

September 2008

Volume 7,

Issue 3

Our Mission is to preserve and enhance Milner Gardens & Woodland, to educate and inspire. All gifts to Milner Gardens help us to achieve this mission.

Individual Highlights:

| | |
|--|----|
| Executive Director's Message | 1. |
| Fundraising | 2. |
| Shoots with Roots Snippets, | 3. |
| Fall Colour Day | 4. |
| Volunteers | 5. |
| Happenings, Corporate Partners | 6. |
| Donation Form | 7. |
| Fall Plant Sale, Volunteer Coffee Party, Milner Christmas Magic, | 8. |
| Memberships | |

Staff at Milner Gardens

Geoff Ball
Executive Director
Charlene Forrest
Shoots with Roots
Kim Hammond
Nursery Grower /
Groundskeeper
Carol Hansen
Tea Room Coordinator
Michele Lacey
Secretary
Helen Reimer
Visitor Services
Coordinator



Executive Director's Message

Autumn already, hard to believe that the year has flown by so quickly. The colours are starting to show on the trees and now a few leaves are scattered on the paths each morning. This has always been my favourite time of year, the smells, soft light, cooler weather and bountiful harvest treats make for such enjoyable days.

It has been a very busy summer here at the gardens. The day to day activities, weddings and events kept us all hopping. Both the Art & Photography and Jazz in the Garden went very well. Good crowds came out to take in the events giving both a fun and festive atmosphere.

With the changing of the seasons comes a change of focus. The next big thing for us is the annual Fall Plant Sale. Starting with the Member's only early access Friday night (Sept 26th) and running through the weekend, this is a great time to come walk the gardens and take advantage of some great deals. The tea room is planning some great soups to go with hot herbed scones for the weekend.

Looking further ahead, we have already brought the extension cords and some of the lights out of the attic and are getting set to start laying out the framework for what I think will be a fantastic Christmas light show. Anyone interested in joining the team of volunteers in getting the lights up please contact the office (250-752-8573 ext 291)

Before we turn the lights on though, we have one other event that we have decided to run. On the weekend of October 25th & 26th, instead of opening to allow folks to come and take in the fall colour, we are going to add in a bit of a Halloween theme this year. There will be Jack-o-Lanterns around the gardens for children of all ages to search and discover amongst all the fall colour. As well the tea room will be offering a seasonal lunch.

Our big projects this year are still underway. The new roof is looking great but there is some more work to do before it's finished. The Ursus Den (the children's out door class room) is also midway through its construction with a floor but no roof. Next time you are by, take a look behind the Food Garden and see what the volunteers have been building.

Enjoy the Fall,
Geoff Ball
Executive Director

A Legacy – It Is Yours To Leave

“Protecting and preserving for future generations” is a phrase we often hear at Milner Gardens. For many visitors a critical part of our mission is to ensure that the Gardens will be here for the public to enjoy for many years to come. If you also believe that is important there is an easy way you can help make it happen.

By leaving a bequest for Milner Gardens & Woodland in your will, you are helping to ensure that this wonderful place will be protected for our grandchildren and theirs. It is as easy as including a provision for Milner when drawing up your will or adding a codicil to an existing will.

You can leave a set amount or a percentage of the assets. You can also leave a specific investment or name Milner as the beneficiary of an insurance policy, your RRSP, RRIF or pension.

When you advise us you are leaving a legacy for Milner you will become a member of the Legacy Circle and invited to our annual reception at Milner House.

For more information please pick up a copy of our Legacy Circle brochure at the Gardens, or call Geoff Ball at 250-752-8573, local 222 for more information.

Thank you for thinking of Milner and please remember, no gift is too small.

Lee Teal

Shoots with Roots

Helping community Shoots make and meet Roots

Charlene Forrest – Program Coordinator

Fall 2008 Newsletter

www.mala.ca/MilnerGardens/education-programs.asp education.milnergardens@shaw.ca

Summer Camps – it was a *fantastic* Summer Camp season this year! Last summer we had four multi-afternoon camps, one Jr. Leader and 42 participants. This year, by offering more days of programming we had eight multi-afternoon camps, seven full-day camps, four Jr. Leaders and 126 participants!!

Visit the SwR webpage to see the smiles and activities of the summer. There are also extra sections of photos the children captured of MGW volunteers, staff, visitors and SwR families - you may want to take a peek to see if you are there ☺

!new! Fall Sessions – a number of families asked how their children could continue in SwR without waiting until the '09 Camps. So we shifted the school program days and have launched a new Fall Sessions program for Fridays, Saturdays and days that schools are closed. We will work on activities in the woodland, harvest, seed collect and tend the fall veggies in the Food Garden, collect leaves to press and make Christmas gifts with, and laugh and enjoy each other's company. The schedule can be found on the SwR webpage, or on posters around MGW. Please help spread the word and encourage even more of our youth to come learn in this amazing environment.

2009 Calendar – the photo voting box in the SwR gazebo was overflowing before the tally. The calendar is now at the printers and will be available in October. There will be an email and notices around MGW when they are ready to purchase. This is an excellent way to spread the good word of the SwR program near and far, and to raise important funds... and they make great Christmas gifts!

SwR Slideshow – many people attended the SwR slideshows in the Milner House this summer. Again the common comment was that "more people need to see it". More dates will be planned for shows at MGW, and the slideshow has been booked to make the rounds to local clubs and interest groups over the next few months.

2008-9 School Program – twelve classes (K-Gr 7) have claimed their spots for the 08-09 multi-visit school program. Visits will be Wednesdays and Thursdays beginning September 24th and will run right to December 11th, starting up again January 14th—so they really do experience all the seasons! The schools involved from Oceanside this year are: Arrowview, Errington, Parksville and Nanoose Bay Elementary. Schools from Nanaimo are: AspenGrove, Frank J Ney, and Brechin Elementary.

FABULOUS volunteers are hard at work building the new **Ursus Den** classroom for the program. Their dedication, knowledge and time are appreciated more than I can say.

Wish List-

Binoculars- we are down to 1 pair of intact SwR binoculars. They are in constant use, so the more we can get the better.

Field Books- field books and tools for Woodland Research.

Seeds- if your veggies have gone to seed and you have some you could donate for the '09 SwR garden; they would be put to good use.

Sprouted potatoes- any potatoes 'growing' in your cupboard? We would like to put some in the ground now to see how they do.

Toilet Paper Rolls- for planting into in Spring- as many as we can collect so we can use them in the Outreach planting program at schools.

Blackboard- moveable blackboard for the new **Ursus Den** classroom.

Bookcases- the SwR library is itching to get into the new **Ursus Den** classroom. Glass-fronted (?) for visibility, dust/moisture cover.

Funds- to help the program thrive.



Snippets

I may be opening a big can of worms here but I would like to start a request list. People so often ask when they spot me somewhere in the garden - "Do you have...?" What I end up remembering is the plant requested but not who wanted it. So to solve the dilemma; here comes the leap...if there is a plant you want from the garden you'll have to tell me, again, by email or by leaving your request on a clip board to be kept at Plant Sales. I am not making any promises but I will do my best. In the case of multiple requests for the same plant, the date the request was received will determine the order. This was prompted by the million and one requests (I swear that's how it felt) for Island Pearl, which, I'm happy to say, the propagation group have succeeded in striking some - it will never be enough - successful cuttings for next year.

Speaking of requests - I have two for you. **SQUARE four inch pots and one gallon pots and bigger.** I do welcome your contributions, they save us a great deal of expense, but molded plastic inserts, old decorative plastic pots, balcony trays and hundreds of 4 inch round pots, we don't use and just cost us in a special plastics recycling run. Unfortunately they do not "qualify" for the regular recycled plastics and have to be brought to Nanaimo. **Please save your silica gel packets for seed storage here.**

We are in the last stages of prepping for the fall plant sale. I've said my prayers to the Plant Gods and asked Geoff to call in a few credits with the Man Upstairs to hold off on any early seasonal surprises. No need to repeat the Spring Sale adventures thank you very much. The BC Fruit Testers will be attending the Plant Sale so if you have any fruit trees that mystify you bring along a sample and perhaps they will solve the mystery. There will be a silent auction for a gem, or two - maybe, and definitely some sale items as I need to make room for the Propagation Group's successes. We have also renewed seed collection and hope to have seeds from Milner available, for all of course, but in particular to those who are unable to take plants away. No one who wants a small memento of Milner should walk away empty handed.

There is still a great deal to do even at this time of year and I look forward to digging in. I do feel quite "broken in" now; ready to tackle almost anything thrown my way. The summer season resolved all questions in my head of what this job entails, including the "other jobs as required" part! While only here a few months now, I am more comfortable in this cloak on my shoulders and much of that is due to the seemingly endless support of staff, volunteers and the many visitors to the garden who tell us what a great job we've done. Thank you all for making it feel so easy; well most days anyway!

Cheers

Kim Hammond
Nursery Grower / Grounds
Keeper



FALL COLOUR DAY OCTOBER 25-26

10 am to 3 pm

ENTRY BY DONATION, PROCEEDS
TO SHOOTS WITH ROOTS

Bring the children for a pumpkin
search



In the last newsletter I mentioned that I was on a mission to cut back drastically on the imported souvenir items in the Gift Shops and I am happy to report that we have added some very unique items. I am so amazed at all the local talent out there; we are so fortunate to live here. I want to take the time to thank anyone who has helped with scouting out new artisans and sending them my way.

New local items include: tea cosies, tea pots, hot mats, precious totes, beautiful and functional pottery pieces, jewellery, fused glass and Window Candy, hand painted glass giftware, hand woven seaweed baskets, and wood items that were made from Milner Rhododendron and Chestnut wood.

If you are looking for a gift for Christmas, birthdays, or just going out for dinner at a friends' house, consider looking in the Gift Shops here; you just might find just what you are looking for....and some things you weren't. I know I will be doing a fair amount of my Christmas shopping here because I know that we are a "not-for-profit" organization; don't forget that all proceeds help support the operation of the Gardens. Your support is always greatly appreciated.

It has been a wonderful ride so far here at Milner Gardens & Woodland and I have enjoyed meeting and working with all the volunteers and staff here at the Garden. I can't wait for Milner Christmas Magic!

Helen Reimer
Visitor Services Coordinator



Tearoom/Kitchen: Barbara Ashton, Joan Baddeley, Lorne & Anne Ball, Margaret Barnes, Annie Braithwaite, Sheila Bright, Sandra Bryant, Marion Burnham, Inga Cameron, Christine Chicak, Gillian Coady, Pat Crowley, Audrey Derrick, Pax Dol, Charlotte Dunwoody, Arlene England, Bernice Fawthorpe, Jackie Ferguson, Silvia Goosney, Jan Graham, Dorothy Griffin, Marjorie Gueho, Carol Hansen, Margaret Harrison, Sally Hemingson, Nancy Heywood, Joanne James, Birthe Jensen, Pam Jonnson, Dianne Kaye, Sharon Kevis, Christine King, Carmen Maclean, Sherida Magas, Hildegard Martic, Judith Matwyko, Mary Ann Maybroda, Crista McDonald, Gloria McGarrigle, Pat McLeod, Maxine Morris, Charlotte Ovitsland, Liz Petersen, Jane Ponto, Ollie Quail, Diane Quily, June Schram, Jean Smith, Beryl Speller, Barbara Stoddart, Christina Taylor, Lee Teal, Luise Thelitz, Lynn Tomlinson, Eileen Watts



Meet Your Volunteers

Volunteers are listed in alphabetical order by name, not all of whom were we able to include in these photos.



Golf Cart Drivers: Dave Alexander, Bob Ashton, Lorne Ball, Brian Bethel, Ivan Cyr, Ron Derrick, Fred Dunkel, Edward Erickson, Donald Everest, Alan Fraser, Ed Fraser, Gordon Galbraith, Eldon Giles, John Hobson, Jack Moore, Brian Parker, Vic Petersen, Clynt Pringle, Phil Robertson, Lynn Tomlinson, Gene Wakaruk, Yvonne Wardas, Stewart Webb, John Willson



Welcome & Interpretive Centre: Carol Ann Carnegie, Eunice Cleaver, Brenda Cooper, Joan Doyle, Bill & Suzanne Ellwyn, Janet Farooq, Betty Fennell, Donna Fumeaux, Jan Goodlad, Jan Graham, Lou Gueho, Carole Hamden, Eva Hilborn, Joanne Hill, Joan Hopkins, Dorothee Kieser, Lynda Lindsay, Inge Lloyd, Mary Lou MacKay, Tom Maguire, Patricia Marcotte, Alice Marquardt, Doreen Moore, Denyse Morrow, Marg Parker Colleen Paterson, Dennis Ponto, Clynt Pringle, Joyce Ronyecz, Ruth Seburn, Harvey Teal, Mike Wansink, Marilyn Wilson, Gail Wood



Plant Sales: Edie Alexander, Eileen Becker, Margaret Brightland, Dee Brock, Myra Davies, Janet Farooq, Roberta Fraser, Jan Graham, Leigh Hart, Sally Hemingson, Kay Howard, Marion Jessen, Jarvis & Heather Kohut, Joan Kool, Louise Maguire, Birgitta Mick, Pauline Phillips, Elisabeth Pos, Maureen Robertson, Carla Termes

House and Garden Docents: Barbara Ashton, Margaret Brightland, Jim & Margaret Cadwaladr, Frances Cej, Pat Crowley, Jane Currie, John & Arlene England, Gerry & Carolyn Gailey, Arlene Johnston, Philip Kennedy, Christine King, Sharon Klassen, Donna McCrerrick, Donna McKenzie, Joan McMahon, Patricia McMillan, Maxine Morris, Iris Page, Bruce & Maureen Pamplin, David Prud'homme, Janet Sawatsky, Beryl Speller, Lynn Tomlinson, Stewart Webb, Robyn Willis



Poolhouse & Magnolia Gift Shops: Beth Bowd, Gwen Burgess, Brenda Cooper, Vicki Craig, Betty Fennell, Patricia Fisher, Tela Gayowsky, Joanne Hill, Joan Hopkins, Dorothee Kieser, Donna McCrerrick, Beverley McKelvey, Doreen Moore, Denyse Morrow, Jean Ogle, Sophie Palmer, Judy Pascall, Martha Pow, Ollie Quail, Susan Rowe, June Schram, Diane Siluszyk, Carole Slaney, Lee Teal, Kathy Todhunter, Diane Tyson, Nancy Whelan, Joan Williams, Suzie Willson

CAMELLIA TEA ROOM



It's been a very busy season in the Tea Room this summer for all our hard working volunteers including Servers, Kitchen Helpers, Luncheon Ladies and House Docents. I should also mention our team of volunteers who come in and do the flower arrangements every week. We've been very busy with many luncheons for bus tour groups, club luncheons, anniversaries and Murder Mysteries as well as our regular monthly Members' luncheons. If you have a group of eight or more that would be interested in a luncheon or Murder Mystery, we'd be happy to discuss it with you.



Speaking of such, our October Member's luncheon is scheduled for Friday, October 17th at 12:30. Please note the time change for the off season luncheons. The menu for this one will be of an October Fest nature featuring Bratwurst, Hot Potato Salad, Sweet Red Cabbage, dessert & beverage, all for the price of \$16.00 plus tax. November's luncheon is set for Friday, November 21st at 12:30. There will be two in December, on Saturday the 13th and Wednesday the 17th. We do get booked up very quickly for all our luncheons so book now by e-mail carol.milnergardens@shaw.ca or phone 250 752 8573 local 224 and we'll confirm your booking.

On October 4th and 5th we'd like to offer our members and volunteers the chance to have an Afternoon High Tea, as it's been called in America, in the Tea Room from 1:00 to 4:00. This consists of fancy sandwiches, squares and a scone with real Devon Cream and strawberry preserves, fruit and beverage for \$15.95 plus tax. Reservations are necessary and can be made by e-mail or phoning the above number.



We would like to thank our corporate partners



Qualicum Beach Pharmasave



MILNER GARDENS AND WOODLAND SOCIETY ANNUAL CAMPAIGN FUND

ANNUAL DONOR CATEGORIES: All donors will receive recognition in the annual published donors list.

Benefits - please check box when choice provided

- Primrose Circle** **\$100+** One garden admission pass
- Magnolia Circle** **\$250+** Two garden admission passes
- Douglas-fir Circle** **\$500+** Four garden admission passes
- Rhododendron Circle** **\$1,000+** Four garden admission passes
+ Invitation for two to annual donor reception at the Garden
- Garden Benefactor** **\$5,000+** Six garden admission passes
+ Invitation for two to annual donor reception at Garden
- Milner Partner** **\$10,000+** Six garden admission passes
+ Invitation for two to Milner Partner's dinner
+ Recognition in a MGW program or other agreed upon project.

Donor name(s): _____

Address: _____

City/Town: _____ Province/State: _____

Postal Code/Zip Code: _____ Telephone: _____

Email: _____ Date of donation: _____

Please indicate below how you would like your name or names to be listed in the annual donors list

My donation is \$ _____ cash or cheque [payable to **Milner Gardens and Woodland Society**] or
 credit card Amex Mcard Visa : No. _____ : Expiry date/month _____ / _____
 Name on card _____ Signature: _____

Official tax receipts will be issued by Milner Gardens and Woodland Society under Canadian Federal Charitable # 88675 3615 RR001 for all donations \$10 or greater.

Please send information about:

- Annual membership categories The Book of Honours Donate a stock security
- Planned giving opportunities Make a bequest to the MG&W Society Installment donation by credit card

2179 West Island Highway, Qualicum Beach, B.C. V9K 1G1
 Office: (250) 752-8573 Fax: (250) 752-3826 Email: milnergardens@shaw.ca www.milnergardens.org

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| OFFICE RECORD | Date received: _____; Admission passes sent: _____ |
| ONLY | Other information requests sent: _____ |

Form - annual donation form 070227

"TO PRESERVE AND ENHANCE MILNER GARDENS AND WOODLAND, TO EDUCATE AND INSPIRE"

