maple in Frost Park located next to Yarmouth Town Hall.

Joining President Vivian Kennedy and Yarmouth Garden Club members are town council members Ken Langille and NSAGC District 7 Director, Ann Jones. Special guests were Odette Sabourin and Claudette Savaria from Community in Blooms. They travelled to Yarmouth from Ottawa to take part in the NSAGC Annual Conference, 2015 at the Rodd Grand Hotel across the street.



### Tags and Seals from NSAGC

For your next Flower/Vegetable Show don't forget to order your Tags and Seals from the NSAGC. NSAGC provides 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place, Honorable Mention and Best in Show Seals or stickers for the judges to use during your show. These seals can be placed on the Flower Show Tags after judging. It is a nice way to remember what award you won.

The Tags have room for the class, selection, variety, exhibitor's number, name and address. The participant's information can be covered during the judging by a fold and a slot to insert the end of the tag so the judges can't see who the exhibitor is.

The Tags & Seals are both 10 cents each to purchase through your garden club. These can be mailed to your club or your club can save on postage by being picked up during our Annual NSAGC Convention.

If your club would like to place an order please contact Sarah Cluett either by phone or email. The phone number is (902)463-3685 or email address is [sarah.cluett@gmail.com](mailto:sarah.cluett@gmail.com).

Sarah Cluett, NSAGC Tags & Seals

### NSAGC's Scotia Gardener

**The Scotia Gardener is published in September, November, March and late June. We welcome articles, pictures, notices, items of interest to gardeners. Please send to: Ann Jones, Editor, 429 Lakeside Rd, PO box 167, Hebron, NS, B5A 5Z8 or e-mail to: [annjones@eastlink.ca](mailto:annjones@eastlink.ca).**

**Phone 902 742 1978 or cell 902 748 5948.**

**Deadline for the September is August 15, 2015**

**If you would like to place an advertisement in the Scotia Gardener, please contact Don Butler at [butlerdon@live.ca](mailto:butlerdon@live.ca)**

*Note: The Editor of the Scotia Gardener retains exclusive control over the content and format of the newsletter. All information submitted for publication will be subject to and will be included or excluded in the newsletter on the sole discretion of the Editor.*

**The 2015 NSAGC Photograph Competition**

After a significant drop in submissions last year, this year has seen that trend reversed with a record number of participants. Some of the increase can be attributed to a presentation made at the zone five convention in the Spring of this year. In 2013 we had 220 pictures submitted, in 2014, 130 pictures submitted, in 2015, 269 pictures submitted by 39 members.

Instead of depending upon donations for prizes this year, the NSAGC Directors approved small monetary prizes for the three top best in the show competitors. These monetary prizes are \$75 1st prize, \$50 second prize and \$25 for third prize.

The photography contest is an opportunity for NSAGC members to improve their photographic skills. Unfortunately, in the past, there has been very little opportunity to help contestants improve.

We have tried to change that this year. We requested that all submissions be accompanied by an email address. Those who did this, received a newsletter. This newsletter not only informed them of the results of the contest but it displayed the top five photographs of the competition as well as relaying the judges comments and observations. In addition, all the images that were submitted were scanned and all contestants were later given a link that enabled them to see all the images that were submitted for this year's competition. By giving contestants this information we hope that they will be able to use it to improve their own photographic skills.

We are still committed to examining how to organize a photographic contest that is based upon contestants uploading their images instead of the current model which involves contestants printing and mailing their entries. Whether to actually change the current model of the contest is the prerogative of the Directors of the NSAGCs.

Andrew Clinch, Photography Contest Chair



1st Prize, Peas in a Pod Cheryl McLellan from Hants North Late Bloomers



Third Prize, Mushrooms, Francis Shilliday Annapolis Valley African Violet Society



Commendations Olga Kidson in the category, Garden Art

Bill Reader in the category, Nature's Winter Art



2nd Prize Dragonfly, Gundi Peiper, Nicholville Garden club



**NSAG Conference/AGM 2015 in Yarmouth**

Garden tours, Mayor's Tea and ghosts greeted those who attended the 2015 NSAGC Conference and Annual General Meeting at the Rodd Grand Hotel in Yarmouth. The theme, Gardening Then and Now, brought the past and the present of gardening together. The Conference and AGM was hosted by District 7. There were 179 gardeners in attendance and 16 vendors for a total of 195 participants. All were greeted with little yellow bags full of goodies and the Conference Program. From the reaction to the activities, vendors, presentation and the annual banquet, the event was enjoyed by all.



David Sollows

The Friday evening presentation by David Sollows established the Theme with a history of gardening in Yarmouth with pictures of the gardens from the past and areas where parts of the gardens still exist. He talked about plants brought in by sea captains that can be found in our gardens today. After the speaker we were entertained by Barb Gillis.

Before the presentation Friday evening, participants had an opportunity to tour the gardens of Carla Allen, Sue Eldridge and to visit the Yarmouth Light, Cape Forchu to see the "now" of gardening in Yarmouth. We were also hosted by Yarmouth Mayor, Pam



Sue Eldridge in her garden

Mood at the Mayor's Tea at Yarmouth Town Hall and visited the wide variety of vendors.

When it got dark (and cold), fearless gardeners went with Ken Langille, a former teacher and now town councillor, on a

Ghost Walk through Frost Park and the historic areas of Yarmouth. From all the comments the next morning, it was an experience!



Yarmouth Mayor Pam Mood greets NSAGC gardeners

On Saturday we started the morning with the NSAGC Annual General Meeting with reports of all the activities of the Association. President Patsy MacKenzie



Gordon Tingley

Chaired.

Gordon Tingley was the first presenter of the conference. He talked about new and interesting plants he has gathered from across the country and do well in Nova Scotia. Michael Tavares sent us back to the past



Alice d'entremont

with tropical garden design in Florida in the 1980's. Alice d'Entremont demonstrated how to make living wreaths with succulents. Alice got dirty and we all enjoyed it thoroughly. After lunch Allen Banks showed us how to use rockscaping with slides of his beautiful property. Our last speaker was Nina Newington with great pictures and information on



Nova Scotia Rock Garden Club

heirloom plants.

Since Alice, Ouest-Ville Perennials, Gordon, Sledding Hill and Allen, Harbour Breeze Daylilies were all vendors; we had an added bonus of being able to purchase some of the plants they talked about. Plants were also available from Bunchberry Nurseries, Canning Day Lily Gardens, Fernwood Plants and NS Rock Garden Club. Resources were also available from Bearcove Resources/Stormcast, Growing Green/Worm Castings, and garden advice from Scotia



At the banquet, Yarmouth Mayor Pam Mood, NSAGC President Patsy MacKenzie, Chair of the Convention and President of the Yarmouth Garden Club, Vivian Kennedy, Banquet Speaker Niki Jabbour, MC and District 7 Director, Ann Jones



Fun with "The Gardener"



Bunchberry Nursery

local crafters, Paula Smith with yarn from Yarnsmith Fibreworks mini-mill and beach glass jewelry made my Meredith Dease.

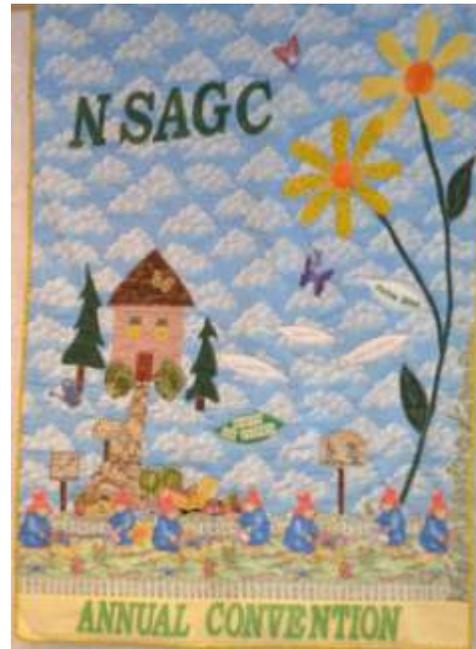
Our special guests throughout the convention were Odette Sabourin and Claudette Savaria representing Communities in Bloom. They traveled from Ottawa, taking the Nova Star Ferry, to bring information to Nova Scotia gardeners about the federal program. They were very impressed with the activities of the NSAGC and noted that Nova Scotia had an official Gardening Week, declared by the provincial government.



Peoples Choice Winners of the Floral Competition and Photo Contest were also acknowledged. Vivian Kenned, Chair of the Conference, gave closing remarks.

Horticulture Solutions. We also kept birds happy with houses from Mary Keeping, hands clean with Frenghish Soaps, advice on photography from Debbie Roberts and, when you are finished gardening, two

The Conference Committee from District 7 were tired but happy. We were encouraged by the evaluations – with a few glitches. On a 5 point scale, where 5 was the highest, our evaluation were between 4 and 5 in all categories with such comments as “Lovely convention”, “Very enjoyable & informative”, “Loved having all in the same building.”, “We have enjoyed meeting new people and making new friends.”, “Hotel staff were friendly and good service”, “You did a great job.”, “Excellent vendors”, “Pleased to see town so involved.”, “One of the best”. The coffee break with fruit was much appreciated. There were, however, a few suggestions for improvement. We learned that we needed a bigger screen than the hotel was able to provide, some people missed coffee and tea at lunch, information about where to eat in Yarmouth on the Friday night was needed, and speakers need a “hands free” mic. There were also some suggestions for speakers next year when District 2, hosts the convention: Raised Bed Gardening, Good Soil for Healthy Plant Growth, Composting, Slide



NSAGC Convention Banner to District 2

show during the break – may the Photo Contest or area gardens, Native Plants, House Plants, Flower Arranging, and Plants for Rock Gardens.

A very big THANK YOU to the committee from District 7 and to our leader, Vivian Kennedy. Your hard work, many trips to Yarmouth in the winter, great ideas, stuffing bags and keeping it organized made it all come together. A great team of gardeners.

We now happily pass the banner to Don Butler and his committee from District 2. We are so look forward to attending the NSAGC Convention and AGM in 2016.

Ann Jones, Director, District 7

## NSAGC AWARDS REPORT June 6, 2015

Retiring Board Members: There are no retiring board members at this time.

Outstanding Members Awards: members were recognized by their individual garden clubs with the designation of Outstanding Member of the Year. Some may have already received your Award from your District Director. Others will get a pleasant surprise!

District 1: North Sydney Garden Club – Dona Benac; Westmount Garden Club – Margie Doary.

District 2: Guysborough & Area Garden Club – Mary Ryter and Les Ryter; New Glasgow & Area Highland Garden Club - Eleanor Mackay; Lismore & District Garden Club – Joan MacDonald; Pictou Garden Club – Dawn Westhaver; St. Mary's Sherbrooke Garden Club – Velma Allison; Westville & Area Gardening Club – Margie Beck and Roy Beck.

District 3: (Central North) Great Village Garden Club – Linda Giddens.

District 3: (Central South) Stewiacke Valley Garden Club - Arlen Kennedy

District 4: Bedford Horticultural Society - Dawson Miller; Dartmouth Horticultural Society- Mary MacDonald; Eastern Shore Garden Club - Bonita Carpenter; Fall River Garden Club - Sue Whalen; Mayflower Garden Club (Sackville) - Paula Hebert

District 6: Basin Gardeners Association - Christine Boardman; Bridgewater Garden Club - Tom and Pat Dearing; Chester Garden Club - Joan Cleather; Mahone Bay Garden Society - Jenny Sandison; Shelburne County Garden Club - Germaine Osbourne.



Outstanding Gardeners

### Club Yearbook Entries:

14 Club Yearbooks were on display for viewing at the June Convention. Each Garden Club that submitted a Yearbook was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation from the NSAGC, recognizing their many contributions and ongoing efforts to beautify their communities during the year.

The following Garden Clubs were awarded Certificates:

District 1 - North Sydney Garden Club.

District 2 - Pictou Garden Club.

District 3N - Great Village Garden Club, Hilden Garden Club.

District 3S: Hants North Lake Bloomers Garden Club.

District 4 - Eastern Shore Garden Club, First Halifax African Violet Society.

District 5 - Charing Cross Garden Club, Nicholville Garden Club.



Club representative with Yearbook Certificates presented by Lorna Williams, Awards Chair (l)

District 6 - Bridgewater Garden Club, Shelburne County Garden Club.

District 7- Bridgetown & Area Garden Club, Pubnico & Area Garden Club, Yarmouth Garden Club.

Thank you to everyone who worked hard to make this Convention successful, and congratulations to all the winners and entrants.

Lorna Williams, Awards Chair

### **Floral Competition Awards**



The Floral competition was judged by Joanne Jellett, Chester Garden Club

### **Winners:**

Victorian Theme – Valerie Young Mount, Clements Garden Club

Antique Cup & Saucer - Nancy Guest, Basin Garden Club

Ultra Modern Container - Great Village Garden Club accepted by Arthur Haskins

Ultra Modern Hat – Leslie Cranley-Blades, Yarmouth Garden Club

Peoples Choice and the Judge's Choice was antique Cup and Saucer (picture page 5) by Nancy Guest



**Eastern Shore Garden Club**

Shane, our regular Scotia Gardener Reporter will let you know in the next issue what the ESGC has been up and into. In the meantime I would like to take the opportunity to thank the Fall River Club for a wonderful District 4 Meeting. Cindy Coffin MCd with flair and kept things on track and time. We especially enjoyed hearing what other clubs are doing and are more than ready to steal a good idea or two.



Nora and Darlene working on our annual flower show

We want to thank Pamela McLean for coming out the other night to present The Outstanding Membership Award to Bonita Carpenter. Her visit was much appreciated as are those many years of service to the Garden Club world. People like her, and our own Bonita form the backbones of our organizations, where would be without them?

Our club is lucky to have more great people. There is Renee Swim, who is in charge of the May 30th plant sale and no doubt worries if we'll manage to get enough blooms after the late starting growing season, there's Jennifer Bowers busy planning our outings and wondering whether people will be prepared to drive two hours to visit a lavender farm, and our new treasurer, Cathy Brooking wondering if we'll have enough money to pay the rent (we have - just). This just to name a few.

We are looking forward to see many of your greats in Yarmouth!

Ria Hodgson



Beautiful display of flowers

**Coming Events**

**Champlain Garden Club**

July 11

Champlain Garden Club FLOWER SHOW and TEA. Saturday, July 11, 2:00-5:00pm. Legion Social Centre, 66 Victoria St., Annapolis Royal. Admission \$7.00 includes tea and delicious snacks and sweets (2-4pm). Entries welcome from all ages. Special categories and \$25 first prize for children. Specimen Forms available at the Historic Gardens. Please bring specimens and arrangements to the Legion Saturday, 8 – 10am. Contact Dessie or Bob Howard at [dessiebob@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:dessiebob@ns.sympatico.ca) or 532-0834.



**Chester Garden Club**



July 20

Chester Garden Club will be demonstrating flower arrangement techniques, for upcoming flower show. Monday, July 20<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 for 7 pm. St. Stephen's Parish Community Centre, Regent St., Chester. New members are always welcomed.

July 30

The annual Flower Show & Tea will be held on Thursday, July 30<sup>th</sup>, at the Royal Canadian Legion, Chester. From 1:30 to 5:00 pm. Tea will be served from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. The competition is open to members and non-members. For information on the schedule, visit [www.chestergardenclub.wordpress.com](http://www.chestergardenclub.wordpress.com)

**Gardening on the Road**

The Nova Scotia Garden Travel Coalition is launching a tourism initiative that links together nine gardens throughout central and southwest Nova Scotia. Nova Scotia's Garden Road Trip offers a route of garden destinations to plant & garden lovers seeking plant and landscape joy.

"Gardening and Garden Tourism are hot," says volunteer coordinator, Sheila Stevenson, "and Nova Scotia could be, but is not, on the Garden Traveller's map."

A working group, now the NS Garden Travel Coalition, formed to move toward two goals: develop a directory of where to see all kinds of plants & gardens in NS, and get gardens recognized by the NS Tourism Agency as a category in the NS tourism product. While both goals are still to be achieved, the working group accepted the Agency's offer to put together an itinerary of gardens for the Road Trip series hosted on the Agency's website. Find details about each Road Trip site at [nsgardens.com](http://nsgardens.com).

The Coalition is in search of partners and players to gather info and experiences for the directory, and to recognize the reality that Garden Tourism is a good bet for this province and worth the development required to put us on the Garden Travel map.

For more information, contact Sheila Stevenson. [sheilastevenson17@gmail.com](mailto:sheilastevenson17@gmail.com). 902-479-3740

### Day Lily to Honour Past President, Don Butler

One of the daylilies that I hybridized at Harbour Breezes Daylilies has been named to honour Don Butler, the owner of Ardness Gardens and a past president of NSAGC, for his work to promote landscape gardening in Nova Scotia.

The daylily 'Don Butler' has a very large flower with a good bud count. It is a lemon yellow self with a wine eye and a green yellow throat. There are touches of a narrow wine edge on the petals. The flower has a delicate crimped edge on the petals. Pod and pollen fertile. (It was from a cross of the daylilies El Desperado x Dragon Flight)

Scape height 30"  
 Flower size 5.75"  
 Flower Form Single  
 Season of bloom Midseason  
 2-5 way branching  
 15 buds  
 Foliage Dormant

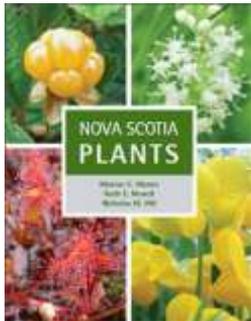
Allen Banks

Congratulations Don!



### Nova Scotia Plants

The Nova Scotia Museum is making an electronic version of the book Nova Scotia Plants available for free.. You can download it at <https://museum.novascotia.ca/books>



Authors Marian C. Munro, Ruth E. Newell and Nicholas M. Hill provide a comprehensive catalogue of Nova Scotia's flora. Illustrated with GIS-generated distribution maps and full-colour photographs, these colleagues and friends offer a series of identification keys, a glossary, discussion of plant communities and a background to botanical study in the province. In addition, each

species growing without the aid of cultivation, is documented with a description, flowering time, expected habitat and distribution within the province. Where known, the worldwide range is given and place of origin, if an introduced species.

The conservation status is also illustrated by a series of colour-coded maps: red, yellow and orange, corresponding to currently accepted publications of provincial and national natural resources authorities.

The project took seven years to complete and involved academics, resource managers, GIS technicians, and students. Nearly 30 photographers were crowd-sourced and generously allowed use of their images of more than 1500 species of ferns and relatives, conifers, and flowering plants.

### THE NSAGC IS NOW ON FACEBOOK AND THE WEB

If you are a facebook user, join the NSAGC Group. We now have Over 400 gardeners who have joined. Every member of the group can post events, pictures, questions, answers. Any member can also invite new members to join the NSAGC group. Just go to Groups, search NSAGC on the top bar and ask to join.

Questions? Contact [annjones@eastlink.ca](mailto:annjones@eastlink.ca)

Check out our NSAGC Website

[www.nsagc.com](http://www.nsagc.com)

The NSAGC facebook Group compliments our NSAGC website [www.nsagc.com](http://www.nsagc.com) where you can find a list of NSAGC Executive and Directors, supports to Clubs, NSAGC projects & awards, and information of the AGM.

### NSAGC Executive

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