

Autumn the Best Time of Year?

Some people see autumn as the real “new year,” when students begin their next year of classes, complete with new supplies, books and clothing. I love this time of year because it's usually cooler and calmer than summer, yet great weather remains, with fewer biting insects, or none, and there seems to be more time to relax and enjoy the world beyond your balcony, yard, garden or farm.

This issue seems to be all about tours you can take. It's our annual focus on fine artists, and many communities have self-guided studio tours that lead you up close to fabulous work and their creators. You can explore the wet sides of the Escarpment by visiting the cascades of Hamilton. Helen Powers and photographer Joseph Hollick show us why the “Hammer” or Steel City is also known as the City of Waterfalls. Sandra Howe brings us the scents of autumn in Beaver Valley and southern Georgian Bay, in her description of The Apple Pie Trail. Finally, November causes some people to anticipate Christmas, so we share some of the best photographs of houses on recent community Christmas house tours. Festive, flirty and fun, these pages brim with beauty and motivation to spruce up your own “crib” this year.

Survey Says

We know that you'll keep this issue and use it to plan your day trips. You tell us so, in survey after survey that we've received online and through the mail. We are delighted with what we've been reading. You love the magazine, you read it cover to cover, are learning of places you never knew of, you keep each issue indefinitely or pass it on to others. You love the photography. In

general, you're telling us to keep doing what we're doing, although some of you have made excellent suggestions that we're considering.

Keep 'Em Coming

We're not finished with the survey yet. We'd love to hear from every reader, so if you haven't yet sent us a survey, please do. The more who do, the bigger the sample of our readership, the more useful it will be for us.

We've reprinted the survey on page 57 and 58 of this issue, so you can mail it in by Canada Post. If you prefer to take it online, you can find it on the top of the right side at www.NEViews.ca. It's a high point of our day when the surveys arrive!

As our thanks for sending the survey, we're mailing a free copy of *Niagara Escarpment Views* to people who responded, or to someone else they designate. Some people have taken this opportunity to share the magazine with a friend or relative. Subscribers who respond are getting their subscriptions extended an issue.

The Season for Giving

Christmas, or whatever gift-giving season you may celebrate, is approaching and we're taking a couple of suggestions from our survey respondents. One thought we should offer gift subscriptions more often, so we're running our Christmas subscription form on page 48. It gives you price cuts if you order more than one subscription.

The other idea is to let people give a subscription to someone who can't afford one. You could become an “Escarpment angel,” by paying for a subscription for someone you don't know. It could be a student, a senior,



▲ I could not resist. In the Collingwood area, by the side of the road, there are some life-size, realistic iron sculptures of horses. I'd like to find out more about the artist. Fabulous! PHOTO BY MIKE DAVIS.

or someone who just has to watch every penny, but who loves getting our magazine. We can acknowledge your gift in a future issue by publishing your name, or you can remain anonymous, a “true” Santa Claus. The form to do that is on page 52.

As always, send us your emails, cards and letters telling us what you think of what's in

the magazine or what others are saying. Your views are just as important to us as the gorgeous Escarpment views that we share each issue!

Alonia

Gloria Hildebrandt

P.S. Wild animals need wild spaces.

LET US KNOW WHAT YOU THINK!



Write us at editor@NEViews.ca or *Niagara Escarpment Views*, 50 Ann St., Georgetown ON L7G 2V2

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