



OHA District 7

Newsletter

At our February 8th District 7 Board Meeting, it was decided that we would move back to holding an Annual General Meeting in the usual month of April. We will hold it virtually once again and on a Monday night so that it does not conflict with any Society meetings. No Society will be responsible for decorating, lunch, snacks or raffle prizes!!!!

Annual General Meeting

Monday April 19, 2021 at 7 pm by Zoom

However, this meeting will be different so please read carefully.

- 1) I will need up to 6 digital photos of your Society's gardens with one being the entrance garden to your community with the Community/Society name. (or photo of your garden sign) Please include a short description of each photo and we will share and show at the meeting. This will also be used for the Convention 2022 slide show being shared with all our OHA members. Send them to me at kebouma@gmail.com by **March 15th**
- 2) For the **In Memoriam** – names of Society members who have passed since our last AGM of September 16, 2020. Send to kebouma@gmail.com by **April 10th**
- 3) The District Zoom account accommodates up to 100 – so would like everyone to advise me who is planning to attend from your society so that the Zoom link can be sent. Representation from all 14 Societies is recommended.
- 4) The District 7 Board is requiring replacement Directors as current Directors complete their term. Please consider joining the Board if asked. We like to have representation from different Societies. If any questions, ask a Board member or contact me.

Your current Board.

District Director – Kathy Bouma (Fergus)

Assistant District Director - vacant

Secretary – Frances Bouma (Grand Valley)

Treasurer – Debbie Williams (City of Guelph)

Directors – Connie Bienia (Hillsburgh)

Julia Dimakos (Orangeville)

Connie DiPisa (Fergus)

Jane McDonald (Guelph Township)

Vic Palmer (Clifford)

Laurel Strachan (Elora & Salem) – **term complete in 2021**

Other Items to consider

1. **OHA Society webpage.** Ensure that your information is current and up to date with contact information and upcoming 2021 events.
2. **OMAFRA reports** – I have not seen anything come through yet in regard to completion. You will receive an e-mail with the information when they have it revised. Most Societies did receive their grant already of \$1000 or \$1500 (depending on Society membership numbers) last November.
3. **Convention 2021 – London – July 16-18th.** – Just received the message last night that the Officers of the OHA and the Convention Host (District 10) have agreed that due to Covid-19 restrictions, the OHA Convention and Annual General Meeting will be held virtually this year. More information will follow directly from OHA.
4. **Convention 2022 – Guelph – July 15-17th, 2022** – co-hosted by District 7 & District 8 will no doubt be held so we will have a lot of planning to do. Keep these thoughts and dates in your Society's activities for 2022. We will need help from all Societies – in the form of volunteers for bus tours, welcoming committee, silent auction, flower shows, signage and all the activities that go along with holding a Convention. COVID has thrown us a huge curve as to what we can do and how an event such as a Convention will proceed in future years to come but we must be ready.
5. We welcome any suggestions from Societies – I have been asked for a list of what each Society is planning for 2022 as this normally is given in the yearbooks that are distributed at the April AGM. If you send me your activities, I can put in a word document and distribute to the Societies as most Societies are not printing a new year book.

Thank you. Looking forward to spring!!!!

Kathy Bouma, District 7 Director