

From: CATHERINE MCGILL catm@rogers.com
Subject: Fwd: January Dirt from District Six
Date: March 13, 2019 at 9:29 PM
To: Peter McGill pmcgill@roadpost.com



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Start of 2019 Dreaming!

Happy New Year! Well that time of year is here, time to fill out the OHA Volunteer hour form AND the OHA yearly report, both are done on the Gardenontario.org web page, all are due this month. If you have forgotten your sign in password or are having issues logging in, contact Susan Lusted d94oha@gmail.com

For the **Volunteer** form you **MUST** have the same numbers as the treasurer reports on the OMAFRA form so make sure they match!

For the **Yearly report-**

I recommend printing the form and filling it out so you know you have all the info needed before starting,



Both of these forms will time out and you lose the info if not saved so have the info ready to go and make it easier on yourselves,

7 societies are done and a big thank you to them!

Constitution and bylaws

Looking for a copy of your constitution and by laws to update the files, many have not looked at them for years, PLEASE plan time at an executive meeting and go over them! Please send to district6@gardenontario.org as soon as you have an updated (Last 3 years) file.



HOST NEEDED

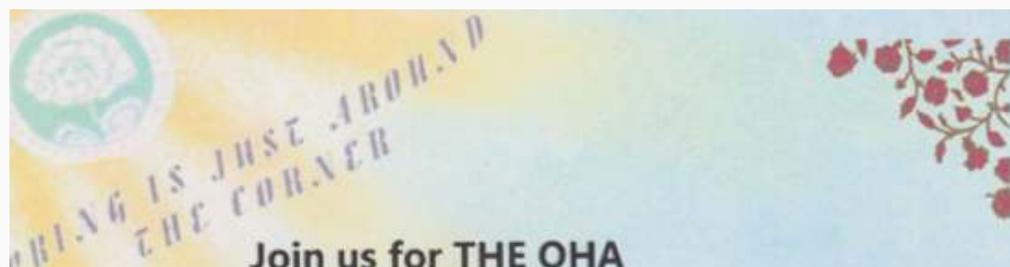
We are in need of a host for the 2019 District fall dinner, can be held Sept to mid Dec, could be a dinner or a lunch, needs a presentation/speaker, silent auction is possible with the proceeds to the host.

Here is another thought on that, many Districts have a luncheon at their AGM and have a much longer day than we do, it would cost more so your cost would rise to attend, would that be more desirable? than a end of season Dinner which is what we normally do? send me your thoughts on that.

district6@gardenontario.org

TREASURER NEEDED

WE are looking for a District Treasurer, starts in April after the AGM. Please spread the news as we must find one! Bob is retiring but is willing to help the new person get started.



District 6 Spring Breakfast



Hosted by: The Flamborough
Horticultural Society
Celebrating 80 years



Date: Saturday February 23, 2019

Time: 9:00 a.m. till 12:00 noon

Where: **Connon Nurseries @ 656 Robson Road,**
(For All your gardening needs) **Waterdown, ON.**

Key Note Speaker:

Marilyn Cornwell

Speaking on a NEW and informative talk
"The Evening Garden"



A delightful Continental Breakfast will be provided,



Reminder that after the workshop 1-3 there is a free workshop on Facebook for your society pages. Bring your laptop and get up to speed! Free WiFi

*Ontario
Horticultural
Association*

[Contact](#) | [Site Map](#)



Keeping Ontario Beautiful™

GardenOntario Web Site Update

April Davies, OHA Webmaster

Tis the season to be jolly, dream of dancing sugar plums, and share good times with

family and friends.

That said, the new website is almost ready to go! Finishing touches are being added and the final stage of testing is ready to begin for Society webmasters so that they can test the website and enter their new Society pages and events. If you are a webmaster and haven't yet added your email address and phone number to the online questionnaire, please email me to get on the list right away.

The existing [gardenshed.php](#) is still the place to go to log in and report your Society's 2018 annual activities and volunteer hours. If you need a password or a copy of your existing log in, please email webmaster@gardenontario.org for help.

On behalf of all of us on the Web Committee, we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from our family to yours!

Cheers, April
webmaster@gardenontario.org

2432 Big number, any guess what it is for? Answer later in newsletter

He Haw

Q: How did the ornament get addicted to Christmas?

A: He was hooked on trees his whole life.

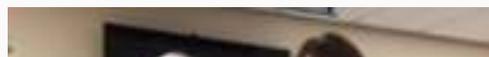
Q: Why did the Grinch go to the Liquor store?

A: He was searching for some holiday cheer!

Q: What do you get when you cross a duck with Santa?

A: a Christmas Cracker!

Your welcome! Now you have an excuse for all those groans I just heard!





Photos above Haldimand held their AGM and Awards night in November with Sharon Slack awarding the President's awards to Top L-Madeline Hagan, Bottom L-Michael Richards, Top R-Rose Marie Mueller.

Photos below are Monthly Competition Award winners with Top L Competitions Chair Margaret Meyer-Smith awarding Don Reeder the Wendy Roberts overall Champion Award and Jackie Pitts the McGill Novice Award.



District 6
2019 Meeting dates



2019 Meeting dates



Spring Breakfast Meeting

February 23, 2019- 8.30-12.

Speaker- Marilyn Cornwell

Connon Nurseries, [656 Robson Rd, Waterdown](#)

Workshop to follow-1-3

Flamborough- 80th anniversary

Waterdown Feb 23

AGM

9:00-1:00

Speaker: RBG representative

Topic: History of Horticultural Societies

Speaker: Cathy Kavassalis

Topic: Life of Trees

Burlington April 27

East Plains United Church

[375 Plains Rd E, Burlington.](#)

Plant Faire on at RBG so plan on visiting this afterwards! just down the road!!

Fall Breakfast Meeting

September 14, 8.30-12

Speaker: details to follow

Oakville Sept 14

St. Simon's Church, Litchfield Rd, Oakville

Fall Dinner or Lunch/Brunch

November evening event on a Weekend

Meal, auction, Speaker or entertainment

****NEED A HOST****



BURLINGTON HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
'100 YEARS AND GROWING'



DISTRICT 6 AGM AND FLOWER SHOW
SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2019
Doors Open at 8:00 a.m.

East Plains United Church
375 Plains Road East
Burlington, Ontario

Tickets \$15.00 available at the door
Each Society please bring your Society banner
and a Society door prize valued from \$20 - \$25



Cannabis for the rest of us Fancy a horticultural society learning about weed, not weeds.

LIVING 06:00 AM by [Kathy Renwald](#) Special to The Hamilton Spectator

Nearly 15 years ago when the Royal Botanical Gardens went looking for a new CEO, I sat on the search committee and listened to the applicants describe their vision for the RBG.

One hopeful candidate suggested the RBG should start growing medical marijuana. That man, Roger Wheelock, got the job but never got the pot proposal planted. Imagine: if the RBG gone into the cannabis racket, they would have had enough money to build the world's best botanical garden.

We laughed uneasily at that suggestion 15 years ago but look at us now. This week the topic for Ancaster Horticultural Society's monthly meeting was Learning About Cannabis. Fancy a hort society learning about weed, not weeds. We think, (wrongly) that hort societies discuss nothing but marigolds, and mulch and such, but marijuana?

"We want to attract younger members."

There, club PR person Betty Howitt put it out there. Membership in the society is dwindling, they want more members and younger members, so put the hottest topic going on the agenda.

For the meeting they went right to the top and snagged Youbin Zheng, assistant professor and cannabis expert from the University of Guelph's Environmental Science division.

"This is the first time I've given my talk to a horticultural society," Zheng says during a phone interview prior to the meeting.

Why? Because he's so busy crossing the country talking to commercial growers. As an expert in growing crops in controlled conditions, he has a lot to share about the best ways to grow cannabis in a greenhouse.

But under the new law, the average Joe can grow four plants for personal use, so he's perfectly at ease talking to gardeners about growing ganja in the backyard.

"There are many different varieties, so the most important step is to choose the right type," Zheng says.

But even Zheng can't say what the right type is called because the naming of plants and seeds is confusing.

I'd compare it to someone going to a garden centre and asking for a daisy when they really want a purple coneflower. There are hundreds of strains of cannabis now, according to the professor, and it's confusing for the consumer.

As for getting your mitts on legal seeds, good luck. Right now the government cannabis store website says seeds will be available at a later date.

Once packets of legal pot seeds become available, the principles will be similar to growing vegetables. Cannabis needs full sun, Zheng says, plus well drained soil, water during times of drought, and fertilizer for a better harvest. And you'll only get a good harvest by choosing the right type of seed and growing a plant that flowers before a killing frost. The flowers contain the strongest concentration of cannabinoids — the compounds that make pot potent.

Think of it this way: if you buy a wisteria plant that is bred for the weather conditions of B.C. or California, it might never bloom here. But choose a type known to flower in colder conditions and you have a good chance of it flowering in your garden.

About 40 people turned up at for Dr. Zheng's informative and entertaining talk, including members of horticultural societies from Burlington, Haldimand and Stoney Creek.

"We are getting calls and messages to our Facebook page all the time about how to grow cannabis," said Liz Chapple, of the Stoney Creek Horticultural Society. "We're here to learn."

Zheng fielded questions about choosing plants, pruning plants and managing bugs. Cannabis grown outdoors doesn't seem to have a big problem with pests. Zheng says the secret is bound up in the many compounds found in cannabis yet to be studied. Legalization, he says, will open the door to more research on all facets of a plant that fossil records suggest dates back 38 million years, according to the research site Science Direct.

One thing there isn't a cure for is the smell.

"It's stinky," Zheng says.

Though he's not an expert on the medical use of cannabis, he speaks at many conferences with medical professionals.

"The benefits of CBD oil are very promising, especially with the treatment of seizures."

Cannabis is in a family of plants that includes hops, essential for flavouring beer. Another part of the cannabis story is hemp. Industrial hemp is used in many textiles, making rope and, increasingly, in car interiors, where it is light and strong when blended with other plant based material.

Perhaps the most stunning fact Zheng presented was about the money side of cannabis. He made this comparison: in a greenhouse, one square metre of tomatoes would yield gross sales of \$200 per square metre a year while one square metre of cannabis would produce gross sales of \$8,000 to \$30,000 a year. Already, greenhouses once used to grow flowers and food are being reserved for cannabis.

"What will that do to our food production?" Zheng was asked.

"No one can predict that," he answered.

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by [Kathy Renwald](#)

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This is a Boxed Text block. Use a contrasting background to draw attention to this content.



HOSTED BY:  www.greenventure.ca  Seedy Saturday Hamilton 2019  GreenVentureHamilton  Green_Venture 

seedy SATURDAY

FEBRUARY 2ND, 2019
10 AM - 3 PM

St. Lawrence Catholic Elementary School*
88 Macaulay Street East, Hamilton, ON L8L 3X3

Promoting seed and food biodiversity with a seed exchange, vendors, workshops, kids activities, cafe & community groups.

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Program not supported by or associated with the Ontario Ministry of Education, Children, Youth and Social Services

A special thank you to our partners and sponsors:





District 6 Brantford Garden Club.

166TH FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW - September 2018 WOW!! To hold our annual Flower and Garden Show in September was quite a feat. It was amazing to see so many specimens and designs. The theme of the show was "The Golden Years". A hoard of volunteers ascended at 2 pm to assemble the format for the show participants to demonstrate their specimens and designs in 70 different categories. The judge took over 2 hours to review and award the entrants for 1st, 2nd and 3rd designations. When all was added up, the following were awarded: Total Points for all Categories - Irene Heltner, 101 points Total Highest Points in Design Class - Irene Heltner, 20 points Total Points in Specimens - Irene Heltner, 81 points Judge's Choice - Design Class, Pat McKechnie Judge's Choice - Best in Show Specimens from 1st Place Ribbons- Irene Heltner Total Points for First Time Exhibitor - Tied, Linda Cox and Carol Sterkenburg President's Choice - submitted by Ruth Attwell



SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS The Brantford Garden Club's scholarship awards for 2018 were presented to 2 deserving first-year students enrolled in the Niagara Parks Commission School of Horticulture. Representing the Club, Max Byerlay and Pat Veale made the presentations on Friday, November 2nd at the school. Recipients were

Janice Currey of Beamsville and Kelsey Lamont of Tillsonburg.

L to R: Maxine Byerlay, Janice Currey, Kelsey Lamont and Pat Veale



TO DO:

Reminder that your updated **society contacts** need to be sent to me - **President, 1st Vice, Secretary, Treasurer-** with phone and email plus any changes to location or meeting dates and times: district6@gardenontario.org

Society Flyers/Bookmarks

We are in need of your society flyer or ideally bookmark, postcard sized society info/contact/blurb that can be handed out at events we set up our District table at: You never know where people are visiting from and who will need your info, Please bring to Feb District meeting so we can have up to date info to hand out.

Who are you?

Please give me a clue when you email and send me items, I have 21 societies to keep straight in my head and some days are tougher than others in my putting a name to a society when trying to find answers for you. Please add your societies name in your subject line or with your sign off.

Thank you in advance

Cat

Convention info

Hoping every society has looked at the Convention Competitions Schedules and taken it to their members because many have a Mid-Feb deadline for entries! Do you have a cool newsletter, bookmark, info card or photo? If you mail them in, they are returned during convention. I can pick them up to return them to you if needed.

Easy-Peasy.

I would love to see D6 entering more at the convention.

[Here's the link to all things convention 2019 Windsor.](#)



St George

Shirley Steedman with speaker Wendy – from Forest of Flowers Brantford
Assistant District Director Mel Osborne who attended who did installation of Officers
St George Executive and Directors for 2019
District Six Director Catherine McGill
Buffet table of plenty!
Photos below





More St. George

Irene Thurston Competitions Chair

Shirley presenting President's Award to Judy Bisch

Shirley presenting President's Award to Jan Masters

Festive dining area

Jan Masters presenting a gift to Shirley from the Garden Club

Photos below





The Garden Clubs of Ontario are holding a big judged floral design and horticulture show at the RBG Wed. May 29 (10am - 8pm) and Thur. May 30 (10am - 4pm). the show will use all three auditoriums at the RBG and will include lectures and activities. admission is free with paid admission to the RBG.

The Garden Clubs of Ontario
Present:



**Music in Bloom
- 2019 -
Triennial Show**



Answer, 2432 is the number of members of District six! We are the largest membership of all Ontario Societies. We hope to have a contest to help motivate numbers to continue to grow because we are doing alot right with our sharing of ideas and of you trying the ideas given you. Congratulations.



Holiday Hussle

Well as Director It was a busy but great finish to 2018, I had the bonus of many great meals, hot roast beef, hot turkey, pot lucks and all in-between! From mid Nov I hit the road and visited Milton, Mt Hamilton, Waterford, Acton, Georgetown, St. George and finished with Bronte only 1 month later. 784.1 km and a few pounds heavier! It is awesome to see what everyone does over the holidays, some have a dinner and speaker, some have door prizes, others a gift exchange and even penny draws with hundreds of items! Seeing all the different traditions is a lot of fun but for me it's seeing the tight horticultural families that have been made was great! I hope everyone has a fabulous 2019 and remember to invite me and your A.D.D's to your meetings, we want to know you better!

Cat

District Six name tags.

I will be putting in an order for District Six name tags, name tags would have the District logo of Dogwood and your name and your society name.,magnetic fastener. \$15 each. Please let me know at or before the Spring Breakfast meeting, will deliver for pickup to the AGM in April.
Catherine

Some of you know that Mel Osborne has had a stroke which has currently taken him out of the Assistant District Director lineup but to keep you updated: Mel is home and doing great with his rehab and is thrilled to announce the birth of a granddaughter Rayna Helen Mae Osborne – 5lb 13oz . Please Keep Mel and Linda in your prayers for all the speedy healing they can get because they will be chasing a little one soon.



Bronte

Had a great turnout for their Christmas Gala and AGM, A ton of draw prizes, and centrepieces; so many that I think every took home a gift!

Photos

Bronte's Directors and Executive for 2019

Lizzie Matheson did a fabulous Christmas Demo and storie which ended with a bit of song and 9 beautiful arrangements for prizes.

They certainly know how to make you feel welcome.

Photos below



