



# DISTRICT 15 NEWSLETTER

December, 2021

## **REMINDER RE SOCIETY MEETINGS & EVENTS**

*This information was at the beginning of the message from the OHA President, Charles Freeman, sent out in October. It seems that the numbers are again increasing in some parts of Ontario. Please follow the advice below.*

Hello members, here it is October, and we are still in the grips of the COVID-19 Pandemic and all health officials say this will not be going away any time soon. Although just the other day there was an announcement from the Government about some more lessening of restrictions regarding meetings and such, we must be sure that whatever activities we proceed with still meet the requirements of the legislation and follow the guidelines of our Local Health Authorities.

## **DISTRICT SERVICE AWARD - 2021**

There is now a specific deadline for nominations for the District Service Award. The *nomination form must be received by the District Director by January 20, 2022*, and the District must choose the person to receive the Award and submit it to the Awards Coordinator by February 15, 2022.

The criteria for the Award can be found on the OHA website, under Resources. Only one District Service Award can be given each year, and it can't be awarded to anyone more than once. If you would like me to forward the nomination form to you, please let me know.

## **YEAR OF THE GARDEN 2022**

*Message from Michel Gauthier, Executive Director, Canadian Garden Council*

Hope you had a good garden summer! The **Canadian Garden Council's Year of the Garden 2022** development team has been very busy in the past few months, and is pleased to share these important updates with **Canada's Garden-family**:

Thanks to *Minister Bibeau*, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, 2022 was recognized as **Canada's Year of the Garden** [via a declaration in the House of Commons on June 21st](#). Minister Bibeau, an avid supporter of the **Year of the Garden 2022**, is back as Minister of Agriculture and Agrifood following the election. We are expecting an important announcement soon regarding the **Year of the Garden 2022**

## NEWS FROM CHINGUACOSY GARDEN CLUB & HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

**Asna Black, recipient of 2020 Murray Laidlaw Award “Outstanding Volunteer of the Year”**



Originally awarded to Asna Black in January 2021, November 5th was our first opportunity to present the award to her [darn COVID-19 restrictions ;-)]. Asna, always an active supporter of the club, received this award because of her many years of service to Chinguacousy Garden Club & Horticultural Society.

*Editor's Note: Asna Black is also an Assistant District 15 Director.*

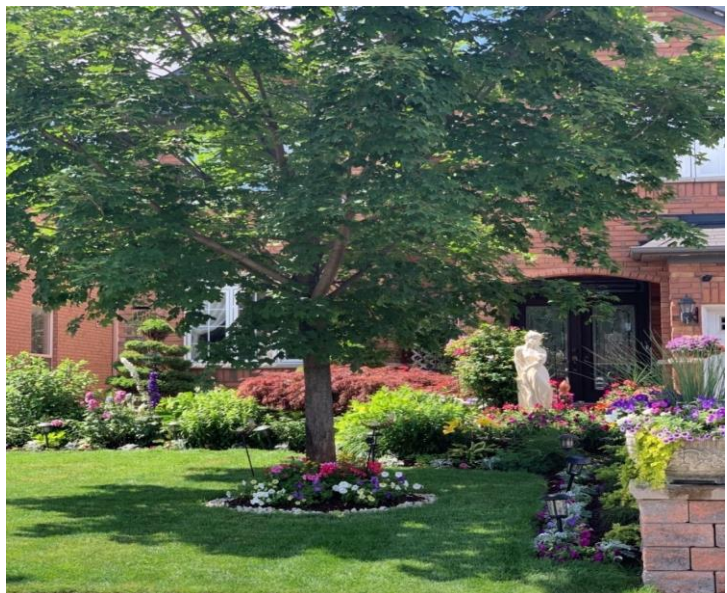
### **November 2021 Walk in the Park**

Chinguacousy Garden Club & Horticultural Society came up with the 'Walk in the Park' initiative in September 2021, which brings members together in a safe environment. So far, we have explored 3 locations, November's being Loafer's Lake, part of the Etobicoke Creek Trail.

### **Brampton Front Garden Recognition Program:**

Chinguacousy Garden Club welcomes one of the winners as a new member.

Anusha Esky is one of the winners from the Brampton Front Garden Recognition Program run by the city, Brampton Horticultural Society and The Chinguacousy Garden Club. This is a picture of her winning front yard.



## FROM ROSELANDS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

When we were clearing out some things from our group's belongings in storage, we came across this framed photo of the First Board of Directors in 1926. It was a treat to discover it while moving things. On the back of the frame, it has 'Mrs. Atkins, East Drive' written on it. – *from Michael and Jennifer Hagan*



### Comment from Malcolm Geast, OHA Historian

This is wonderful. I have a list of the original Roselands board members, as found in an article on the front page of *The Star*, June 10, 1926. But now I have faces to go with the names. Interestingly, the names in the paper are in exactly the same order - which leads me to think that the *Star* may have been looking at the same photo.

I should note that this photo is a perfect example of one of the big differences between hort societies today and those that existed a century ago. Twelve men and only one woman on the board - I'm sure that none of our societies have a gender ratio like that any more (more likely, it's the opposite). But at least there was one female representative - many societies had boards that were all-male. However, it is interesting also to see that Mrs. Hagerman is front and centre in the shot, but her husband is in the back row.

*Editor's Note: Does your society have storage somewhere, either in a locker, or someone's home? Please take a look for interesting historical pictures or documents and share them for our next newsletter.*

The information below comes from the Master Gardeners of Ontario Facebook Group. If you would like more details about this new invasive species, please let me know. I have a 7-page document that I can send out. – Barb O'Malley

## **Plant Sale Best Practices to Stop the Spread of Jumping Worms**

### **Introduction**

- Invasive Asian Jumping Worms (JWs) were confirmed in multiple locations in Ontario in the summer of 2021.
- Jumping Worms are a serious threat to our gardens and forests.
- There is currently no viable option for controlling Jumping Worms, so it is crucial to stop them from spreading.
- This document was created to support organisations involved in buying or selling plants, especially at local plant sales.

### **Plant & Site Preparation**

- Make sure ALL plant sale members are aware of Jumping Worms including what they look like and what contaminated soil looks like.
- DO NOT ACCEPT plants from gardeners with confirmed cases of JWs.
- Sell bare-root plants whenever possible. Completely submerge plant roots in water and wash away remaining soil. Actively check for JWs.
- If plants must be sold in soil, repot with clean potting soil.
- Do not use mulch, leaves, backyard compost or other material to repot as they may harbor jumping worm eggs.
- Gather and transport plants/pots where they cannot pick-up contaminated materials like soil, leaves or mulch, e.g., on concrete, tarps or trays.
- **Arrive clean and leave clean.** Ensure volunteers clean shoes/boots/tools before arrival and brush off any soil before returning home.
- **Vehicles:** Be aware that vehicle tires may also transfer JW cocoons to and from the plant sale site. Where possible park vehicles on paved areas such as the street or parking lot.

### **Introducing New Plants to Your Garden & Testing for Jumping Worms**

- Isolate & inspect all new plants **before** adding to your garden.
- Inspect the soil. Is it **intact** or **granular**? Intact soil is likely OK, granular soil may indicate the presence of JWs.
- If unsure, test for Jumping Worms:
  - Mix 1/3 cup ground mustard seed in one gallon of water.
  - Remove/brush away any leaves or mulch that are on top of the soil.
  - Slowly pour mustard solution onto the soil. The solution irritates the worms and drives them to the surface. All earthworms will react but look for the white clitellum of the JWs and remove them as they appear.
  - Destroy all JWs and solarize the soil.

*At the recent Parkdale & Toronto AGM, Clement Kent was the presenter on the topic of Garden Pests, and the Jumping Worm was one that he included.*

## NEWS FROM SCHOMBERG HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

The Annual General Meeting of the Schomberg Horticultural Society was held via zoom on November 23rd. During this meeting, president, Trish Maguire thanked all the volunteers for their dedication to the Society and for all the volunteer hours the members put in during the year. Joan Rice, the retired flower show secretary received the prestigious President's award. Some of the noteworthy events the Society took part in and projects it undertook:

Seasonal décor at the Centennial Garden at "the Gates to Schomberg", that delighted the community during these dire COVID 19 times, taking care of gardens in the community, 'Yellow for Hope Campaign', first ever "Virtual Garden Tour" of 4 members' gardens, photography contest, attending Remembrance Day Ceremony, monthly zoom meetings with speakers and keeping the members engaged and informed with monthly newsletters and virtual flower shows.

Elections were held and overseen by District 15 director Barb O'Malley.

The Schomberg Horticultural Society proudly presents the executive members: Trish Maguire - president, Jill Watts-Hayward - past president, Janice Crone - 1st vice president, Barb Prince - 2nd vice president, Judith Henderson - secretary, Pat Janse - treasurer, Chris Somerville - flower show secretary, Angela Rose - program director, Eleonora Schmied & Susan Zweep - public relations directors, Liz Macpherson & Sheila Kelly - social directors, Barb Niemeyer - garden tour director, Eleonora Schmied - garden tour committee co-chair, Kathleen Gorsline - plant sale committee chair, Mary Tzarik & Maria Ruksa - committee chairs at large.

The winners of the photography contest were announced: Overall winner: Susan Zweep. 1st price winners are: 'Let it snow' - Pat Earl, 'Blossom time' - Janet Orr, 'Down the garden path' - Susan Zweep, 'Fall Bounty' - Susan Zweep, 'Photographer's Choice' - Donna Parrish.

A fun horticultural quiz entertained the attendees and a first ever "Virtual Garden Tour" of four members' properties concluded the meeting. The executive members wish everyone a happy holiday season, a peaceful time with family and friends and a prosperous, healthy New Year.

*Wishing all of you a very  
happy and safe Holiday Season  
and a Happy New Year!*