



OHA District 7

Newsletter #5 - September 2022

September is always a month that represents a new beginning. Whether it is because of the new school year, the shorter days, the fall sounds of crickets and cicadas and the abundance of harvest from our gardens - it is a new time. The nights are cooler and soon the leaves will be turning colour. How quick time has passed as it seems the leaves have just come on the trees after a long winter. The wood has been stacked to keep our woodstove fed to keep us warm for the cooler weather and the winter snow.

Hope everyone has had an amazing summer. It was good to see Societies active by holding regular meetings, garden tours and gatherings over the summer months. If you had a chance to visit another Society or community, I hope you were able to learn something new. Many societies are now preparing for the fall with Annual Generals Meetings to be held in October and November and a few for January.

District 7 Fall Meeting

Saturday October 15 at the Aboyne Hall – 9:30 – 12:00 ish
Wellington County Museum & Archives, Fergus.

This will be the first time since our October 2019 meeting in Shelburne to be together. We are changing it up and having only a meeting from 9:30 – 12:00 ish. No lunch – only a coffee break will be provided. Your District 7 Board is hosting it. Registration is required but no fee is being charged.

Speaker is Bonne Sitter – The Beauty and Bounty of Huron County
Demonstration by Michelle Goff

All Societies to provide a \$20 gift for Door Prizes.

BE sure to attend and meet your Society friends and then spend some time in the Fergus and Elora downtowns before heading back home or bring a lunch and eat in the nearby picnic tables.

More info from your Society President and Board.

Trees for Life

If you remember this past spring, a Trees for Life Pilot project was offered in District 7, District 15, and District 5 with a fall delivery date. There was a choice of 20 native trees offered at \$20 each. Fall has arrived and so are the trees.

District 7 - 419 trees District 15 - 232 trees and District 5 – 157 trees

These trees are arriving the week of September 13 – 17 and I send out a **BIG THANK YOU** to our pick up locations in District 7 and volunteers of Christine Wasylyk in the Mount Forest/Harriston/Shelburne area
Ann Atzori in Mono (Orangeville)/Erin/Hillsburgh
And me - here in Fergus/Elora/Guelph

Happy Planting everyone of those native trees. I'll try and get some photos of them for the next newsletter.

OHA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thank you to those who attended the OHA Annual General Meeting on July 16th which was held via Webex. Most presentations are available on the GardenOntario website if you missed them. Check them out.

Year of the Garden Calendar - District 7 put together a collage promoting the Year of the Garden. Thank you to Laurel Strachan of the Elora & Salem Society who took all the submissions of photos sent and used them to create a very creative page. This 18-month calendar is a fundraiser for OHA and will be available at the District 7 Fall meeting being held October 15 at Aboyne Hall at a cost of \$25.

PLATINUM JUBLILEE – 70 years - OF THE HM QUEEN ELIZABETH II

Your District 7 Board has decided to go forward and arrange to plant a native tree at the Wellington County Museum and Archives for this occasion. We hope to have it planted by the October 15th Fall meeting.

OHA Garden Ontario 50/50 Fundraiser

The OHA is holding the second 50/50 draw on September 16th. If you have not purchased your tickets, go to the OHA website for details and purchase by September 15 at 11:59 p.m. (link provide below)

<https://www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/ontario-ha>

These draws will be held quarterly. If you have missed this one, plan to purchase tickets for the next one.

OMAFRA 2021 Annual Report

is available to complete. They are due by October 31, 2022 but the sooner it is done – it will be off your list and any problems can be dealt with in a timely manner instead of a panic. To date, I have 7 Societies that have completed, and 7 Societies yet to do. I will be following up again with those still needing to complete. Before we know, it the next round of reports will be due so let's get this one done.

Other Events and Information

District 7 & District 8 will now host the OHA Convention in 2024 – July 11 - 14. The venue is still to be the Delta Convention Centre in Guelph. Plan ahead and make it part of your 2024. Lots of assistance will be needed as we start to put together activities and ideas for this special occasion. Be a part of it.

District 7 Board – looking ahead to April 2023, your District Board is looking for some new Board members as some board members complete their terms. It is a great opportunity to get involved. Ask any Board member or get in touch with me. Meetings have been held by Zoom so travel is not required but internet is. We expect virtual Board meetings to continue.

If you have any events that you wish to share or to invite other Societies, please send the information to me to include in the next Newsletter which will go out in late October or early November.

Kathy Bouma, District 7 Director

