



Old East Village News Fall 2005

OLD EAST VILLAGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

INSIDE...

- Aeolian Hall Events
 - Our Urban Future
 - Water Your Trees
 - BIA News
 - Old East Heritage Colour Palette
 - A Tonne of Good Ideas
 - Queens Ave Update
 - Branding the Neighbourhood
 - Queens Park Re-develop,ment
 - Getting Involved
 - Tree Canopy in Old East
 - East London Town Hall
 - Meeting the Our New Neighbours
 - Garden Club News
 - Boulevard Garden Contest
- ...and much more!

Heritage District Update

The project team of Stantec Consulting, Nexus Architecture and Mike Baker is nearing completion of the draft Conservation Plan and Design Guidelines for the Old East Heritage Conservation District. There is a public meeting / workshop on September 28th to present the guidelines and provide information about the proposed approvals process. This should be of particular interest for those who might be contemplating alterations or renovations to the exterior of Old East dwellings in the future. The project team would also welcome any photos that residents of Old East might have of their original buildings and architectural features. This information would be useful in the final document to provide more examples of heritage details. If you have anything available, please contact Donna Currie and she will forward it to the project team.

- Maureen Zunti, Stantec Consulting

PUBLIC MEETING/WORKSHOP

A public meeting / workshop is being held to present an overview of the proposed conservation and design guidelines and the recommended heritage district permit approvals process. The meeting will also include a brief workshop where you will have an opportunity to hear from heritage contractors and others who have completed heritage renovations to provide additional information for those who are considering heritage alteration and maintenance activities.

The public meeting will be held as follows:

- ★ **Wednesday, Sept. 28, 2005**
- ★ **7:00-9:00 pm**
- ★ **Lorne Ave. Public School**

Old East Village News is published by the OEVCA and delivered free of charge.

Newsletter Designed by
Sonia Wolf, 434-3139

We invite your comments, suggestions and submissions. contact newsletter editor Bev Wagar at newsletter@oevca.ca



Old East Village Community Improvement Plan

The City's recently completed Community Improvement Plan for the Old East Village is presently working its way through the municipal political process on the road to proclamation.

The purpose of the C.I.P. is to "provide the context for a coordinated municipal effort to improve the physical, economic and social climate of the Old East Village." While generally confined to initiatives on the commercial corridor, and borrowing quite heavily from the PACT Report of 2003, this city document does touch on issues of direct concern to the residential community. These include the fate of Queen's Avenue as a one-way arterial road, improvements to Carson Library, and the redevelopment of Queen's Park, among others.

The Community Association made a presentation to the Planning Committee on October 25, 2004 to express our full support for the CIP's revitalization initiatives. A copy of the plan will be put on reserve at Carson Library and will also be available on the Association's website (www.oevca.ca) as soon as possible.

- Greg Thompson



What's On at the Aeolian

the Aeolian
795 Dundas Street
672-7950
www.aeolianhall.ca

Swing! Dance Classes with Mike & Inge

Every Wednesday night starting September 14 at 7pm
Couples and Singles welcome!
Registration: \$45 More info:
495-7424 www.mikeandinge.com

Understanding Opera with Dr. David Stanley-Porter

A 10 week course in opera appreciation starting September 12 & 16 (Monday evenings or Friday mornings)
Registration: \$95 More info:
432-3240

Home County Folk League Open Stage

Every second Sunday afternoon
2pm - 4pm



Door Photo Contest

Do you have an interesting door? Is it architecturally significant, artistic, wonderful or weird? Even if its just a plain old door, are you a photo buff who can make it look fabulous? If yes, then stay tuned for the Old East Door Photo Contest. Winning shots will be used to make a fundraising poster. Help is needed to organize this project. Please call Donna Currie 439-7120 to get involved.

Bring your voice, instrument, and enthusiasm for live performance!
Performer sign up: 1:45pm
\$2 donation to Home County



Concerts & Events:

Friday, September 16 8pm Armenian Jazz Vocal Sensation Datevik

Tickets: \$20 advance or \$25 at the door; \$15 student/seniors

Saturday & Sunday, September 17-18 Reclaiming Creativity Conference & Collaboration

Discussion, Workshops, Art, Film and Music
10\$ (or 5\$ unwaged) per day

Sunday, September 25 2:30pm Dance Drama: All is Forever Held in Eternal Love

Performance by the Sacred Pathfinders
All proceeds go to WELLSRING LONDON AND REGION.
Tickets: \$10.00 in advance and \$12.00 at the door.

Saturday, October 1 8pm Jeremy Price presents: Michelle Grégoire Quintet The 'Project Cool' 2004 Jazz winner

CD Release of the much anticipated 'Reaching'
\$25 General Admission; \$20 for Students, Seniors and groups of 2 or more

Saturdays, October 8, November 12, December 10 8pm Jazz Jazz Jazz presents

"But is it Jazz?", a three part concert series, featuring jazz outside the "Boxed Set". Concerts one and two focus on music written between the 1920's and 1960's.
Featuring: Carole Allison, Jayne Hysen, Andrew Mawdsley, Jed House, Al Taylor, Jessie Ross, Dave Nuttall, Steve McNabb

Tickets: \$15. per concert. \$35. Series (includes a \$5. discount on purchase price of live recording of concert three.)

Saturday, October 23, 8pm Women with Pride present: Girls! Girls! Girls! and Bois! films & dance \$15

Thursday, November 3 , 8 pm from England The Acoustic Strawbs

Advance tickets \$22.00 & \$25 at the door

Saturday, November 19 , 8pm From Australia Eric Bogle Advance tickets \$18.00 & \$21 at the door.

OEVCA Executive Members

President: Greg Thompson 679-3844 (greg.oevca@sympatico.ca)
Vice-President: Frank Filice 432-5923 (filicefrank@hotmail.com)
Treasurer: vacant
Secretary: Bev Wagar 679-5511 (admin@oevca.ca)
Director-at-Large: Donna Currie 439-7120 (trees4oev@yahoo.ca)
Director-at-Large: Adam Thompson (athomps8@uwo.ca)
Director-at-Large: Ted Town 439-0896 (tedtown2000@yahoo.com)

Peak Oil, Old East and Our Urban Future

The second time I watched *The End of Suburbia* (at the Aeolian's "Hot Buttered Politics" film festival) I became slightly less depressed about the consequences of ever-increasing oil prices and the collapse of globalism. The glimmer of hope came from a quote from James H. Kunstler, one of the authors featured in the film. Kunstler claims that the coming global crisis (within the next few decades) will force us all to be better neighbours.

Reassured by our century cottage in Old East, I started listing the reasons why our neighbourhood will be better off as we leave the age of oil.

As long-distance trucking grinds to a halt, localism will be the mantra of commerce. Goods and services will be produced and sold locally. People will work close to where they live. People will walk or cycle to where they want to go. We in Old East already live within short walk of Dundas, which will become our very own, very thriving, downtown.

We will all be more connected to activities that have intrinsic value—things that feed, house, and clothe us. Someday we might even unearth Carling Creek and enjoy flowing water again in our neighbourhood. If we preserve our tree canopy, we'll have trees to cool our homes in the summer and shelter us in winter.

As the era of the three-thousand mile caesar salad comes to an end, food will be grown in backyards and nearby farms.

And we, unlike the McMansion dwellers in sprawling subdivisions, will have good soil and ample-sized yards on which to grow. We'll turn the monstrous cement landing pad at Lorne Avenue School into a community garden and greenhouse. We'll keep chickens in the back yard.

We'll walk to the Palace to see a movie or a play. We'll hang out at Queen's Park. We'll have a local barter network.

Running on bio-diesel or other renewable energy, the railway will regain its former glory as the inter-urban lifeline and serve as a bulwark against feudalism. We have one right on our northern border, and another on our southern."

We won't need to create a pedestrian-scaled community in Old East—we already have one. Sidewalks, short blocks, and a grid-system will continue to keep us connected. Our smaller houses will be easier to heat and our porches will ensure that we become better neighbours.

We're a creative and adaptable bunch. We will quickly create new ways to ensure that no one falls too far behind in the struggle to survive. The post-oil world won't be so bad for Old East. I'm even looking forward to the day when the corner greengrocer thrives and the WalMart lays empty and rotting.

Why wait for the cost of oil to mold us into into a true community? Let's become better neighbours right now.

- Bev Wagar

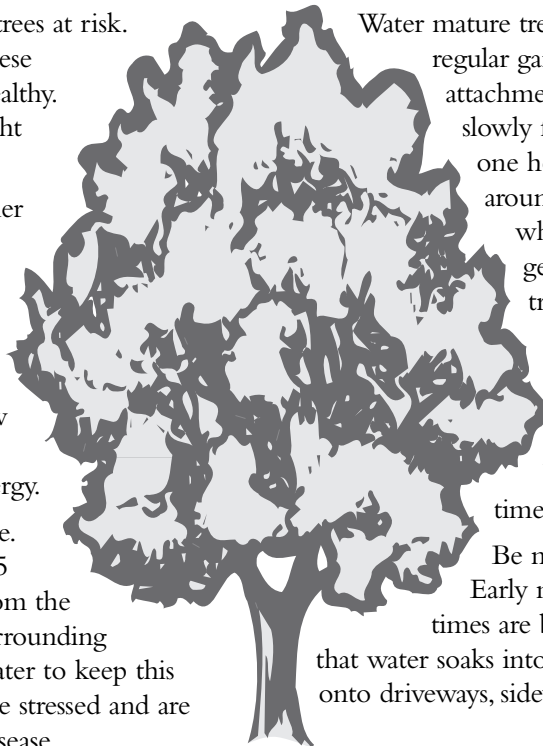
Water Your Trees, Please!

Hot, dry weather is putting London's trees at risk.

Trees are stoic—we may not notice these majestic giants struggling to remain healthy. Often by the time the effects of drought become noticeable it is too late.

Trees help us survive sweltering summer temperatures. Who hasn't sought the protection of a shade tree to avoid the blistering sun? Those of us lucky enough to have trees near our dwellings know the importance of the shade they cast. Mature trees allow us to turn down the air conditioning when we hear appeals to conserve energy.

But it's not just shade that trees provide. One large tree can discharge up to 375 litres of water per day. Evaporation from the leaves causes a cooling effect in the surrounding air. Trees need a constant supply of water to keep this process going. Without it they become stressed and are vulnerable to attacks from pests and disease.



Water mature trees with a soaker-hose, or use a regular garden hose with no sprinkler attachment. Allow the water to trickle slowly from the hose for approximately one hour once a week. Move the hose around periodically to ensure the whole area under the tree's canopy gets watered. For newly planted trees (three years ago or less) shorter, more frequent watering is better. Run the hose on a slow trickle for approximately 20 minutes or provide three large buckets of water two or three times per week.

Be mindful of water conservation. Early morning or evening watering times are best. Use a low flow to ensure that water soaks into the soil rather than running off onto driveways, sidewalks or streets.

Queens Ave – A Solution is in Sight

Changes to Queens Avenue have been repeatedly recommended by a number of studies of Old East, the most recent being the Heritage Designation and the PACT Report. The recommendations of the PACT report were accepted by the City and as a result a traffic analysis of Queens Ave. has been done.

That analysis provides hard data to support the community's concerns about the traffic on Queens Ave., that is, that traffic moves too quickly, that the volume of traffic is high, and that Queens Avenue now essentially functions as a freeway for access to the city centre. This, we believe is not appropriate for a residential street. The report also outlines some options for solving the problem, including returning Queens to a two way street.

A working group, consisting of representatives from the BIA, the OEVCA, residents of Queens Avenue and the City Engineering Department, has been assembled to review the report. The group is discussing the methodology, findings and recommendations of the report, and seeking answers and clarification on parts that are unclear. When the revisions have been made, the report will be presented to the community for input. All options will be presented to the community as a whole before any decisions are made.

Anyone who would like further information about this initiative can call Frank Filice (432-5923) or Greg Thompson (674-3844).

- Frank Filice

Branding the Neighbourhood

A few years ago I found myself in Fergus, wandering the streets of the village core. As I walked, I couldn't help but notice that many of the heritage homes there had plaques attached to them with what, presumably, were the names and occupations of the original owners. I found it quite charming and more than a little interesting.

As part of our effort to brand Old East Village as a truly distinctive neighbourhood and to build on the upcoming heritage designation, we'd like to try this heritage plaque program here. Researching the early history of own home is quite easily done at the London Room of the London Public Library. I found my home's year of construction, and the name and occupation of the original owner in about 15 minutes. (1914, A.J. Walker, Teacher, The Collegiate Institute). We've spoken with a local print shop and have an agreement in place to produce metal plaques with the lettering for \$20 apiece.

Michael Baker, the Curator of Regional History at Museum London, has agreed to do a seminar for those of us interested in using the resources of the London Room (City Directories, Insurance Maps, etc.) to research the history of our homes. We'll schedule this for sometime in the fall or early winter. Details will be forthcoming. If you are interested in attending, send me an email or give me a call and I'll add your name to the list.

- Greg Thompson

Look Up...

Way up. See a beautiful canopy of leaves and branches? No? Old East, like the rest of London, is losing its cover of breathing, cooling trees. The OEVCA is taking a two-track approach to regaining a healthy stock of shade trees, not only for boulevards and streetscapes but also for your back yard.

The Tree Canopy Committee is working through ReForest London to provide good-sized trees for boulevards and front yards. ReForest London, funded through the City and the Trillium Foundation, matches funds (between \$1,000 and \$2,000) from community groups and corporations. If you would like to donate some money or time to this project, please call Susan Pedersen at 675-9723.

The Old East Tree Nursery project will provide a long-term supply of inexpensive trees for residents to plant anywhere on their property. The idea is to buy seedlings or "whips", grow them for a few years on local land, and eventually adopt them out to good homes. "We are looking at the boulevard next to the railway lands on Central near Elizabeth" says coordinator Bev Wagar. "The light is good, the area is sheltered, and it will be possible to get water to them". To get involved, please call Bev Wagar at 435-1498.

- Bev Wagar

Get Involved

Once again I'd like to encourage anyone with some interest to get involved in some of the initiatives on which we're currently working. Standing committees include SOFA (Social & Fundraising) and Heritage Treescape. We have some ad hoc committees dealing with the redevelopment of Queen's Park and the Queen's Avenue Traffic Study. Future work will be required on the Boyle Community Centre. If you're willing to get involved in helping to make our neighbourhood a vibrant and exciting place to be, call any of the directors to let us know. We can definitely use the help.

- Greg Thompson

**Old East
COR unit:
Constable
Paul Reynolds**

**Cell phone: 870-6173
COR office: 661-5983**

**General non-emerg reports:
661-5670**

Queen's Park Re-development

In the last edition of this newsletter, we mentioned that the Community Association is one of the neighbourhood organizations involved in discussions around the future use of Queen's Park. For those of you unaware of this little gem of urban greenspace, it is designated public parkland located immediately to the east of the locomotive on the Western Fair block and fronting on Dundas Street. The land is currently leased to the Western Fair Association, though it remains open to the public when not in use by the Fair.

For a neighbourhood with less public open space than almost any other, the re-integration of Queen's Park into the community is of special importance. The benefits of open space are tangible and well known to all—mitigating air pollution through the treescape, stabilizing property values, combating urban sprawl, providing opportunities for recreation, reducing crime and fostering cohesive neighbourhoods. Because the redevelopment of the park is only a part of a much broader local agenda, we believe that the park will also serve as one anchor for the revitalization of our neighbourhood and the building of a healthier local community.

The first phase of the redevelopment will use City funds set aside in the 2004 Capital Budget to: brand the

space as a neighbourhood park; beautify the Dundas Street frontage; plant additional trees to supplement a very impressive tree canopy; and provide more tables and benches within the park to encourage its use.

Redeveloping Queen's Park will be challenging. It is expected that an accommodation will need to be reached with the Western Fair Association to ensure that its legitimate needs for the space such as for the children's midway rides during the Fair—can be maintained. Because the community is an active partner in the redevelopment initiative, we will need to identify and secure funding to participate in future phases of development. Community consultation will need to be undertaken to assist in the Phase 2 Master Plan process in order to assure that we end up with a vibrant public space that meets the needs of our community.

We want to acknowledge the unconditional support that has been provided by city staff in the Parks & Recreation and Planning Departments. Special recognition must be given to Julie Michaud, a landscape architect intern from la belle province who is no doubt undergoing a baptism of fire in the peculiarities of London politics.

- Greg Thompson

EAST LONDON TOWN HALL

In collaboration with the Crouch Neighbourhood Resource Centre, the Glen Cairn Community Resource Centre and the Hamilton Road Community Association, the OEVCA is pleased to announce that we will be holding an East London Town Hall for Wards 3, 4 & 5 on **Thursday, October 20, 2005. Starting at 7:00 p.m.**, residents of the three Wards are welcome to gather at the Aeolian Hall to hear from the Ward Councillors. At this point the intent is to have a moderated discussion on issues specific to East London, followed by a short question and answer period.

- Greg Thompson

BIA News

We always hear from people who remember what this area was like back in the day. A lot of the places that were part of the scene then are still around.

The following is a list of long-term establishments, not the buildings themselves. For example, the building at 611 Dundas Street was part of the Duke of York Hotel back in 1867, but it wasn't until 1931 it became known as the St. Regis Hotel.

There are also a couple of places with gaps in their résumés: the Palace Theatre (1929) and the Aeolian Hall (1885). Even so, though the Palace was always an entertainment venue and the Aeolian mounted the occasional outdoor concert in its early days.

The continuous uses include:

Centennial United Church: 1875
Western Fair: 1887
London Curling Club: 1911
St. Regis Hotel: 1931
Anthony's Men's & Boys' Wear: 1934
McHardy's Vacuum: 1946
LacMac: 1949
Melody Restaurant: 1950
Dundas Deli: 1954
London Paint Service: 1955
Embassy Hotel: 1957
Tony's Pizza: 1961
Mona Lisa Beauty Salon: 1962
Semco Paint: 1964
G&A Book Exchange: 1966
Discount Appliances: 1967

Are you—or do you know of—a veteran Old East Village business that we missed? Please let us know at 645-7662.

- Ted Town

Paint the Town in Old East Colours



London, along with Toronto and Vancouver, now has a heritage-paint-colour neighbourhood. Benjamin Moore has introduced a palette based on the home colours that would have been used when Old East was quite new. At least six hundred of the homes in the heritage district were built between 1895 and 1910, and there were only thirty paint colours during that time period. These colours, officially called the Old East Village Heritage Palette, London Ontario by Benjamin Moore, are listed by name and number below.

Donna Currie, who spearheaded the project, is pleased that Old East is becoming recognized for its distinctive historical character. The palette, on display at London Paint Service at Dundas and Rectory, will make it easier for residents to upgrade or restore their homes to authentic period colours. Those with Internet access can use the following list to view the colours on the Benjamin Moore web site at www.benjaminmoore.ca.

-Bev Wagar

Old East Heritage Palette

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Townsend Harbor Brown HC-64 | Lenox Tan HC-44 |
| Holdley Red Hc-65 | Tate Olive HC-112 |
| Branchport Brown HC-72 | Brewster Gray HC-162 |
| Shore Line CC-364 | Duxbury Gray HC-163 |
| Bryant Gold HC-7 | Kendall Charcoal HC-166 |
| Livingston Gold HC-16 | Georgian Brick HC-50 |
| Forest Floor CC-570 | Bradstreet Beige HC-48 |
| Hale Navy HC-154 | Creamy White OC-7 |
| Knoxville Gray HC-160 | White Chocolate OC-127 |
| Onyx 2133-10 | Hepplewhite Ivory HC-36 |
| Laurentian Red CC-152 | Putnam Ivory HC-39 |
| Somerville Red HC-62 | Louisburg Green HC-113 |
| Fairview Taupe HC-85 | Wickham Gray HC-171 |
| Revere Pewter HC-172 | Palladian Blue HC-144 |
| Dijon CC-210 | Chelsea Gray HC-168 |

Meet Your New Neighbours...

Jackie McLean and her son Dereck Gignac moved to their Quebec Avenue home in April 2005.

Jackie works in the Physics & Astronomy department at Western in the position of Administrative Officer.

What surprised you most about your new neighbourhood?

How diverse, busy and colourful it is. The homes are breathtaking with character.

If you were marooned on a desert island and you could bring just one book and one piece of music, what would they be?

For a book I'd take nothing fictional, I'm sorry. I love political satire so, I'll take anything by P.J. O'Rourke or Al Franken, please. Music... a medley of tunes by Paul Simon and Art Garfunkel.

If you could change one thing about your neighbourhood, what would it be?

I would do what ever I could to calm the traffic and see to it that everyone's boulevard was beautified. 'Curb Gardens' as I once heard some one say.

What do you do on a typical Saturday morning?

Drink coffee and play Internet games. And, that would be very early.

Fill in the blank. "Most people don't know that I..."

... play Internet games early on Saturday mornings or eat yesterday's dinner for breakfast.

Anything else you'd like to tell us?

I love my new home. I love Old East and, I'm looking forward to many years of making friends and changes in this fine neighbourhood.

SOFA (Social) Committee

SOFA stands for Social Organizing Fundraising Association. The OEVCA's SOFA committee (formerly Social Committee) values your suggestions and help to make planned community events a success. The SOFA committee would like to plan family and community events. We're thinking of a possible fall pot-luck meal and meet up event, Halloween event, Christmas event. Other ideas include picnics, indoor or outdoor concerts of local bands in Old East Village, teen dances at Boyle Centre, street yard sales. For more information or to pass on ideas, please e-mail sofa@oevca.ca or call Biagio Iaboni at 434-1444 (please leave message). A SOFA member will get back to you if requested, will pass on your suggestions to the other SOFA members at our next meeting.

- Biagio Iaboni

A Tonne of Good Ideas

- Jamie Skilling, Manager, Air Quality, City of London

Residents in areas of Old East Village are participating in the One-Tonne Challenge Neighbourhood Challenge; one of the most significant environmental campaigns ever introduced in London. Old East is one of seven areas in the City being encouraged to take part in a variety of activities that help households save money, improve their health and benefit the environment by reducing climate change and air pollution.

Greenhouse gases are caused by day-to-day activities such as driving, heating and cooling our homes, cooking, doing laundry, throwing out garbage, and yard maintenance. The average Canadian is responsible for producing over five tonnes of greenhouse gases each year – that's twenty tonnes for a family of four. Five tonnes may not sound like much, but when you multiply this by 350,000 Londoners, that's about 1.7 million tonnes each year!

London is proud to be one of Canada's 41 Demonstration Communities selected by the Government of Canada to participate in the One-Tonne Challenge. The City of London and the Thames Region Ecological Association

(TREA), along with many other partners, are working to promote this initiative locally.

To date, the City of London has surveyed households and collected energy and waste data for Old East and the other study neighbourhoods.

The City of London will be using the Neighbourhood Challenge to try out a wide range of new ideas and incentives to encourage Londoners to drive less, save energy at home, and reduce waste. Old East will be used to "test market" the following ideas over the next couple of months:

- Home Energy Workshop (Thursday September 22, 7:00pm, Boyle Community Centre)
- Home Energy Self-Examination
- Free Blue Boxes

More activities may be developed over the coming months.

For more information, visit the One-Tonne Challenge page on www.london.ca, www.energuide.london.ca, and www.climatechange.gc.ca

Did you know?

- Fifteen per cent of Old East households have joined the One-Tonne Challenge already
- Almost one-quarter (23%) of Old East households often or always walk or bike to work, and almost half (49%) walk or bike to local destinations regularly
- Of the seven study areas, Old East has the highest proportion of residents who take the bus on a regular basis (15%)
- Seven per cent of Old East households have had an EnerGuide for Houses evaluation, and those who have completed their retrofits have received grants ranging from \$400 to \$1,600, reduced their energy bills anywhere from 14% to 52% and reduced their household annual greenhouse gas emissions anywhere from one-and-a-half to ten tonnes per year.

FREE HOME ENERGY WORKSHOP

at Boyle Community Centre
on Thursday September 22 at 7 p.m.

Features Bill Crawford, Senior Research Consultant for the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation. Come out, win a door prize, and learn about the many opportunities for saving energy when doing home repairs and renovations, as well as government assistance programs to help you pay for your investment in long-term energy savings at home.

The City of London is also looking for block champions to show their neighbours how easy it is to drive less, save energy at home, and reduce waste. If you are interested and you live within the neighbourhood demonstration area, please give us a call at 661-2500, extension 8413, or email us at OTC@london.ca.

Garden Club News

www.oevca.ca/gardenclub



Road Trip to Sweetgrass Gardens

Old East gardeners are invited to a special tour of Sweetgrass Gardens on Saturday September 10. Sweetgrass Gardens, owned and operated by Six Nations resident Ken Parker and his family, is a plant nursery and garden center that specializes in plants that are native to Southwestern Ontario. Native species are adapted to our climatic conditions, so they require less watering. Native species also have an established niche in our local environment, so they are more pest tolerant and require less maintenance.

The Garden Club tour will leave London at about 8:30 a.m. (by carpool) and the guided tour of the gardens begins at 10:00 a.m. We'll have lunch together, and perhaps make a visit to the Six Nations Horticultural Society Fair in the afternoon. The event is free for Garden Club members and OEVCA members, and \$10 for others. There are a maximum of 20 participants on the guided tour, so register early. Call Bev at 679-5511 or 435-1498.

Garden Crawling – Too Much Fun!

It's like a pub crawl, only we visit gardens, not taverns. And the drinks are far better! The Old East Garden Club's 2005 crawl held on July 15th was our biggest and best, with Delphiniums and Daquiris, Salvias and Sangria, Peach Punch and Potentilla, Margaritas and Melampodium, Buddleia and Budweiser! Six hosts let us stagger through, er, tour their gardens this year. We enjoyed an impromptu dip at Cathrin and Ricks's place, then finished up with a barbecue at Bev's place. Photos are posted at www.oevca.ca/gardenclub

Lord Roberts Garden Tour – A Great Success!

On Sunday June 12th, Lord Roberts Public School and the Old East Garden Club sponsored a garden tour of 14 spectacular gems tucked away in the backyards in London's next heritage district. The gardens featured in the tour were spectacular and despite the heat and humidity many people came out to enjoy the day.

Posse Soldiers On

The enigmatic band of green revolutionaries known as the Old East Guerrilla Garden Posse is apparently still active in the community. Friday night posse actions have been spotted at the Carson Library, Lorne Avenue Public School, and Elias Street. An OEVCA official, who declined to give his name, stated "We've tried to eradicate this subversive element from our midst, but we're dealing with a sophisticated and well-organized gang determined to paint Old East a distinctive shade of green". Brazenly defying horticultural monoculture, the garden guerrillas have begun tagging their creations.

Trees for Old East

A local landowner has made available a nice selection of trees for residents of Old East. If you would like to purchase a tree, or if you'd like more information about them, please call Donna Currie at 439-7120.

| | | | |
|----------------------|-------|--------------|-------|
| Ruby Red Maple * | 35.00 | Balsam Fir | 20.00 |
| Colorado Blue Spruce | 20.00 | White Spruce | 20.00 |
| Jack Pine | 20.00 | Bur Oak | 25.00 |
| Red Oak | 25.00 | Black Walnut | 20.00 |
| White Cedar | 20.00 | Black Cherry | 20.00 |
| Silver Maple | 20.00 | | |

*stays red when out in leaf

- Donna Currie



Boulevard Garden Contest

It is a growing trend. At the end of July, there were 40 "planted" boulevards in Old East and from those we had three winners.

The Boulevards are Beautiful Contest has done much better than expected. All gardened boulevards were entered in the contest even if they had not given an official notification. I have taken the time to photograph all of them and they can be viewed on-line at www.mygreengarden.ca/boulevards.

There has been more than one instance of industrious Old Easters gardening not only their own boulevards but their neighbours as well. One fellow, on Lorne Ave., had done his, his neighbours, and helped with a third without even knowing there was a contest.

Mrs. Ellen Howe, on Dufferin Ave., wrote to tell me how her husband had singlehandedly laid down stone on their boulevard and they will garden it next season. "Maybe anyone else might just say - oh it's stone," she wrote. "I'll always look at it and remember the three months he spent at Mount Hope and Parkwood - only to return home in the Spring - and do something to beautify our neighborhood."

Next spring, the contest will be organized by the Old East Village Community Association and I hope we can double the number of entries. Also, the judging will take place in mid-July so ensure your perennials are in on time.

Thanks must go to our sponsors, the Western Fair, Try Recycling, My Green Garden, Eastside Story, and the Old East Village BIA. Also, thanks to our judges, Chad Williams at Try Recycling, Ward 3 Councillor Fred Tranquilli, and OEVCA, Director at Large, Donna Currie.

And, of course, thank you to all that gardened.

The winners are Len Chapman, 804 Queens Ave, Reid Barrett, 657 Lorne Ave and Robert Blaikie, 468 Elizabeth St. The prizes will be awarded at the Western Fair with additional honourable mentions.

-Sean Hurley