

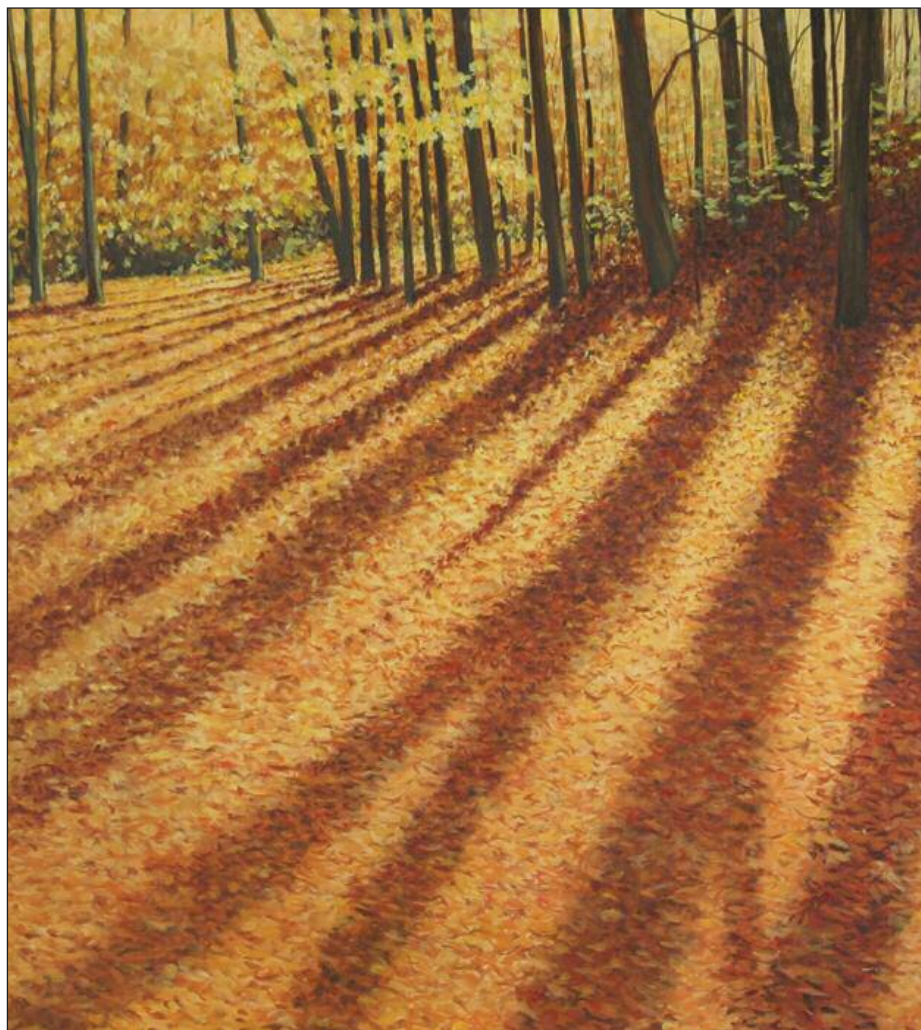


# Friends of the Central Experimental Farm

Fall 2011 Newsletter

Volume 23 No. 4

## Challenges Ahead for the Friends



'Fall Shadows' by David Farrar, one of the artists at the "For the Love of the Farm" art exhibition and sale (Page 6)

*John Gribbon, treasurer for the Friends of the Central Experimental Farm, reviews the state of our finances.*

In a 2007 article for the newsletter, I presented financial highlights for the Friends of the Central Experimental Farm (FCEF) for fiscal years 2003, 2004 and 2005. At that time, the *For the Love of Trees* book was in the final stages of production. The book was well received and has had three printings. It clearly

demonstrates the talents and expertise of the authors and everyone who worked on it.

### Assets up but major projects to begin

In 2005, FCEF assets totalled \$129,085. In 2010, total assets were \$158,970, a 23% increase over 2005. Figure 1 illustrates the increase in total assets

between 2005 and 2010. The largest increases occurred in fiscal 2007 and 2008 when FCEF received large donations from some members and the tree book was published. In 2009 and 2010, growth in assets moderated to \$3,240 and \$3,480, respectively.

Fiscal 2011 and 2012, however, may be the most challenging years financially for FCEF since I became treasurer. This year marks the beginning of the replacement of the Hosta garden wall due to safety concerns. The work is scheduled to be completed over the next two years. FCEF is also planning a \$7,000 purchase of trees for the Shelter Belt. The FCEF Board has been trying to garner support for these projects from corporate sponsors but so far our efforts have not been successful. Therefore for 2011 and 2012, I anticipate that total FCEF assets will decline from 2010, before returning to moderate growth in 2013.

### Total revenues and expenses at pre-2007 levels

Total revenue in 2007 and 2008 increased substantially from 2006 (see Figure 2), due in part to the launch of the tree book in October 2007. Initial sales were brisk, and before year's end, a second printing was ordered, followed by a third early in 2008. Last year, total revenues and expenses returned to 2005-6 levels.

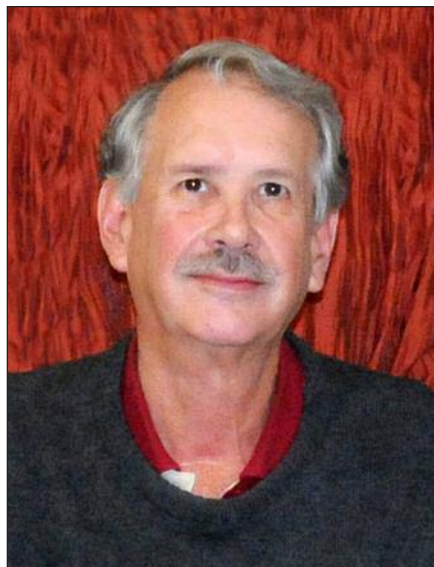
The Friends of the Central Experimental Farm rely on three sources of revenue to carry out our mandate: membership fees, donations, and fundraising events. Over the years, we have diversified our fundraising events. For example, bus tours to various gardens and other venues of interest have been

*Continued on Page 3*

## President's Message

With the arrival of fall, I want to thank our garden volunteers who have been working with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada since late April to ensure that visitors to the Farm experience the public spaces at their very best. The Ornamental Gardens, the Arboretum, and the Shelterbelt have benefitted greatly from your hard work.

We had a busy summer with a full slate of fundraising events. And again, it's our volunteers who make it happen. Thanks to everyone who helped at the June book sale and to the volunteers who spent many hours in the basement of Building 72 sorting books over the winter. And a big thank you to the volunteers who turned out on Canada Day to serve our guests at the Strawberry Social. As I write, final preparations are underway for the Victorian Tea in August, followed by "Art on the Farm," the last of our summer events.



Chuck Craddock

Our fall calendar kicks off with the Annual General Meeting on Thursday, September 15 at the R.A. Centre on Riverside Drive. Our guest speaker is garden writer, lecturer, radio commentator and photographer Larry Hodgson, who has led garden tours around the world and visited gardens in over 30 countries. The second of our popular bus tours heads off to the 1000 Islands on Sunday, September 18 for a boat cruise and tour of two castles. Then it is back to Building 72 for the last events of the year – "For the Love of the Farm" our fine art exhibition and sale over Thanksgiving weekend, and the ever-popular Christmas Craft and Bake Sale on November 12 and 13.

Whether you have given of your time and talents, purchased a membership, made a donation, or attended one of our events, your continuing support of the Friends of the Farm is greatly appreciated.

À l'approche de l'automne, je tiens à remercier les bénévoles qui, en collaboration avec Agriculture et Agroalimentaire Canada, ont travaillé dans les jardins depuis la fin du mois d'avril afin que les visiteurs à la Ferme puissent découvrir des espaces publics à leur meilleur. Les Jardins ornementaux, l'Arboretum et le brise-vent ont bénéficié largement de votre dur labeur.

L'été a été fort bien rempli, compte tenu des nombreuses activités de campagne de financement, et cela, nous le devons à nos bénévoles. Mes remerciements vont à chacun d'entre vous – à ceux qui ont prêté leur aide lors de la vente de livres en juin et aux bénévoles qui ont consacré de nombreuses heures durant l'hiver pour en faire la sélection dans le sous-sol de l'Immeuble 72. De plus, j'adresse un

merci chaleureux à ces bénévoles qui ont accueilli les invités à la Fête des fraises à l'occasion des célébrations du 1er juillet au Canada. Au moment où je rédige mon message, les préparatifs finals vont bon train pour le Thé victorien du mois d'août, lequel sera suivi de « L'Art sur la Ferme », notre dernière activité de la saison estivale.

L'Assemblée générale annuelle, le 15 septembre prochain, au Centre RA, sur la promenade Riverside, constituera le premier des événements de l'automne. À cette occasion, nous avons invité M. Larry Hodgson à venir nous entretenir d'un sujet passionnant. Il est à la fois conférencier, photographe, commentateur à la radio et auteur d'articles et de livres sur le jardinage. M. Hodgson a dirigé des visites de jardins partout dans le monde, ayant lui-même visité des jardins dans plus de 30 pays. Par la suite viendra le moment de

la deuxième excursion en autobus, laquelle est toujours populaire. Le 18 septembre prochain donc, nous prendrons la route des Mille-Îles pour y faire une croisière et visiter deux châteaux. Enfin, de retour à l'Immeuble 72, nous nous préparerons en vue des derniers événements de l'année : l'exposition et la vente d'œuvres d'art « Pour l'amour de la ferme », prévue pour le congé de l'Action de grâce, ainsi que la vente de pièces artisanales et de pâtisseries de Noël que personne ne voudra manquer les 12 et 13 novembre prochains.

Vous avez donné de votre temps ou déployé vos talents? Vous avez fait un don ou participé à l'un de nos événements? Vous êtes devenus membres? Permettez-moi de vous exprimer toute ma reconnaissance pour votre appui continu aux Amis de la Ferme.

## The Lazy Gardener

"There's nothing shameful in being a lazy gardener," says Larry Hodgson, author of over 30 books and hundreds of articles. "Quite the opposite, it is a positive state, a joyful expression of self and of one's place in the universe. We admit that, on the one hand, we are unconditional lovers of gardening as a pastime, but also that we know how to measure out our efforts and that we have learned to let Mother Nature do most of the work rather than do it ourselves."

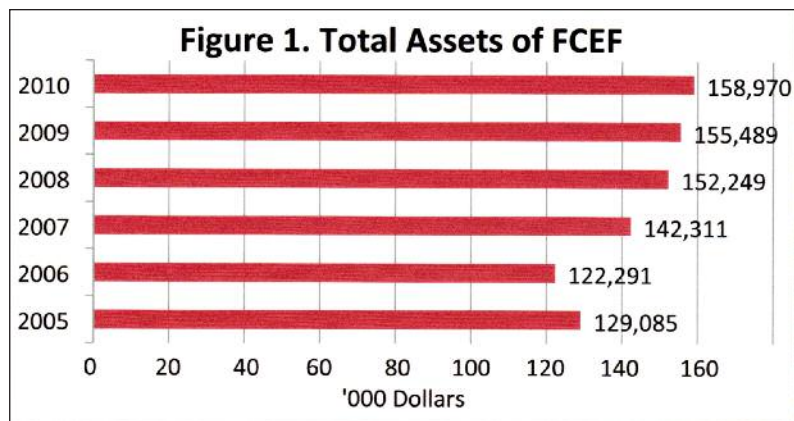
You can read Larry's 10 principles of the lazy gardener on his website ([www.jardinierparesseux.com](http://www.jardinierparesseux.com)), find further information in his books, and remember his motto: "One live dandelion is worth more than a dead rose bush!"

And, you can enjoy hearing him speak on September 18. A full-time freelance writer, lecturer and photographer, he leads garden tours around the world and has visited gardens in over 30 countries. The topic of his talk is "Gardens of Canada ... and Beyond." You don't need to be a member of the Friends of the Farm - all are welcome!

Thursday, September 15, 2011, 7 pm  
(at the Friends of the Farm Annual General Meeting)  
R.A. Centre, Courtside A, 2451 Riverside Drive



## Challenges Ahead for the Friends *(continued from Page 1)*



introduced and been well received. Among our mainstays is a small array of books as well as photo cards depicting scenes from the Farm.

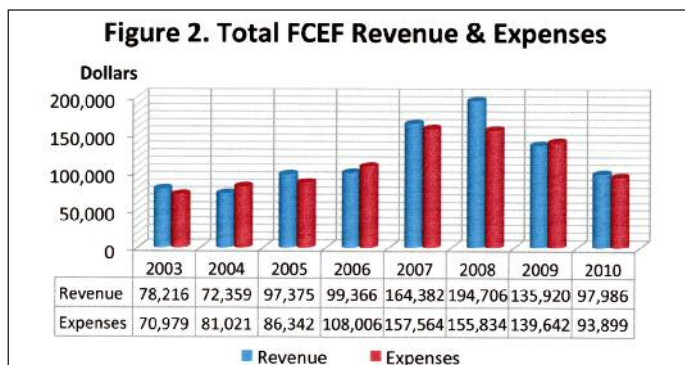
### Three revenue streams

Figure 3 details the three revenue sources. The reader should bear in mind that fundraising revenue is stated net of expenses.

Net **fundraising** revenue has declined since 2008 to slightly less than in 2005. The Board has had discussions about the effort versus the rewards of fundraising. Over the years, our fundraising campaigns have changed and Board members are always looking at new proposals to increase fundraising revenue.

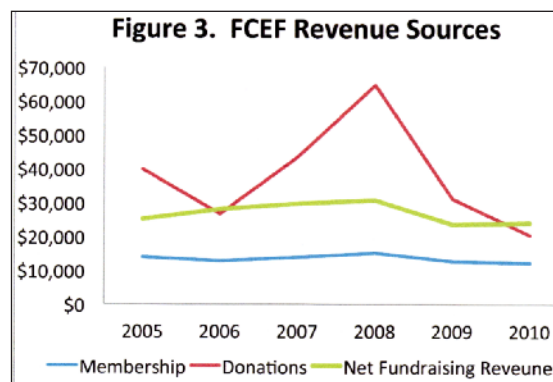
**Membership** revenues increased in 2007 and peaked at \$15,207 in 2008, largely due to the efforts of Board member Denise Kennedy. Unfortunately, the spike did not last and we now stand at pre-2007 levels.

Both 2007 and 2008 saw a sharp increase in **donations**, in part due to the launch of the "Safeguard the Future" campaign. In particular, some members donated substantial sums in publicly traded stock. As you may be aware, there was a downturn in the market in the fall of 2008 and while the market rebounded from those lows, it still has a way to go before we regain some of the unrealized losses as a result of the downturn.



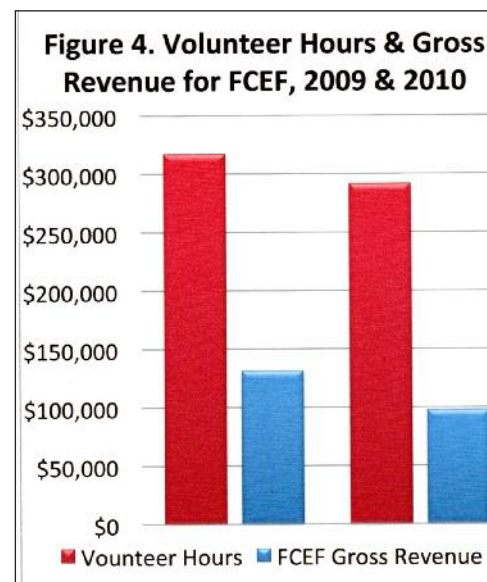
### Huge non-financial contribution by volunteers

In my last article, I pointed out that the real contribution of the Friends of the Farm does not show up in the financial statements. It comes in the form of the thousands of volunteer hours put in by our members and volunteers. In 2009 and 2010, our volunteers logged a total of 11,331 and 10,420 hours, respectively. A large proportion of this time was spent directly assisting Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada staff in tending the Ornamental Gardens, Arboretum and Merivale Shelterbelt. If we assign an average hourly rate of \$28 to the total volunteer effort, the contribution of our volunteers surpasses the gross revenue on the financial statements by 2.5 to 3.0 times (see Figure 4). This very real contribution does not appear in the financial statements but the results are apparent in the Ornamental Gardens, Arboretum and Merivale Shelterbelt on the Farm.



What does the future hold? No one can accurately predict what lies ahead with any certainty. The Board recently began discussing ideas for a strategic plan to provide focus for the Friends of the Farm in the years to come. No doubt our volunteers will continue to contribute in any way they can.

John Gribbon



## Upcoming Events

For more information, visit [www.friendsofthefarm.ca](http://www.friendsofthefarm.ca) or call 613 230-3276.

### Annual General Meeting

- Thursday, September 15, 7 to 10 pm.
- Guest speaker Larry Hodgson (see Page 2 and below).
- Location: R. A. Centre, Courtyard A, 2451 Riverside Drive (Note new location).
- Admission free and there's lots of free parking.
- All are welcome. You do not have to be a member to attend.

### Thousand Islands & Two Castles Tour (See below)

- Sunday, September 18, 8 am to 8 pm.

### For the Love of the Farm Art Exhibition and Sale (See Page 6)

- October 8 to 10, 10 am to 4 pm.
- A juried exhibition and sale featuring the work of nine artists.
- Location: Building 72, Arboretum, CEF.
- Admission and parking free.



### Crafts and Bake Sale

- November 12-13, 10 am to 4 pm.  
Location: Building 72, Arboretum, CEF.
- A fascinating selection of items to choose from.
- Don't forget to pick up some delicious baked goods.
- Location: Building 72, Arboretum, CEF.
- Admission and parking free.



## The Bus Leaves on September 18!

*We are still accepting registrations for the Thousand Islands and Two Castle tour.*

On Sunday, September 18, we will travel to the heart of the Thousand Islands for an enchanting boat tour of the islands as well as visits to Boldt and Singer castles. Because the castles are in U.S. territory, valid passports are required, without exception. The trip includes: transportation from Agriculture Museum parking lot to Rockport and return, hot buffet lunch, and visits to two castles.

**Cost: FCEF members \$145 - Others \$153**

**Please call 613-230-3276, Monday to Thursday, 9 am to 3 pm for reservations.**

N'oubliez pas le prochain voyage au milles isles! Un repas buffet est inclu ainsi que visites aux deux chateaux situés en territoire américain. Prière d'apporter vos passeports, sans exceptions!



Denise Kennedy

## Le jardinier paresseux

« Être un jardinier paresseux n'a rien de honteux, » dit Larry Hodgson, auteur de plus

de trente livres et de centaines d'articles. « Bien au contraire, c'est un état positif, une joyeuse affirmation de soi et de sa place dans l'univers. On admet que d'un côté, on est éperdument amoureux du jardinage en tant que passe-temps, mais aussi qu'on sait bien doser les efforts et qu'on a appris à laisser Dame Nature faire le gros du travail plutôt que de le faire soi-même. »



Larry Hodgson

chaudierefleure.com

Vous pouvez lire les dix principes du jardinier paresseux de Larry sur son site web ([www.jardinierparesseux.com](http://www.jardinierparesseux.com)) et trouver plus de renseignements dans ses livres, sans oublier son mot d'ordre : « Un pissenlit vivant vaut mieux qu'un rosier mort! »

Vous pouvez aussi l'entendre, le 18 septembre. Écrivain pigiste à temps plein, conférencier et photographe, il donne des visites guidées de jardins partout dans le monde et il a visité des jardins dans plus de trente pays. Le sujet de son exposé sera : « Les jardins du Canada ... et au-delà. » Il n'est pas nécessaire d'être membre des Amis de la Ferme, toutes et tous sont invités.

le jeudi 15 septembre 2011, à 19 h  
(à l'occasion de l'Assemblée générale annuelle des Amis de la Ferme)  
Au Centre R.A., Courtyard A, 2451 ch. Riverside



## Richard Conway: Life on Three Continents

**R**ichard Conway has been secretary on the Board of Directors of the Friends of the Farm for six years. Because board members are limited to six-year terms, he steps down this year. "Hardworking and helpful, Richard has contributed enormously to the board, with lots of wonderful ideas and suggestions," says past president Polly McColl.

Born in London, England, in 1931, Richard went to elementary school in Wembley and secondary school in Ealing, both in northwest London. He has strong memories of the German bombing of London and particularly remembers having to do homework while German bombers throbbed over the house and anti-aircraft fire from guns close by made "a hell of a noise." Enemy activity was no excuse for not doing homework.

### Public service in England, New Zealand and Canada

After winning a position in the British Foreign Office through a competitive exam, Richard decided that London life was too busy for him and, in 1951, emigrated to New Zealand through a civil servant exchange program.

In New Zealand, he worked in the Departments of Agriculture, Health and Transport. Richard married in 1953 and he and his first wife Alice had five children, three boys and two girls. They lived in the Wellington suburb of Titahi Bay in a house with a beautiful sea view. There Richard and his children were involved in track and field, playing rugby, and acting for the local Little Theatre. There were also frequent visits to the beach – it was an idyllic existence.

Although he loved New Zealand, Richard wanted to see and experience more of the world. In 1969, he came to Canada and worked for a short period at Statistics Canada and then, until his retirement, at Transport Canada. His main work was in transportation systems research specializing in the transportation of perishable foodstuffs and advising Canada's port administrations (Vancouver, Prince Rupert and Saint John) on improving competitiveness.

Richard obtained a degree in Political Science and Public Administration at the University of Victoria, Wellington, New Zealand. He subsequently added several economics courses at Carleton University in Ottawa.



Richard Conway

R. Hinchcliff

Since retiring in 1995, Richard has been busy with volunteer work, first as secretary for his condominium board for a few years and then as secretary for the Friends of the Farm. Doug Shouldice, former president of the Friends, notes that Richard brought to the board his expertise from working and volunteering around the world. "I appreciated not only his hard work as secretary to the board," Doug adds, "but even more his good council. Richard would quietly mention his observations and suggestions about where we were going as an organization, and better still he was willing to suggest solutions to improve things. Our board and the Friends are better because of Richard's dedication."

### A "theoretical" gardener

Richard's interest in gardening has always been "theoretical"; his second wife Judy (also a FCEF Board member) now does all their gardening work. However, during a visit in 2008 to his former home in New Zealand, he noted that an earth bank built by him and his brother and planted with marigolds was still there after 50 years.

He belongs to a creative writing group, enjoys writing short stories and has had a

long on and off relationship with a science fiction book he has been writing. He has no ambition to publish but finds that creative writing allows him to exercise his sometimes overactive imagination in a disciplined way. He finds an interesting contrast between the bureaucratic writing of his work life, which required the accurate and unemotional communication of facts, and creative writing, which is almost the opposite with its communication of imagined situations and emotion.

His other interests include carving and finishing scale model World War II aircraft, reading, and listening to classical music and jazz. He is an enthusiastic "sound man," and has enjoyed upgrading his electronic systems over many years.

"I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know Richard over the years," writes Valerie Cousins, former president of the Friends. "He is great fun, with a wonderful wit. He is passionate about the Farm and isn't afraid to voice his opinion when complex decisions have to be made. As a board member he has been very dedicated to events and projects and has participated tirelessly."



## For the Love of the Farm:



'Silver Crow' by Sarah Moffat

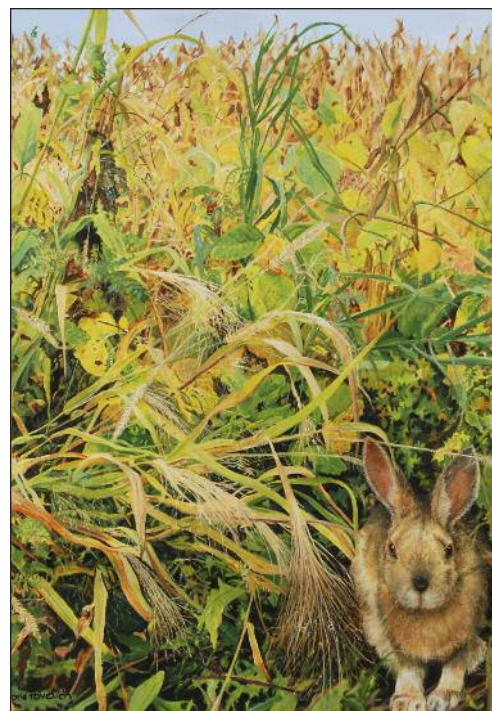


'Holsteins' (detail) by Margaret Vant Erve

Wood sculptures, embroidery art, oils, watercolours, and photography – enjoy a visual feast created by nine local artists at “For the Love of the Farm” from October 8 to 10. Presented by the Friends of the Central Experimental Farm (FCEF), the juried fine art exhibition and sale is a means to foster public awareness of the value and beauty of the Central Experimental Farm, to promote the FCEF and raise funds for its ongoing projects in support of the CEF, and to make fine art easily accessible to the public.

The groundwork for the exhibition and sale began nearly a year ago with a call for submissions from artists who regularly show their work. A jury pored over the applications, with the final selection based primarily on artistic merit. This year, “For the Love of the Farm” will showcase the work of nine talented artists: Hans Blokpoel, David Farrar, Barry Hobden, Judi Miller, Sarah Moffat, Doris Pavelich, Barry Seguin, Eric Tardif, and Margaret Vant Erve – an exciting mix of styles and media to suit all tastes and budgets.

Many (volunteer) hands go into making “For the Love of the Farm” one of the FCEF’s most well-attended and financially successful



'The Bunny Trail' by Doris Pavelich



## A Visual Thanksgiving Feast

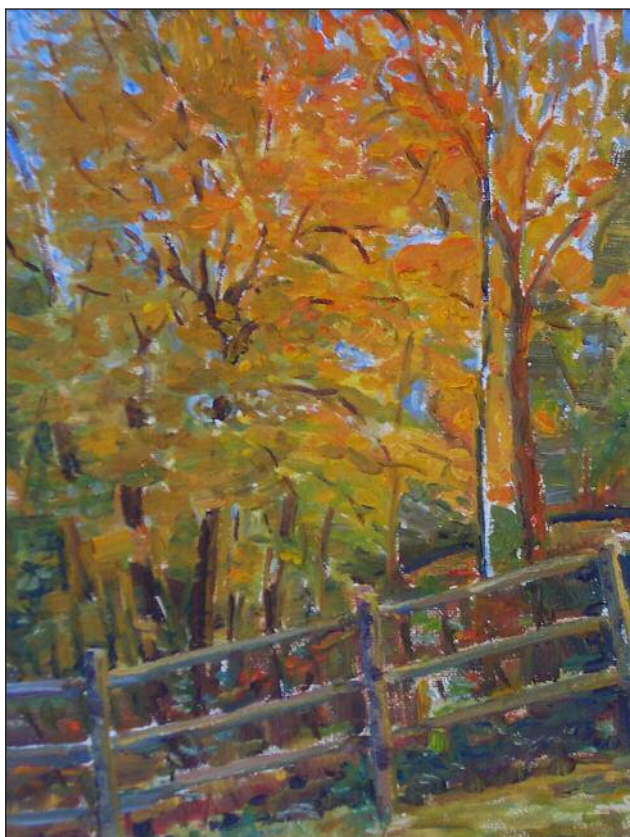
events. A FCEF committee comprising Chuck Craddock, Diana Dakers-Ryan, Polly McColl, Wilma Millar, Libby St. Louis, Cathy Ternan, and Brian Worobey is responsible for organizing and delivering the event. The exhibition and sale is also dependent on corporate sponsorships for its success. This year's sponsors are Karpus Katering, Manotick Florists, Lyalls Framing, Graphiki, Green Thumb Nursery, Thyme and Again, and Bridgehead.

Building 72 will be turned into an art gallery, showcasing at least 10 works from each artist. The FCEF will receive 30% of sales, and each artist will donate one piece of work to a Silent Auction, providing visitors a wonderful opportunity to own an original artwork at minimal cost.

A stunning metal pinecone, the work of Stephen Lyall, will also go home with the lucky winner of our raffle.

Make it a family affair. Take a walk through the Arboretum and then stop by Building 72 to enjoy a spectacular visual feast at the Central Experimental Farm. The exhibition and sale is open from October 8 to 10, from 10 am to 4 pm daily.

Mary Ann Smythe



'Autumn Scene at the Experimental Farm' by Barry Seguin



'Central Experimental Farm, Building 76' by Judi Miller

## Win an Ornamental Pine Cone

There will be a very lucky raffle winner in October! The prize is a beautiful metal pine cone, a work of art by Stephen Lyall. It's about 3 feet tall, made of reclaimed steel and coated with brass, and valued at \$3,500. Weighing approximately 60 lbs, it would make a wonderful garden centrepiece or would be striking in front of a fireplace or in an open front hall.

The pine cone is being raffled as a fundraiser for the Friends of the Farm and to promote "For the Love of the Farm," an exhibition and sale of fine art from October 8-10. The draw for the winning ticket will be on Monday, October 10.

The odds are good, with just 3,000 tickets to be sold. Ticket prices are: single \$3; 2 for \$5; book of 10, \$25.

Tickets can be purchased at the Friends' office, or at Friends' events. For more information, contact Diana Dakers-Ryan at [events@friendsofthefarm.ca](mailto:events@friendsofthefarm.ca) or call the office at 613 230-3276.



R. Hinchliff

Doris Pavelich (left), one of the artists at the October show, and Debbie Lyall, who helps with the show and is the wife of the pine cone artist



## Malcolm Morrison: Strong Research Roots



Eileen Reardon

Malcolm Morrison

**W**hat inspires some people to become scientists? There are probably as many reasons as there are scientists, but in some cases it might help to have a parent who is one.

As we celebrate the Central Experimental Farm's 125th birthday this year, the spotlight has been on William Saunders, the first director of the Dominion Experimental Farms. He is also part of the Farm's first father and son collaboration, and carried out hybridization experiments with his sons Percy and Charles. The latter, of course, is the best known to us, famous for his work that led to the development of Marquis wheat, which pushed a budding Canada into full bloom.

Charles Saunders' accomplishment is all the more astounding considering that, although a trained scientist, he was determined to devote his life to music, his first love. But, love it as he might, he couldn't earn a living from music, and his father's wishes that he work as a scientist, specifically as the Dominion Cerealists, prevailed.

### Primed to follow his father's lead

Many decades later, another father/son pair appeared at the Central Experimental Farm. No question of coercion this time, however. Dr. Malcolm Morrison, who began working at the Farm in 1984 as an Oilseed Physiologist, was primed to follow his father's lead almost before he was out of diapers.

The Farm hired his cytogeneticist father, Dr. Jack Morrison, in 1952, based on Jack's promise as a student, which he more than fulfilled. He spent some years at the Morden Research Station in Manitoba, became its director, and later returned to the Farm, where he rose to Director General of Research Institutes in the central region and was responsible for planning and evaluating the agriculture scientists' work.

Jack Morrison loved to take the family on car trips

that served as a training ground in plant identification, sowing the seeds that eventually brought Malcolm to the Eastern Cereals and Oilseeds Research Centre (ECORC) at the Farm.

In the almost three decades he has worked at the Farm as a research scientist, Malcolm Morrison has literally had his hands on every field crop grown in the Farm fields and has published the papers to prove it.

### Sharing with international colleagues

His current interests are soybean and canola, with a focus on improving their yield, quality and marketability. His work has taken him to national committees, trade missions in Asia, a work term in Australia, and national and international meetings that have been invaluable in furthering his research. Dr. Morrison is a staunch advocate of the need for scientists to be able to travel to see and hear firsthand what their international colleagues are doing. The best illustration of this truth dates back over 100 years.

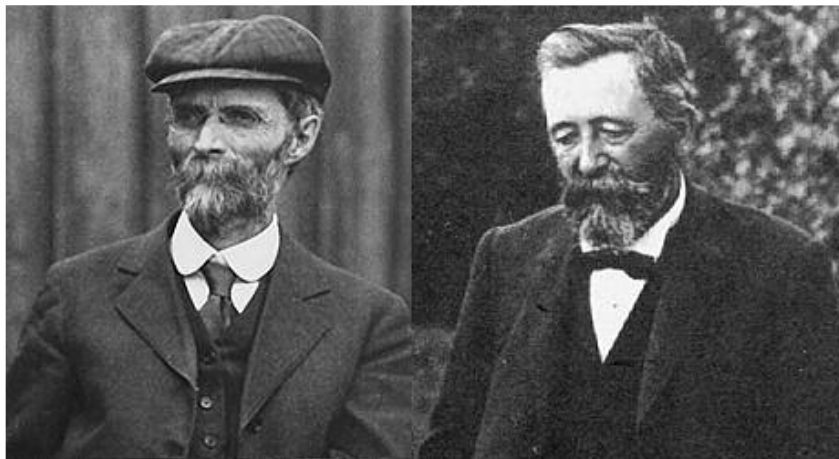
In 1902, William and Charles Saunders attended the first International Conference on Plant Breeding and Hybridization in New York. At the conference, Charles heard an address that trumpeted the earlier hybridization work of Gregor Mendel. It was a defining moment for Charles and set the direction for his experiments that resulted in the development of Marquis wheat, which, in turn, spurred Canada's agriculture output and the settlement of the Prairie



Courtesy of Malcolm Morrison

Jack and Malcolm Morrison in 1990. Father and son both began their careers in Building 75 at the Ornamental Gardens





LAC, DAP/15A-30, PA-120332

Charles and William Saunders

provinces. There is no doubt that Canada's stellar economic growth in succeeding years began at that New York conference.

## 125 years and counting

The line from William and Charles Saunders to Malcolm Morrison and others of his generation (some of whom have

been previously highlighted in this newsletter) is not only 125 years long, it is 125 years strong, with layers added by each new group of scientists who build on their predecessors' work.

The layers contributed by today's plant scientists at the K. W. Neatby Building on Carling Avenue are vastly more complex than in the Saunders' time, but reflect the same vision, knowledge and hard work

that have been the hallmark of research by Farm plant scientists for the past century and a quarter.

Malcolm Morrison highlighted that connection with a written tribute to Charles Saunders in the journal *Genome* (Vol. 51, Number 6, June 2008), published by the National Research Council of Canada. A story well worth reading.

Charles Saunders and his four brothers all had scientific educations, likely at the behest of their father. Malcolm Morrison, inspired by his father, chose to become a scientist. And if on the Farm this summer, you came across Hannah Morrison, a student in molecular biology, it should be no surprise that she is Malcolm Morrison's daughter.

Long line, strong line, indeed.

Eileen Reardon



'Flowers #2' by Hans Blokpoel  
(see Page 6)



'The Nest View' by Eric Tardif  
(Page 6)



'Forest Glow' by Barry Hobden  
(Page 6)



The Friends of the Central Experimental Farm is a volunteer organization committed to the maintenance and protection of the Ornamental Gardens and the Arboretum of the Central Experimental Farm in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. Membership in the Friends of the Farm costs \$25 per year for an individual and \$45 per year for a family, \$20 Seniors/Students. Membership fees support the many projects of the Friends of the Farm.

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## Streetcars on the Farm



Library &amp; Archives Canada, PA-126776

The “jigger” passing the horticulture building (opposite the main barn) and about to loop around the water tower

One hundred years ago, farm workers and visitors were able to take a streetcar into the Central Experimental Farm. Streetcar service to the Farm commenced in 1908 on an extension of the Ottawa Electric Railway system.

Streetcars travelled south on Holland Avenue, crossed Carling Avenue and turned east on Farm property. The lines ran parallel to Carling until they reached a point opposite Melrose Avenue, from there they turned south through the Farm and across Elm Avenue (now the NCC Driveway). The lines then turned east, went past the main dairy barn and looped around the former water tower and auditorium.

A new turning loop at Carling Avenue, called the Civic Hospital Loop, was built in 1922 opposite Melrose Avenue to allow the streetcars to reverse direction. In the 1920s, a small two-axle “jigger” was used to transfer employees from the Loop to the Farm.

Streetcars using the line into the Farm were identified with the letter S (Somerset Street was its main service area) and the route was known as the Holland-Laurier line. At that time, the Ottawa Electric Railway operated streetcars over 93 km of track stretching from Britannia, west of Ottawa, to Rockcliffe in the east.

In 1929, the line from Carling Avenue into the Farm was abandoned and three years later it was removed. In 1956, the lines that ran alongside Carling Avenue on the Farm were abandoned and in 1959 all streetcar operations ceased in Ottawa.

[Bruce Dudley, a long-time colleague from the Bytown Railway Society, provided the above information. The Ottawa Transportation Commission hired Bruce as an operator in 1950. He was the third generation in his family to work on the Ottawa Street Railway. For more information about streetcars in Ottawa, refer to Bill McKeown's book, *Ottawa's Streetcars*, which contains a 12-page Appendix written by Bruce about his experiences as a young operator.]

Bert Titcomb



Ottawa City Archives, CA-1537

Streetcar stop on the right-of-way through the Farm. The Farm's forest belt is to the right, beyond which is Carling Avenue and the Civic Hospital

### NEW MEMBER REGISTRATION FORM

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ POSTAL CODE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 PROVINCE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 TELEPHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 FAX #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

### INTEREST IN VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

YES ☐

NO ☐

### TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP

FAMILY ..... \$45/year  
 ADULT ..... \$25/year  
 SENIOR/STUDENT ..... \$20/year  
 BASIC CORPORATE ..... \$250/year  
 NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION ..... \$25/year  
 INDIVIDUAL LIFE ..... \$200  
 SENIOR COUPLE LIFE ..... \$250  
 DONATION ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make cheque or money order payable to: “Friends of the Farm.” A receipt for income tax purposes will be issued for all donations of \$10 or more.

We are located at Building 72 in the Arboretum. You can visit us or mail this part of the form with your payment to:

**FRIENDS OF THE CENTRAL EXPERIMENTAL FARM**  
**Building 72, Central Experimental Farm**  
**Ottawa, ON K1A 0C6**

Telephone: (613) 230-3276

Fax: (613) 230-1238

Email: [info@friendsofthefarm.ca](mailto:info@friendsofthefarm.ca)

Website: [www.friendsofthefarm.ca](http://www.friendsofthefarm.ca)



## Fundraising Events for the Farm, April to July, 2011



Marilyn and Amelinda Berube, happy customers at the plant sale

and hundreds of people enjoyed the sale. The Friends of the Farm cleared almost \$3,400 and, as well, the event raised food and funds for the food bank as a community project.

Always a popular event, the **Historical Walk in the Farm** attracted around 20 walkers on a beautiful May evening. Bob McClelland leads these walking tours and I learn something new every time. He had the group in stitches with his story about uncooperative cows during a visit by Raoul Castro. This event raised almost \$400.

The **Used Book Sale** has been our most successful event to date this year, contributing close to \$7,000 in revenue. Volunteer book sorters work through the winter, and another group of volunteers are involved in setting up and working at the sale. We were again blessed by perfect weather.

A hot summer's day tempted many to join our **Strawberry Social**

on July 1 at the Canada Agriculture Museum. We cleared over \$500, which will be supplemented by sales of jam made from leftover strawberries.

The **10 Mile Run** through the Central Experimental Farm, co-sponsored by Friends of the Farm and the Run Ottawa Club, was particularly gruelling this year on a hot July evening. Water stations and sponges were very popular. There were about 90 runners, up from the usual 60, because of a new event this year, the 10 Mile Cowpattie Relay, which allowed teams of three people to cover the distance. Volunteers from the Friends help at water stations and with marshalling, and we supply muffins and watermelon. We've yet to tally our revenue from this event.

Thanks to all the wonderful volunteers who give so much of their time and energy to our events. Without them we would be unable to raise the funds necessary to support our work.

Diana Dakers-Ryan

Our first event each year (excluding bus tours) is the **Craft and Bake Sale**, held in Building 72. The April sale was a great success raising over \$2,500.

Our 15th annual **Rare and Unusual Plant Sale** was again held in the parking lot next to the old greenhouses on Maple Drive. This is the second year at this popular location. It was a fine spring day



Used book sale, June 18, 2011

## Fighting the Emerald Ash Borer

Although the emerald ash borer has arrived at the Farm, the lethal pest has yet to claim any trees. Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada staff are optimistic that their vaccination of many of the prized ash specimens will save those trees.

In the photo, Catherine Proulx, a



Catherine Proulx applying vaccine

summer employee, injects a large ash tree on Ash Lane. The vaccine, called TreeAzin™, is injected under a tree's bark, directly into the conductive tissues and moves upwards with the flow of water and nutrients. The number of injection sites and the size of the dosage depend on the health and size of the tree.



# A Touch of the Tropics

“July was an extraordinarily hot month, one of the hottest ever experienced in Ottawa. The temperature was over 90°F (32°C) on eight days and over 80°F (27°C) on twenty days. The rainfall was light.”

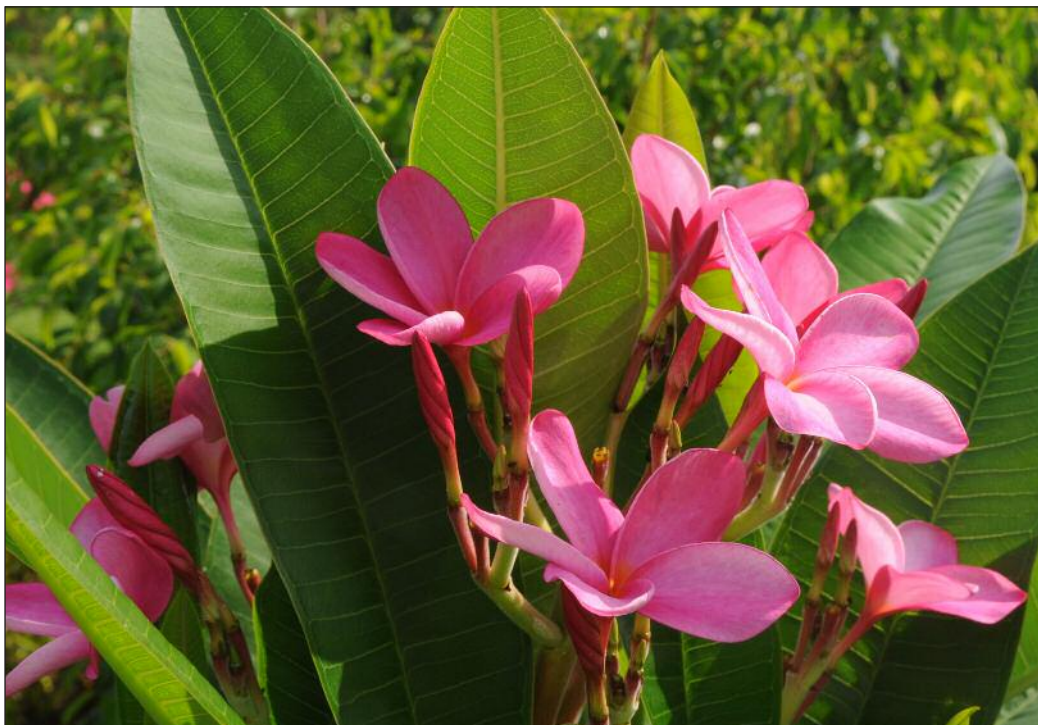
No, this was not July 2011; it was July 100 years ago, as described by the Dominion Horticulturist, Mr. W. T. Macoun, in his annual report for 1911. The summer in Ottawa that year was exceptionally hot and was preceded by a very warm spring.

This July, there were twenty days over 27°C (80°F), the same as in 1911, and three days when the temperature surpassed 32°C (90°F).

## Frangipani in bloom

With tropical heat in Ottawa, we can enjoy tropical flora at the Farm. Sharon Saunders and her Ornamental Gardens staff have created a collection of exotic plants that love the heat.

One bed in particular at the Gardens has a miscellany of tropical treasures, from bougainvillea to bird of paradise, from



Frangipani (*Plumeria*) at the Ornamental Gardens

bromeliads to papaya trees. Frangipani and oleander flowers were beautiful in early August. The bed, a few steps south of the small parking lot off the NCC Driveway, is close to the former cereal barn, one of the Farm's heritage buildings.

Jeremy Dizazzo, Groundsworker / Horticulturist, describes this garden as “Same’s magical little garden,” in affectionate memory of Same Nay who retired from the Ornamental Gardens staff last year. “These are the kind of plants that Same propagated, many of them found in his native Cambodia,” says Jeremy.

## Exciting for donors and visitors

Some plants have been grown by staff and others come from the Tropical Greenhouse on Maple Drive that is currently being refurbished. Others have been donated, such as a giant brugmansia. “The lady who donated this plant visited recently,” adds Jeremy, “and broke into tears when she saw how well it was doing.” Another woman was similarly ecstatic when she saw the fig tree she donated.

According to Jeremy, last year staff shared a pineapple that had ripened in the bed. The papaya trees have also fruited in the past, but the papayas were not particularly sweet – “perhaps it’s a different variety of papaya.”

More and more visitors are discovering the collection and Jeremy has witnessed the excitement of people visiting from other countries when they see figs, ginseng, Norfolk pine or favourite tropical flowers in bloom.

Tropical or semi-tropical plants are featured elsewhere in the Ornamental Gardens. There is a banana tree, for example, near the Macoun Memorial Garden, there are 3-4 metre cabbage trees (*Cordyline australis*) south of the Explorer roses, and cabbage trees of various sizes add delightful accents to Sharon’s designs in the annual beds.

Before cold weather comes and plants are moved indoors, there is time at the Gardens to store up some memories of the tropics.

Richard Hinchcliff



“Same’s magical little garden”