



**Fredericton Botanic Garden
Association Newsletter**

**Bulletin du Jardin Botanique
de Fredericton**

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Fall 2010

President's Message

The summer of 2010 started early and hot! It seems that we went from early spring straight into the dog days of summer. Despite the rapid change of season, the Association has found time to accomplish many things.

The 22nd Annual Plant Sale was a tremendous success and raised \$9,347.60 for the activities of our Association. An enormous thank you to the volunteers and members who helped at all stages of preparation through to, and including, Sale Day.

The Botanic Garden Association was awarded \$30,000.00 by the Environmental Trust Fund which will be utilized in improving the pond site. Thanks to Brian Parker for developing the successful application to the Environmental Trust Fund.

We have decided to be proactive with our plant material for future sales. Propagation beds were built behind the greenhouse thanks to Vic Dunphy who tilled up the spaces and Richard Tarn, Doug Dewar and Heather Connors-Dunphy as well for coordinating the construction of raised beds. The greenhouse has finally been cleared out (and I do mean cleared out!) and will no longer be used as a storage location for anything. Thanks to Heather Connors – Dunphy, Ian Veach, Richard Tarn, and Doug Dewar, it is now a functioning part of the association's work and a major aspect of our plant propagation project for the Plant Sales of the future.

Thank-you to Jim and Betty Nicholson for hosting the Plant Sale volunteer appreciation event at their cottage on Maquapit Lake in August.

As you will know, the Board decided to take a break this year from the Treasured Garden Tour. We have a number of new ideas in the "exploration" stage and the flurry of other Garden Tours together with some logistic issues led us to this difficult choice. I am very confident that you will see some new ideas brought offered and look forward to your participation and enjoyment.

The Board has created a new committee, comprised of

George Strunz, Mike Dillon, Bill Seabrook and Brian Parker, who will be reviewing our major fund-raising efforts and bringing recommendations to the Board. Your time, suggestions and ideas are always welcome here. Please pass on your thoughts, and if you have an hour or two to spare here and there, let us know. If you have a suggestion for a "Talk in the Garden" or an article to submit to the newsletter; would like to participate in these activities; help with the propagation project; help with mail outs - anything at all - let us know!

This Association belongs to the members. Without you, the members, we can't make the Fredericton Botanic Garden a jewel in the City's Crown.

Norah Davidson-Wright, President

Fredericton Botanic Garden Pond Expansion

Early this spring, as part of an FBGA plan to generate funds for garden projects, I submitted a proposal to the Environmental Trust Fund for expansion of the existing pond, and the creation of a second pond. The request involved monies for various components necessary to improve the capture and control of ground and surface water and included a new overall design for the pond area that essentially doubles its size, new themed planting beds, signage and a generally improved area to act as a greater attraction for visitors to the Garden. We were successful in our request and received \$30,000 to begin improvements.

For those who have not been to the pond in a while a brief description follows. Located near the centre of the Garden, adjacent to the Hal Hinds Memorial Garden, the pond was originally developed several years ago and has been expanded once previously. That expansion was mainly to address the continuing problem of surface water waterlogging the surrounding area. This improved the situation somewhat but subsequent "very wet" years revealed the need to expand the pond further to capture a greater portion of runoff. This year's expansion will hopefully provide greater water capture and retention and provide some simple control measures as suggested by a

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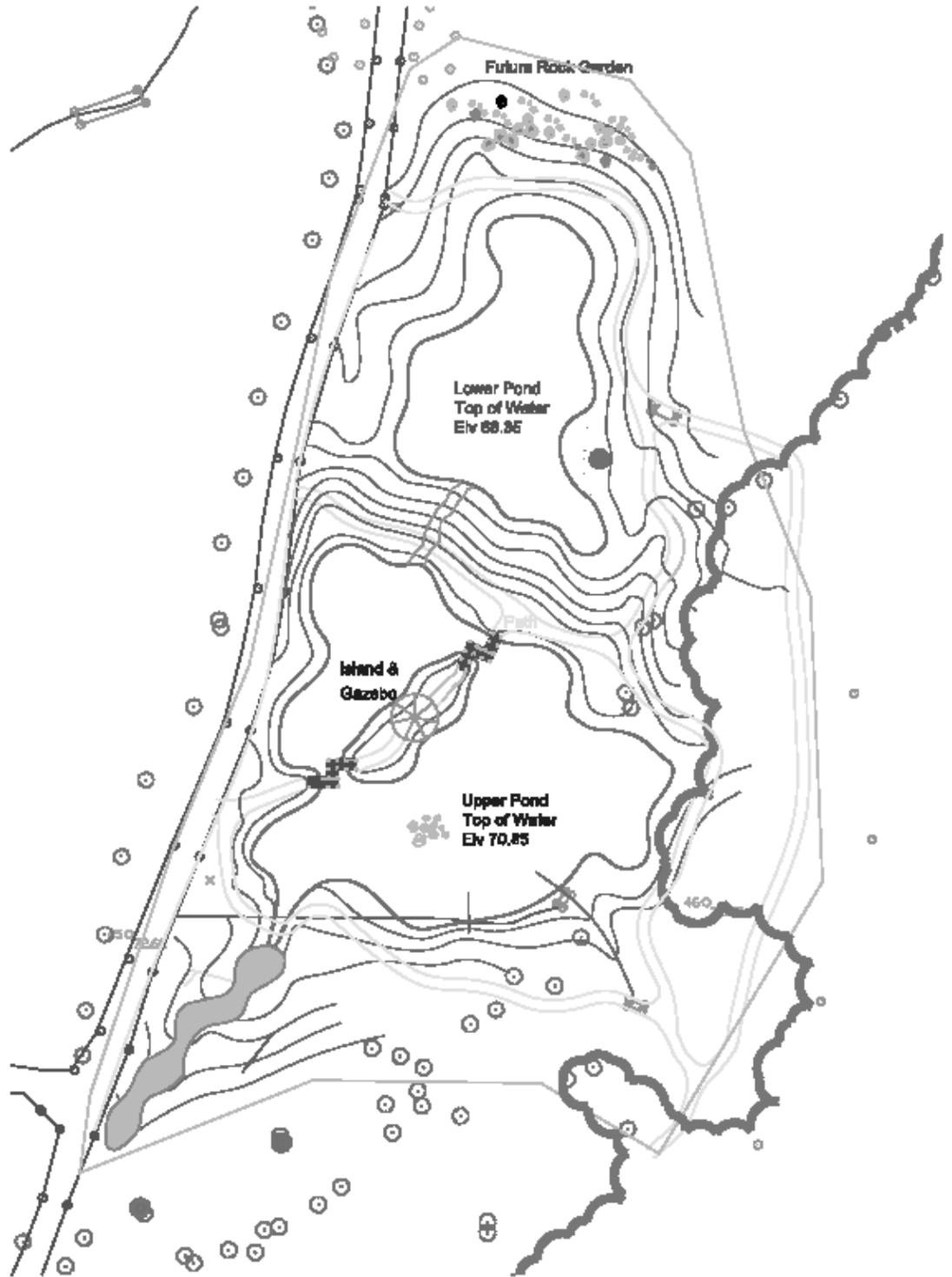


consultant on water management. The main goal of the expansion is to create a site feature within the Garden that will be surrounded with a variety of thematic plantings and introduce a variety of both familiar and new plants to visitors all within the attraction of a pond environment.

The money from the ETF grant will go towards the preparation of planting areas, topsoil, compost, mulch, plants, decorative landscape materials such as boulders and cobbles as well as a control gate for water management. Some design and management fees are included in the costs. It is expected that by the end of fall the pond will be ready for the spring season. At present the planting plan is being finalized and earthwork should begin shortly. Plants will be ordered this fall and winter and planting will begin next spring. I expect that even with the planting done by 2011 there will be more to do in the future.

New pathways will be developed to allow movement around the ponds and increase access to the new plantings. Viewing areas will be developed for benches and a "garden house" will be designed for an intended island. I expect further planting and tweaking will continue throughout 2011.

The area below the lower pond will be left "unfinished" with the expectation of creating a rock garden sometime in the future as funding and other resources become available.



Plan, with contours, of the new pond design

So...if there is anything you might like to suggest, or see in or around the ponds drop me a line at trough@bellaliant.net.

Brian Parker, Vice-President



Growing a Botanic Garden

A little over twenty years ago a group of people got together and formed the Fredericton Botanic Garden Association. The purpose of this Association was to build a public botanic garden in Fredericton. They partnered with the City of Fredericton which has provided land. Under an agreement made with the City made at the outset, the City is responsible for the maintenance of the Garden, including lawn mowing and bed weeding, and continuing in-kind assistance such as staff and equipment. Under the same agreement the FBGA is responsible for obtaining funds for the development of the Garden, including theme plantings and infrastructure.

For over twenty years members have worked in the Garden and raised funds through holding the annual plant sale, raffles, garden tours and auctions. Other organizations have assisted. Both federal and provincial governments have provided funding annually to hire summer students. Four years ago the Fredericton Community Foundation provided generous funding for the development of the Entrance Garden and associated drainage. This year funding is being provided by the N.B. Environmental Trust Fund to enlarge the pond, improve drainage and prepare for a future wetland garden. Four years ago members of the Association were asked to contribute to a three year family campaign, and they did so generously. Most of the funds raised through that campaign have been used to prepare the site for the Rose Garden. While the campaign donations are greatly appreciated, the Association also must pursue all opportunities to raise funds to continue building the Garden. Growth of the Garden is dependent on our fund raising success.

Like the plants in the garden that require annual fertilizer, so the Association requires annual funds. If you are members of the Fredericton Botanic Garden Association your annual membership fees help to build the Garden, but slowly. When you pay your annual dues please consider a donation to help speed up the rate of growth of the Fredericton Botanic Garden. If you are not yet a member of the Association please consider joining and donating toward the development of an "oasis of beauty, tranquility and knowledge" in the heart of Fredericton. (See the membership application on p. 6).

Michael Dillon, Treasurer

Site Development Garden Report

The ornamental grasses in the perennial planting below the Entrance Garden are looking great at this time of year. The Japanese maples, to be found in several places, are showing strong colours. Fall colours are also developing in the native trees to add to the ever changing scenery in the Fredericton Botanic Garden.



Japanese maple Memorial Garden

Pond area enhancements including improvements to water management in the area have been made possible by a grant from the NB Environmental Trust Fund. This project is described in detail on page 1 by Brian Parker.

In the past several weeks more fill has been brought in to bring the Rose Garden site to the required sub-grade level. If this objective is reached this fall it's possible we may be able to begin construction of the Garden itself next year. In the meantime, the seedling larches for the Rose Garden hedge that were grown for us last year at the Atlantic Forestry Centre of the Canadian Forestry Service, have been planted out in a nursery area in the Garden. They will be transplanted to the Rose Garden at a later date.

Garden care this summer was in the hands of students Katrina Hodgson and Peter Shaw. Peter replaced Nicole Armstrong who had to leave us in mid June. They were supported in part by funding from the federal government Canada Summer Jobs program and the NB SEED program. The students worked under the capable leadership of Keanen Jewett, Horticultural Technician for the City of Fredericton, and they did a great job in keeping the Garden looking excellent all summer through periods of hot weather and heavy rains. Perennial beds, shrubs and lawns still look good as a result of their care.

Richard Tarn, Site Development Committee



Fredericton Botanic Garden Memorials

Memorial Benches

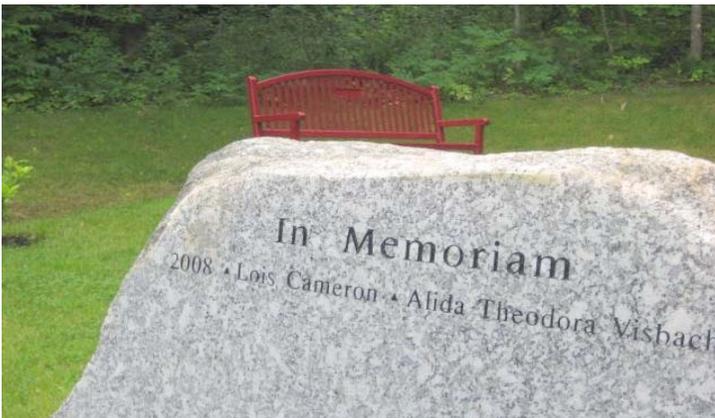
As a result of the desirability of the memorial benches in the Entrance Garden, all of which have been memorialized, we have placed six new benches throughout the Garden.



These benches are located at various quiet sites in the Garden for example, in the Rhododendron Garden and in the Magnolia Memorial Grove. The memorial inscription is placed on a bronze plaque attached to the centre of the back. Its size is 2" X 10" and may contain up to 4 lines of text. The benches are permanently mounted on a concrete base to prevent theft. These benches may be memorialized for a donation of \$3000.00 to the Botanic Garden. As the Botanic Garden is registered as a charitable organization by the Government of Canada your donations are fully tax deductible.

Memorial Grove

The Memorial Grove, consisting of Magnolias and Japanese maples, is located just to the south of the future Rose Garden. It is accessible from the main road through the Garden. This small Grove is a place of peace and tranquility surrounded by a mature forest. At its centre is a



large split granite boulder. Engraved on the polished face is "In Memoriam" followed by the names of those persons being memorialized. Space on this memorial is available for a donation of \$500.00 to the Garden. The donation is also fully tax deductible.

Should you wish further details please contact the Botanic Garden office at 452-9269

Bill Seabrook, Board Member

The Propagation Project

Perennials are now being propagated at the Botanic Garden for the 2011 Plant Sale. This is something that has been talked about and tried before (everything old is new again!). It is a normal part of Plant Sale planning for many botanic gardens. The genesis of the idea is the need for plant material for the annual Plant Sale. As you know this is one of the main fund-raising events of the year. Over the past several years the amount of material donated by members has declined. This year's plant inventory was boosted significantly by a donation of some 900 plants by the family of the late Stephen Storey. The Plant Sale Committee again purchased herbaceous perennials and trees for the sale. When the sale was over we had about 400 plants, mostly perennials, left.



Raised beds, September 2010

We have talked this over and determined that most of these could be successfully planted out and grown on to become 800 plus perennials by sale time next year. A request was made to the FBGA board for funds to till up bed space near the greenhouse and to build raised beds (necessary because of drainage issues) so the perennials can be planted out. Approval was given. The tilling has been done and the raised beds constructed and filled with a soil-compost mix. Although a call for help was sent to members by e-mail, on the appointed evenings at the beginning of September we were the only two present. Some material remains to be planted and there may be a

Continued on page 5



further request for volunteer help. Plants have been planted according to a planting plan to ensure there is a record to identify the plants in the spring when the material will be divided and potted up. If any members wish to donate plant material for maintaining in the raised beds over winter there is still time to bring it to the Resource Centre. When Heather was at NSAC in Truro in July, Professor Carol Goodwin generously donated some plant material for next year's Plant Sale.

Part of the propagation project is the refurbishment of the greenhouse. Some work was done in the spring. Some of the benches are in sad shape as the metal grating in them has sagged and some supports have come loose. To date we have removed all pots etc. recycling some, disposing of some and storing reusable pots and plant trays in the basement of the Resource Centre. Many thanks to the City Staff and students for doing the actual moving. The next chore is to repair the benches. Ian Veach is looking into this. If anyone knows the origin of these benches or can offer a good approach to fixing them, please let us know.

Heather Connor-Dunphy
Richard Tarn

Definitely Not Giant Hogweed

The discovery of Giant Hogweed in Charlotte County this summer brought invasive plants into the news.

We have our own invasive plant in the Fredericton Botanic Garden – Woodland Angelica (*Angelica sylvestris*) is rampant. This European plant was first reported in Canada from the Fredericton area and Cape Breton. It is now invading moist open and woodland habitats up and down the St John River Valley and is known from scattered localities in southern Ontario and the New England States.



Woodland Angelica

Woodland Angelica, a biennial growing to 2.5 m in height, is a prolific seed producer and overwhelms other vegetation with its vigorous growth. Our management of the

**Join us for a Plant Sale
“Brainstorming” session
on Thursday October 21 at 7:00 pm
at the Resource Center.**

Please attend and offer your ideas and special skills that would contribute toward the future look of this, our major fundraising event of the year.

Come early (at 5:00 pm) and join the committee members when they will be putting more of the plants in the Propagation Beds.

weed is to mow it in early fall before the seed matures to reduce the potential seed population. However, plants among trees and shrubs continue to survive and produce a seed reservoir to ensure its continual spread.

Giant Hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*) is a giant in every respect. It can grow to 5 m tall, leaves can reach 3 m in length, and the flower cluster can be 1 m across. Like our Angelica, Giant Hogweed can dominate other vegetation. However, there is an additional threat with Giant Hogweed – its ability to harm our skin. Contact with sap from broken parts of the plant can result in the skin becoming hypersensitive to sunlight, resulting in burns, blisters and scarring. Giant Hogweed was first introduced to North America from Europe in the early 1900s for its ornamental value. It is now widespread in parts of the northern US and southern Canada.

Since invasive species pose various threats to our environment, economy and society, there are programs to enhance awareness of their danger and management. In NB these activities are led by the NB Invasive Species Council <http://www.nbisc.ca>. Similar organizations exist in other provinces. The Canadian Food Inspection Agency has a national strategy aimed at minimizing the risk posed by invasive species <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/plaveg/invenv/strat/strate.shtml>

Richard Tarn

Thank-you to Jane Tarn for her expertise in editing the Newsletters.



Join us on Facebook



The Fredericton Botanic Garden Association now has a Facebook page. If you're one of the one in three Canadians on Facebook, you can join the FBGA group page by entering "**Fredericton Botanic Garden**" in the search bar on Facebook, and then selecting "Join this group." We'll have announcements about events and pictures of the Garden.

Membership Privileges include:
 Newsletters
 and advance notice by email of all events
 10 % discount at:
 Capital Landscape and City Designers,
 Co-op Country Store (Northside), Corn Hill Nursery,
 Currie's Greenhouses, Kent Garden Centre,
 Scott's Nursery, Wetmore's Landscaping, Sod and Nursery

The Fredericton Botanic Garden Association Newsletter is published four times a year by the Fredericton Botanic Garden Association, Inc.

The FBGA is a registered charitable organization for tax purposes.

The objectives of the FBGA are to guide the establishment of the Fredericton Botanic Garden and to foster an awareness and appreciation of plants.

To obtain information on membership and to become involved in FBGA activities please contact us: **506-452-9269 PO Box 57, Stn. A, Fredericton, NB E3B 4Y2 or fbga@nb.aibn.com**
Web: www.frederictonbotanicgarden.com

Fredericton Botanic Garden Association Board of Directors

President - Norah Davidson-Wright **Vice-President** - Brian Parker **Secretary** - Carole Peacock **Treasurer** - Michael Dillon
 Valerie Hillier Jacques Paynter Ruth Muldrew Bill Seabrook George Strunz Ian Lee Veach
Ex officio, Chair, Site Development - Richard Tarn

JOIN WITH US IN MAKING THE FREDERICTON BOTANIC GARDEN A REALITY!

- New Member Membership Renewal

Would you be interested in volunteering for:

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Postal Code: _____ Telephone: _____
 Email: _____

- Helping in the garden
- Cooking for special events
- Selling tickets for special events
- Joining a committee
 - Building maintenance
 - Education
- Public Relations
- Helping with the Plant Sale
- Helping with the Treasured Garden Tour
- Membership
- Newsletter
- Other

Annual Fees:	Please circle		
	1 yr	2 yr	3yr
Individual/Regular	\$20	\$40	\$60
Family	\$35	\$70	\$105
Senior/Student	\$15	\$30	\$45

Donation: \$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Official income tax receipts will be issued for donations

Please make suggestions for topics for "Talks in the Garden", Newsletter or improvements to the Garden

