

September 2006

Volume 5,

Issue 3

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

Individual Highlights:

Executive Directors

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Staff at Milner Gardens

Jim Cadwaladr

Executive Director

Geoff Ball

Horticultural

Supervisor

Michelle Lacey

Secretary

Candice Coghill

Nursery Grower/Gift shop

Coordinator

Charlene Forrest

Children's Program

Facilitator

Carol Hansen

Tea Room Coordinator



MILNER MUSINGS

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Greetings to you all. I am very pleased to announce that Rich Johnston, President of Malaspina University-College, has appointed Geoff Ball, currently the Horticulturalist at the gardens, Interim Executive Director of Milner Gardens & Woodland. The position of Interim Director will bridge the retirement of Rich Johnston as President in Jan 2007 and allow the new President-designate Dr. Ralph Nilson time to familiarize himself with Malaspina and Milner Gardens. (For more information on the appointment of Dr. Nilson please go to <http://www.mala.ca/media/release.asp?ID=922> for the article *Malaspina University-College has a new President.*)

Geoff will begin his new position on Oct. 13, 2006, my last day being Oct. 12. Geoff has been the Horticulturalist at Milner Gardens & Woodland for the past 9 years and before that worked in the Horticulture Program at Malaspina University-College. Geoff has played a significant role in planning and executing the changes and improvements to the garden and was involved in the development of the public program. I believe he is well suited for this position.

Much has been achieved this past year through the efforts of our dedicated staff and volunteers and through your support. Some indicators are; at August 31 visitor numbers are up 38% over last year; membership now stands at 1,921; the Fundraising Committee report is very encouraging (page 2; and the demand for the children's program continues to grow (page 7). However, the challenges facing the gardens are, and will continue to be, funding in support of staff and programs, and the need to develop a clearly articulated relationship between Milner Gardens and Malaspina University-College. Much work is yet to be done, Geoff and Milner Gardens will need your continued support as the garden and its program continue to grow and evolve as part of the community.

Administration: 752-8573
Volunteer Services: 752-7514

Milner Gardens and Woodlands
2179 West Island Highway

Reservations & Info: 752-6153
Fax: 250 752-3826
Web Site: www.milnergardens.org

My years at Milner Gardens have been nothing less than amazing. I could not have done it without the support of my wife Margaret. Also, thank you to all the members of the Milner Gardens Board for their advice and support through some very challenging times, and thank you to the staff and volunteers who make it all work. A special thank you to Rich Johnston and good luck in his retirement. I wish you all well and see you in the garden.

Jim Cadwaladr, Executive Director

A MESSAGE FROM THE NEW DIRECTOR

Early in 1998 I left Malaspina University-College's Horticulture Technician Program where I had been working as an instructor and technician to come to Milner Gardens and take on the role of Horticulturist.

For a brief period I was strictly a gardener but that soon changed as we moved towards preparing it for opening. Over the last eight years I have had the great fortune of having a job that has been constantly evolving and challenging and at the same time more rewarding than any I could have asked for.

As Jim mentioned in his article, next month I will be leaving the role I have so enjoyed and stepping into that of the Director. I am thrilled about being given the opportunity, responsibility and challenge of seeing the continued growth and development of such a unique and inspiring place.

As always, I hope to see you in the garden.

Geoff

Thank you for your continued support

Along with flannel shirts and fleecy vests, autumn brings a familiar pattern to the fundraising group at Milner Gardens and Woodland Society. It is time once more to reflect on the generosity of our donors, members and corporate supporters and to be thankful for their many contributions gifted over the year, with hopes, of course, for a few more gifts before year-end.

Fall also brings the opportunity to finish projects and to plan for the next year.

A brief status report of where we are now:

- **2006 campaign** – We are presently about \$15,000 short of our campaign goal of \$75,000. Many of you will have just received a letter with more details and we hope that perhaps there are still donors who may be in a position to help meet this objective. This campaign was launched in the spring to offset the 2006 deficit and to keep MGW in the black!! In addition to funds raised through the campaign, Malaspina University-College has recently indicated an annual commitment of \$30,000 to help in this regard.
- **Endowment funds, Vancouver Foundation / Parksville-Qualicum Community Foundation** – As outlined in Roy Taylor's recent Campaign letter to members and donors, we are in the final stages of placing our endowment funds with the Vancouver Foundation through our local

Parkville-Qualicum Community Foundation. This will ensure the Gardens' continued growth and long-term security as well as support our local Communities.

- **Welcome and Interpretive Centre** – We now expect completion in the next two months. Watch for a grand opening event to launch our 2007 season.

The Fundraising Committee wish to thank each of you for your continued commitment of time, treasure and talent, and to say how pleased we are that, as a result, Milner Gardens can grow and meet its objectives. With your support we will continue to “preserve and enhance” this Community gem, and “to educate and inspire” all those who pass through our gates.

Please call if you would like any additional information or to offer any suggestions,

Corrie deKluyver

Chair of Fundraising Committee (250) 248-0169



From left Jim Cadwaladr, Gerry Adair and Roy Taylor

Milner Gardens has received a beautiful watercolour of the Milner House by local artist **Peggy Burkosky** entitled ***The Milner Estate***. The watercolour has come to the garden through the generosity of **Gerry Adair**. This piece has a connection to Milner Gardens beyond its subject matter. It was originally auctioned here in the early 1990's during one of the Art Auctions held in support of the *Old School House*. The watercolour will become part of the permanent display in the Milner House.

Thank you Gerry for your generosity.

MILNER GARDENS AND WOODLAND SOCIETY ANNUAL CAMPAIGN FUND

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

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Primrose Circle | Private guided tour + one garden admission pass.\$100+ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Magnolia Circle | Private guided tour + two garden admission passes\$250+ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Douglas-fir Circle | Private guided tour + four garden admission passes/or a one year household membership.....\$500+ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Rhododendron Circle | Private guided tour + four garden admission passes + invitation for two to annual donor reception at Garden.....\$1,000+ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Garden Benefactor | Private guided tour + six garden passes/ or a 1 year household membership + invitation for two to annual donor reception at Garden + recognition in the MGW landscape or other agreed upon project.....\$5,000+ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Milner Partner | Private guided tour + six garden passes/or a 1 year household membership + invitation for two to Milner Partner's dinner at the Garden + recognition in the MGW landscape or other agreed upon project..... \$10,000+ | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Donor Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City or 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

Please make donations payable to: Milner Gardens and Woodland Society **cash** **cheque** **credit card**

Amex|Mcard|Visa: No. _____ **Name on card:** _____

Type: _____ **Expiry date:** month _____ year _____ **Signature:** _____

Official tax receipts will be issued by Milner Gardens and Woodland Society under Canadian Federal Charitable # 88675 3615 RR0001 for all donations \$10 or greater.

Please send information about:

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Annual membership categories | <input type="checkbox"/> Make an entry in the Book of Honours | <input type="checkbox"/> Gift a stock security |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Planned giving opportunities | <input type="checkbox"/> Make a bequest to the Gardens | |

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 ONLY: Date received: _____; Admission passes sent: _____ Membership(s) sent _____

Camellia Tea Room News

Due to the success of our previous luncheons, we are planning on having a regular luncheon for members and volunteers once a month during the open season. We'll be sending out e-mails with the details for now until we get on a regular schedule. Please pass on any notices to friends who do not have e-mail. The next one will be on Thursday October 19th. Reservations are necessary. See newsletter notice for more information.

For those members who may be around at lunch time, between 11:30 and 12:30, and would like a sandwich, if you see me around and I'm not busy, I'll try to accommodate you in the Tea Room before it is open for regular Tea Room service. I'm not always available but we'll try to see what we can do until the end of this season. If you're coming with a small group, please call me ahead to make arrangements and we'll be sure to accommodate you.

The Tea Room has seen some great changes this year, with the addition of a commercial dishwasher, which will aid us greatly during our special luncheons. We've also been blessed once again by the "Garden Fairies" who miraculously appeared with an upright freezer during our time of need! Now we're in need of a large crock-pot with a removable pot, if anyone has one that they may like to donate. As usual, small bone china side plates and small jelly jars for snap top rings are always needed.

FALL LUNCHEON

FOR MEMBERS, VOLUNTEERS AND THEIR GUESTS

Thursday, October 19th
12:00

Roasted Butternut Squash Soup
Chicken Salad Croissant Waldorf Salad
Apple Streusel Coffee/tea

All for **13.50** gst inc

Reservations are necessary
Phone 752 8573 Local 224

If unable to come, it is important to cancel as early as possible
so that someone else may take your place.

Malaspina's Milner Gardens
FALL PLANT Sale & Festival
September 30th & October 1st
Saturday & Sunday 10:00am – 4:00pm
Admission to Garden and Plant Sale by DONATION



Featuring:

***Great selection of trees, shrubs, and perennials – we pay the tax and more!**

***Master Gardeners**

***BC Fruit Testers**

***Members Early
Access Invite***

**Friday September 29th
5:00-6:30pm In the Nursery
Please bring your membership
card to access this event.**



**For more information
please call 752-6153**

**2179 West Island Hwy
Qualicum Beach, BC**

Shoots with Roots

Fall 2006 Newsletter

☞ *Helping community Shoots make and meet Roots* ☜

education.milnergardens@shaw.ca
Charlene Forrest – program coordinator

Summer Camps, Sprouting Out, Field Trips -

The Shoots with Roots program sure was busy this summer!

There were 8 weeks of Summer Camps with 87 participants registered. Along with the new faces, were many children returning from previous camps, or after having been a part of the school program. Some children came for as many as 5-6 of the 8 weeks this summer—they LOVE it!

The *Sprouting Out* program for local childcare groups was also very active this summer. Three daycare groups came for repeated visits and have also signed on for multiple visits in the fall and spring.

I was also lucky enough to spend time with two “Camp Incredible” groups for field trips again this summer. Even just having a short period of time with them really helps to lift the spirits ☺



Oxford –6th International Congress on Education in Botanic Gardens – Sept 10-14



My trip to the BGCi (Botanic Gardens Conservation International) Education Congress at Oxford was fantastic!

Accommodation was at Christ Church College, with most of the talks, paper sessions and workshops held at the Oxford University Examination School.

We toured Oxford Botanical Garden and Harcourt Arboretum and Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Evenings were spent in the “Harry Potter Hall” at Christ Church, at the Museum of Natural History and Pitt Rivers Museum, and at the Saïd School of Business.

BGCi and Oxford Botanic Garden staff did an amazing job of organizing and running the entire congress. They can not be praised enough!

There were over 350 delegates from more than 40 countries. The opportunity to converse with multiple nations on such a common topic was incredible.

It was very rewarding to hear the success stories from programs around the world, and to understand that similar frustrations transcend the globe. **Our Shoots with Roots program is greatly admired, praised and envied around the world. And rightfully so, as we are very very blessed!**

New relationships have been fostered with other programs that will add a whole new component of global connectivity to our SwR program.

I can not extend enough appreciation to the donors who paid for this Professional Development trip. I sincerely hope that such opportunities will be an integral part of MGW’s future, and that others may consider donating funds specifically to such. We are a piece of a very large puzzle that not only can we learn a lot from, but also have a great deal to contribute to.

** All the papers presented at this congress have been put onto a CD, if anyone would like to borrow this CD please let me know. It was VERY difficult to decide which talks/workshops to go to as all the options were so interesting! **

2006-2007 Season begins-

There are 13 classes registered for this year’s on-site multi-visit program. They range from Kindergarten to Grade 7, all the way from Bowser to Nanaimo. There are numerous repeating teachers, but also new schools and teachers involved this year. The first of the two fall visits will begin next week, each class will return for three more visits in the spring.

HAPPENINGS AT MILNER

Always very popular, a special treat for our members, volunteers and their guests, is the opportunity to have a special luncheon in the Milner House, decorated in fine festive style of the Christmas Season.

Reservations are necessary, so book early to ensure a place.

If you must cancel, please do so as early as possible to so that someone else may take your place.

The Gift Shop will be open for Christmas shopping.

Plan on having a light supper!

Phone 752 8573 Loc 224

To reserve your seats



Join us for an Old Fashioned

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

For members, volunteers and guests

Saturday, December 2th

Saturday December 9th

12:30

Roasted Red Pepper Soup

Chicken Mango on Rice Pilaf – Broccoli Salad

Delicious desserts, Tea/Coffee

All for \$16.50 plus gst

Entertainment

Member special...Gift shop sale on now until Thanksgiving.

- 25% off all souvenirs (wind chimes, sun catchers, bird feeders, flower vases/pots, and more)
- 25% off select apparel
- 30% off 2007 dated calendars
- Select items on sale at 50% off – be sure to check out the clearance section
- Members receive 10% off all regular priced items.

Please show your membership card at time of purchase.

Member Early Access Plant Sale Friday September 29th 5-6:30pm in the Nursery

Beat the crowds and pick up some great bargains at the Nursery. This year we will be offering wine and appetizers on the pool deck. The gift shop will be open for your shopping enjoyment and of course there will be a great selection of Milner plants.

This is a Member's event – please bring your membership card to access this event.

Benefits of Membership...

- ❖ Free admission to the Gardens during regular garden hours (excluding some special events)
- ❖ Member early access to the spring and fall plant sales
- ❖ 'Milner Musings' quarterly newsletter
- ❖ 10% discount off regularly priced merchandise and plants in the Gift Shop and Nursery
- ❖ Discounted entry for guests (\$7.50 per adult)

MEMBER SPECIAL...



Pre-order a handmade Milner Gardens wreath or doorswag made from fresh local greens. Wreaths are 18” wide and doorswags are 2.5’ long. Both make great Christmas gifts for friends and family.

Deadline for orders: Friday Dec. 1st.

Wreath: \$22.50 plus taxes

Door swag: \$17.00 plus taxes

Please note: orders received after the

deadline are subject to the regular prices (\$27.50 plus taxes for a wreath and \$20.00 plus taxes for a swag).

The wreaths and doorswags will be available for pick-up during the Milner Christmas Magic Event. Dec. 1-3rd, Dec. 8-10th, and Dec. 14-19th from 5:30-8:30pm or at any of the Members’ Luncheons.

If you have any questions or to book your order please email Candice Coghill at candice.milnergardens@shaw.ca . Orders can also be phoned in to 752-8573 ext. 291 or drop off your order sheet at the main office. All payments are due at time of pick up. Thank you for your continued support.

Member Name: _____

Phone number : _____

ORDER DEADLINE DECEMBER 1st, 2006
Please pick up and pay for your items at the Gift Shop

Item	Description	Price	Qty
Wreath	w. burgundy bow	*22.50	
Wreath	w. red bow	*22.50	
Doorswag	w. burgundy bow	*17.00	
Doorswag	w. red bow	*17.00	

***Plus taxes**

