

Annual Report

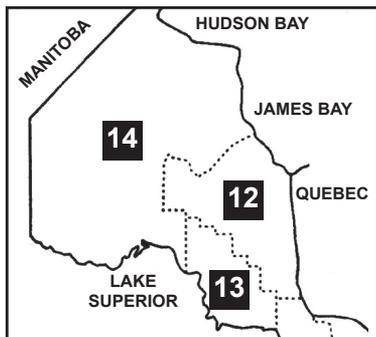
Ontario Horticultural Association

2012

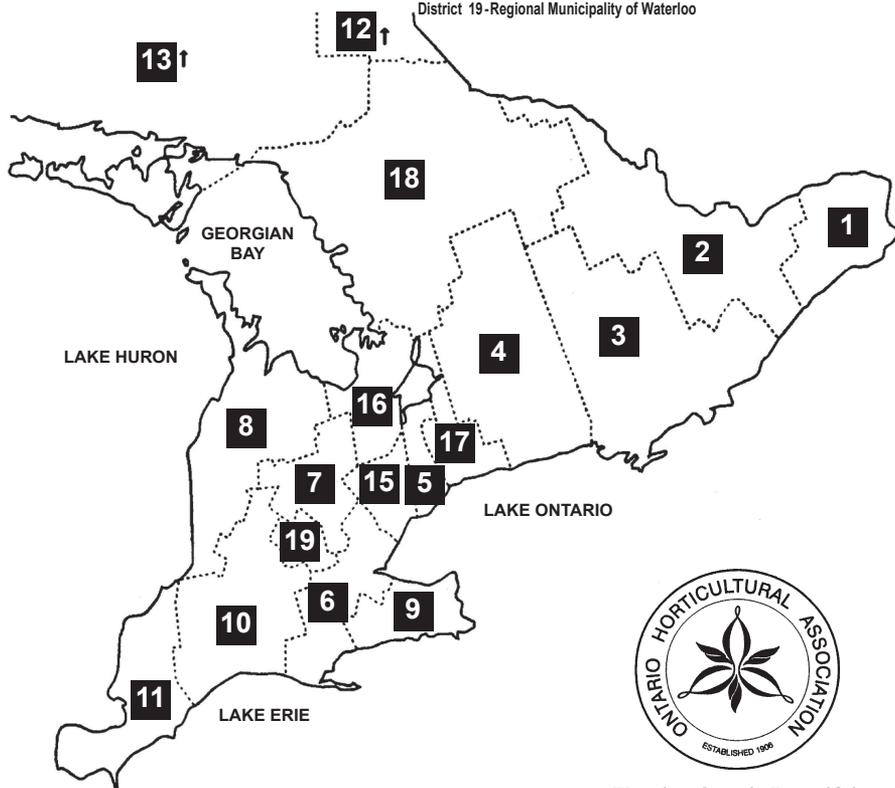
Covering the events, projects and
reports pertaining to 2012, and
the convention of 2012



Ontario Horticultural Association District Map



- District 1-Dundas, Glengarry, Prescott, Russell, Stormont
- District 2-Grenville, Lanark, Ottawa, Renfrew
- District 3-Frontenac, Hastings, Leeds, Lennox & Addington, Prince Edward
- District 4-Haliburton, Northumberland, Peterborough, Victoria
- District 5-Toronto East, York Region East
- District 6-Brant, Halton, Norfolk, Wentworth
- District 7-Dufferin, Wellington
- District 8-Bruce, Grey, Huron
- District 9-Haldimand, Niagara North, Niagara South
- District 10-Elgin, Middlesex, Oxford, Perth
- District 11-Essex, Kent, Lambton
- District 12-Cochrane, Timiskaming, North Nipissing
- District 13-Algoma, Manitoulin, Sudbury
- District 14-Kenora, Rainy River, Thunder Bay
- District 15-Toronto West, Peel, York Region West
- District 16-Simcoe County
- District 17-Durham Region
- District 18-Parry Sound, Muskoka, South Nipissing
- District 19-Regional Municipality of Waterloo



Keeping Ontario Beautiful

Annual Report of the Ontario Horticultural Association for the Year 2012



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OHA Officers 2012-2013

PRESIDENT
John Sellers

1ST VICE-PRESIDENT
James Graham

2ND VICE-PRESIDENT
Jeff Blackadar

SECRETARY
Kelly Taylor

TREASURER
Sharon Hill

PAST PRESIDENT
Carol Dunk

PAST PRESIDENTS COUNCIL
Ken Fink

OHA District Directors 2012-2013

DISTRICT 1
Dundas, Glengarry, Prescott,
Russell, Stormont
Pat Stachon

DISTRICT 2
Grenville, Lanark, Ottawa, Renfrew
Kathryn Lindsay

DISTRICT 3
Frontenac, Hastings, Leeds,
Lennox & Addington, Prince Edward
Robert Simmons

DISTRICT 4
Haliburton, Northumberland,
Peterborough, Victoria
Rose Odell

DISTRICT 5
Toronto East, York Region East
Nancy Serrick

DISTRICT 6
Brant, Halton, Hamilton, Norfolk
Donna Hussey

DISTRICT 7
Dufferin, Wellington Counties
Dorelene Anderson

DISTRICT 8
Bruce, Grey, Huron Counties
Sharon Nivins

DISTRICT 9
Haldimand, Niagara North,
Niagara South
Susan Lusted

DISTRICT 10
Elgin, Middlesex, Oxford, Perth
Roland Craig

DISTRICT 11
Essex, Kent, Lambton Counties
Jennifer Plaus

DISTRICT 12
Cochrane, Timiskaming,
North Nipissing
Kees Stryland

DISTRICT 13
Algoma, Manitoulin, Sudbury
Suzanne Hanna

DISTRICT 14
Kenora, Rainy River, Thunder Bay
Shirley Robson

DISTRICT 15
Peel, York Region West, Toronto West
Carole Spraggett

DISTRICT 16
Simcoe County
Judith Rogers

DISTRICT 17
Durham Region
Sandy Rakestrow

DISTRICT 18
Parry Sound, Muskoka,
South Nipissing
Sandra Hartill

DISTRICT 19
Regional Municipality of Waterloo
Steve McKenna

OHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors of the Ontario Horticultural Association consists of the President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Immediate Past President, Past Presidents Council Representative, Secretary, Treasurer and 19 District Directors.

The Board meets three times a year – in March, at the annual convention, and in October. At these meetings, the Board discusses the business side of the Association, makes decisions regarding the dispensation of funds and passes motions that are binding and in the best interests of all Societies and the Association as a whole. A quarterly newsletter keeps Society members aware of Board decisions as well as publishing general items of interest from Societies around the province.

All positions on the Board are voluntary, with the exception of the secretary and treasurer who are paid a small honorarium for their services.



OHA Board 2012-2013

Back Row (left to right): Shirley Robson, Dorelene Anderson, Carole Spraggett, Rose Odell, Roland Craig, Robert Simmons, Sandy Rakestrow, Kees Stryland, Suzanne Hanna, Kathryn Lindsay, Susan Lusted, Jennifer Plaus, Sandra Hartill, Judith Rogers, Donna Hussey, Sharon Nivins, Pat Stachon, Nancy Serrick

Front Row (left to right): Kelly Taylor, Ken Fink, Jeff Blackadar, John Sellers, James Graham, Sharon Hill, Carol Dunk

Absent: Steve McKenna



OHA Executive Officers 2012-2013

*left to right: Kelly Taylor, Jeff Blackadar, Ken Fink, John Sellers,
Carol Dunk, Sharon Hill, James Graham*

From the Agricultural & Horticultural Organizations Act, Article 36:

The objects of a horticultural society are to encourage interest and improvement in horticulture,

- by holding meetings respecting the theory and practice of horticulture;
- by encouraging the planting of trees, shrubs and flowers on public and private grounds;
- by promoting balcony and community gardening and outdoor beautification;
- by arranging field trips, contests, competitions and exhibitions related to horticulture and awarding prizes;
- by distributing seeds, plants, bulbs, flowers, trees and shrubs;
- by promoting the protection of the environment;
- by promoting the circulation of horticultural information through any media;
- by promoting the benefits of therapeutic horticulture; and
- by stimulating an interest in the study of horticulture.

2012 Financial Statements



Ronald E. Takalo, B.Math., CA
Ronald F. Burt, B. Comm., CA

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Goderich, Ontario
N7A 1M4
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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Members of
Ontario Horticultural Association

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Ontario Horticultural Association, which comprise the statement of financial position and fund balances as at December 31, 2012 and the statements of operations for the year then ended, and the summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. Except as explained in the paragraph below, we conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

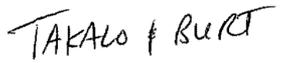
Basis for Qualified Opinion

In common with many not-for profit organizations, Ontario Horticultural Association derives revenue from donations and fundraising, the completeness of which is not susceptible to satisfactory audit verification. Accordingly, our verification of these revenues was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of the company and we were not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to the revenues, assets or fund balances.

Qualified Opinion

In our opinion, except for the effect of adjustments, if any, which we might have determined to be necessary had we been able to satisfy ourselves concerning the completeness of donations and fundraising revenues referred to in the preceding paragraph, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Ontario Horticultural Association as at December 31, 2012, and its operations for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

Goderich, Ontario
March 21, 2013


LICENCED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Ontario Horticultural Association
Statement of Operations
Year ended December 31, 2012

	STBI		Total 2012	Total 2011
	General Fund	Restricted Fund		
Revenue				
Convention (Schedule A)	\$ 101,137	\$ -	\$ 101,137	\$ 88,855
Affiliation fees	88,068	-	88,068	92,160
Liability insurance premiums	50,058	-	50,058	50,718
Donations	15,324	-	15,324	18,605
Premium - net	-	7,324	7,324	4,190
Sale of OHA supplies	6,554	-	6,554	6,838
Investment income (Note 4)	2,489	330	2,819	1,006
Receipts from fundraising	2,078	-	2,078	2,910
Advertising	683	-	683	100
Newsletter subscriptions	289	-	289	334
Associate memberships	150	-	150	300
Allium sales	-	-	-	35,055
	<u>266,830</u>	<u>7,654</u>	<u>274,484</u>	<u>301,071</u>
Expenses				
Convention (Schedule A)	93,867	-	93,867	76,787
Liability Insurance	51,320	-	51,320	50,960
Meetings and Committee Projects	31,052	-	31,052	31,269
District and executive	15,526	-	15,526	11,163
Treasurer honourarium and office	8,559	-	8,559	8,284
Awards, bursaries and donations	8,154	-	8,154	5,747
Special projects - community benefit grants	7,822	-	7,822	4,242
OHA supplies and youth manuals	5,645	-	5,645	6,066
Professional fees	5,145	-	5,145	5,499
Secretary honourarium and office	4,908	-	4,908	6,051
Education, promotion and publicity	2,641	-	2,641	2,422
Annual Report	2,431	-	2,431	2,933
Printing, stationary and mailing	2,405	-	2,405	2,694
Exhibitions	2,401	-	2,401	2,861
Awards Co-ordinator honourarium & office	1,500	-	1,500	1,125
Newsletter	1,386	-	1,386	1,675
Memoriam	1,251	-	1,251	1,991
Fundraising	989	-	989	23,158
STBI Administration	-	900	900	900
Internet and web site	540	-	540	568
Amortization of capital assets	256	-	256	348
Bank charges	184	-	184	101
Bad debts	107	-	107	207
Loss on investments (Note 4)	-	-	-	6,559
Youth Committee	-	-	-	250
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	220
	<u>248,089</u>	<u>900</u>	<u>248,989</u>	<u>254,080</u>
Excess of revenue over expenses	\$ 18,741	\$ 6,754	\$ 25,495	\$ 46,991

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

Ontario Horticultural Association
Statement of Financial Position and Fund Balances
December 31, 2012

	General Fund	STBI Restricted Fund	Total 2012	Total 2011
ASSETS				
Current				
Cash	\$ 101,051	\$ 12,142	\$ 113,193	\$ 112,656
Receivables	30,357	330	30,687	25,499
Inventory	4,287	-	4,287	782
Prepays	4,257	-	4,257	33,477
Interfund receivable(payable)	<u>1,073</u>	<u>(1,073)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	141,025	11,399	152,424	172,414
Investments (Note 3)	243,995	119,567	363,562	341,073
Property, plant and equipment (Note 5)	<u>761</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>761</u>	<u>1,017</u>
	<u>\$ 385,781</u>	<u>\$ 130,966</u>	<u>\$ 516,747</u>	<u>\$ 514,504</u>
LIABILITIES				
Current				
Payables and accruals	\$ 12,969	\$ -	\$ 12,969	\$ 36,595
Deferred revenue (Note 6)	<u>34,136</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>34,136</u>	<u>33,762</u>
	<u>47,105</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>47,105</u>	<u>70,357</u>
FUND BALANCES				
Fund balances, beginning of year	319,935	124,212	444,147	397,156
Excess of revenue over expenses for the year	<u>18,741</u>	<u>6,754</u>	<u>25,495</u>	<u>46,991</u>
Fund balances, end of year	<u>338,676</u>	<u>130,966</u>	<u>469,642</u>	<u>444,147</u>
	<u>\$ 385,781</u>	<u>\$ 130,966</u>	<u>\$ 516,747</u>	<u>\$ 514,504</u>

APPROVED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:

_____ Director _____ Director

_____ Date _____ Date

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

Ontario Horticultural Association
Notes to the Financial Statements
December 31, 2012

1. PURPOSE OF ORGANIZATION

Ontario Horticultural Association promotes horticultural education and preservation of the environment. The organization is a charitable corporation without share capital incorporated under the laws of the Province of Ontario. As a result, on dissolution of the corporation, any surplus existing is to be disposed of to charitable organizations in Ontario.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

These financial statements have been prepared on the basis of accounting policies applicable to a going concern, which assumes that the company will continue in operation for the foreseeable future and will be able to realize its assets and discharge its liabilities in the normal course of operations.

Method of Accounting

The organization uses the restricted fund method of accounting. Sources of revenue and expenditures are reported using the accrual basis of accounting. The accrual basis of accounting recognizes expenditures as they are incurred and measurable as a result of receipt of goods and services and the creation of a legal obligation to pay.

The general fund records all of the transactions of the normal day to day operations of the association.

The STBI restricted fund provides funds to reimburse local branches for losses related to the activities of local branches Board's of Directors and Treasurers.

Revenue Recognition

Grant revenue is recorded in the period the revenue is considered earned. Grant revenue is considered earned when eligible expenses are incurred.

Membership revenue and general liability insurance revenue are recorded in the period in which the revenue is billed to the members and societies.

All other revenue is recognized in the period which it relates and becomes available and measurable.

Investment income includes dividend and interest income, realized and unrealized investment gains or losses. Unrealized gains and losses are included in investment income and recognized as revenue in the statement of operations,

Financial Instruments

The organization has designated its cash as held for trading, its accounts receivable as loans and receivables and its accounts payable and accruals as other financial liabilities.

Investments are classified as held for trading and are reflected at their fair value. Fair value estimates are made based on published price quotation in an active market at the Statement of Financial Position date. Realized and unrealized gains and losses are reported on the statement of revenue and expenditure in the period in which they occur.

The carrying value of the organization's short-term financial assets and liabilities including cash, receivables, accounts payables and accruals approximates their fair value due to their immediate or short-term maturity.

Ontario Horticultural Association
Notes to the Financial Statements
December 31, 2012

Investments

Investments are valued at fair market value.

Inventory

Inventory of Ontario Judging and Exhibiting Standards books are valued at the lower of cost and net realizable value. Cost is determined on the first in, first out basis.

All other supplies are recorded as expenses on the statement of operations in the year that the supplies are purchased.

Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, plant and equipment are recorded at cost. Rates of depreciation applied using the declining balance method to write-off the cost of property, plant and equipment over their estimated useful lives are as follows:

Exhibition display panels	30%
Office equipment	20%
Computer	30%

Property, plant and equipment acquisitions that are funded by government grants are expensed in the year of acquisition as an offset against the corresponding grant revenue.

Contributed Services

The organization relies on volunteers to assist with the organization in operating its programs. Because of the difficulty of determining their fair market value, the value of contributed services are not recorded in these financial statements.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the year. Actual results could differ from the current estimates. These estimates are reviewed periodically and, as adjustments become necessary, they are reported in earnings in the period in which they become known.

Ontario Horticultural Association
Notes to the Financial Statements
December 31, 2012

3. INVESTMENTS	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>
As at December 31, 2012, the Organization holds the following restricted and unrestricted investments:		
<u>Unrestricted</u>		
GIC bearing interest at 1.00% per annum until maturity in April 2013	\$ 20,067	\$ 20,000
Cashable GIC bearing interest at 1.30% per annum until maturity in December 2013	25,000	25,000
London Life Segregated Fund. The investment has a guarantee rider which guarantees the redemption amount of 75% of the \$50,000 originally invested as long as the investment is held to January 2016	53,391	51,657
GIC bearing compound interest at 1.5% per annum until maturity in July 2013	25,000	25,000
GIC bearing compound interest at .80% per annum until maturity in December 2013	25,250	25,000
GIC bearing compound interest at 1.45% per annum until maturity in October 2013	25,287	25,000
GIC bearing interest at .45% per annum until maturity in January 2013	50,000	50,000
GIC bearing interest at 1.20% per annum until maturity in March 2013	<u>20,000</u>	-
Total unrestricted investments	<u>243,995</u>	<u>221,657</u>
<u>Internally Restricted - STBI Fund</u>		
GIC bearing interest at 1.00% per annum until maturity in April 2013	45,151	45,000
Great West Life Segregated Fund. The investment has a guarantee rider which guarantees the redemption amount of the original investment of \$74,416 as long as the investment is held to January 2016	<u>74,416</u>	<u>74,416</u>
Total internally restricted investments	<u>119,567</u>	<u>119,416</u>
Total all investments	<u>\$ 363,562</u>	<u>\$ 341,073</u>

Ontario Horticultural Association
Notes to the Financial Statements
December 31, 2012

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>STBI Restricted Fund</u>	<u>Total 2012</u>	<u>Total 2011</u>
Investment income				
Dividends and interest earned on unrestricted investments	\$ 755	\$ -	\$ 755	\$ 814
Dividends and interest earned on restricted investments	<u>-</u>	<u>330</u>	<u>330</u>	<u>192</u>
	<u>755</u>	<u>330</u>	<u>1,085</u>	<u>1,006</u>
Gain (loss) on investments				
Unrealized gains (losses) on unrestricted investments	1,734	-	1,734	(4,257)
Unrealized gains (losses) on restricted investments	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(2,302)</u>
	<u>1,734</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,734</u>	<u>(6,559)</u>
Total investment income (loss) recognized in revenues	\$ <u>2,489</u>	\$ <u>330</u>	\$ <u>2,819</u>	\$ <u>(5,553)</u>

5. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

<u>2012</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Accumulated Depreciation</u>	<u>Net Book Value</u>
Exhibition display panels	\$ 3,579	\$ 3,550	\$ 29
Office equipment	3,410	3,018	392
Computer	<u>2,621</u>	<u>2,281</u>	<u>340</u>
	<u>\$ 9,610</u>	<u>\$ 8,849</u>	<u>\$ 761</u>
2011			
Exhibition display panels	\$ 3,579	\$ 3,537	\$ 42
Office equipment	3,410	2,921	489
Computer	<u>2,621</u>	<u>2,135</u>	<u>486</u>
	<u>\$ 9,610</u>	<u>\$ 8,593</u>	<u>\$ 1,017</u>

6. DEFERRED REVENUE

Deferred revenue consists of the following 2013 revenue.

	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>
Membership fee	\$ 30,576	\$ 31,024
Convention	3,391	2,625
Newsletter Subscription	<u>169</u>	<u>113</u>
	<u>\$ 34,136</u>	<u>\$ 33,762</u>

7. STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

The statement of cash flows is not considered meaningful and consequently has been omitted from these financial statements.

Ontario Horticultural Association
Schedule of Convention Income
Year ended December 31

Schedule A

	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>
Registration	\$ 45,242	\$ 34,070
Banquet and meals	36,092	30,029
Sponsorships	10,783	19,821
Tours	8,045	4,055
Concessions	<u>975</u>	<u>880</u>
	<u>\$ 101,137</u>	<u>\$ 88,855</u>

Schedule of Convention Expenses
Year ended December 31

	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>
Banquet and meals	\$ 47,423	\$ 34,627
Space, signage and security	13,440	7,886
Board Convention expense	13,206	15,146
Tours	7,919	5,669
Program	7,440	4,967
Prizes	2,162	1,998
Registrar's honourarium and expenses	1,570	2,424
Administration	<u>707</u>	<u>4,070</u>
	<u>\$ 93,867</u>	<u>\$ 76,787</u>

2012 Secretary's Report

This has been a great year at the OHA. We have accomplished some great things this past year including the planting of 19 bur oaks to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. This past year we also created the Community Gardens Grant as a way to encourage its member Societies to create or contribute to community gardens whether urban or rural. OHA will award a grant of \$500 each to two Societies to assist the funding of a new community garden or the upgrading of an existing community garden. I am very pleased to see such positive initiatives being undertaken by the OHA and carried out by our Societies.



Each year, I meet members from Societies from all over the province. This gives me great pride and enjoyment. I love that people feel comfortable to approach me with questions or concerns.

The first few weeks of every year are always very busy with annual information reports coming in, regular correspondence, society newsletters and emails to the OHA Secretary.

The OHA membership numbers reported for 2012 are: 282 Societies with 28,808 members.

For 2012, Societies reported 447,502.85 volunteer hours, OHA Officers and Directors reported 11,108.00 hours and Assistant Directors, Secretaries and Treasurers reported 3014.00 for a total of 461,624.85 volunteer hours.

In comparison to 2011, Societies reported 387,050 volunteer hours, plus OHA Officers and Directors reported 10,516 hours for a total of 397,566 volunteer hours.

In comparison to 2011, this figure is a significant increase of 64,058.85 volunteer hours. I am very pleased to see that Societies responded to our request to report the volunteer hours. Well done!!! We can definitely showcase the contributions of Societies when applying for grant applications, and Society support from your cities, towns and businesses. The OHA and all of its 282 Societies have a voice because these documented hours show the important contribution that Societies give back to their communities.

The Awards Coordinator accepts the applications for grants and awards, including nominations for OHA special awards for review in late March. At the March Board meeting, District Directors are informed of the grant winners. This information is shared with Societies at their District Annual General Meetings in April.

Special Project Grants are awarded annually to help Societies with costs of their project. In March 2012, the following eight horticultural Societies whose projects met the criteria were awarded Special Project Grants of \$500:

- District 2 – Stittsville Goulbourn, West Carleton
- District 5 – Leaside, North York, Toronto Rhododendron
- District 6 – Paris
- District 13 – Espanola
- District 18 – Huntsville

When applying for one of these grants, there are criteria to keep in mind: The grant is for plant material, namely perennials, trees and shrubs. It does not cover annuals, mulch, manure, compost or any hard surface material. Do include information, photographs and site maps about your project, including a list of plant material and costs. Cost projections should also be included. Please ensure to follow page limit restrictions when completing your applications.

Fifteen \$100 tree grants were awarded in 2012. The following Societies received these grants:

- District 1 – Russell & District
- District 2 – Deep River, Greater Ottawa Water Garden, Pakenham,
Pembroke, West Carleton
- District 5 – North York
- District 6 – Paris
- District 7 – Harriston and District
- District 10 – Dutton/Dunwich, London Fanshawe
- District 12 – Kirkland Lake & District
- District 13 – French River
- District 15 – Streetsville, Woodbridge

In 2012 there were four \$50 Youth Grants given:

- District 2 – Pakenham, Perth & District
- District 10 – St. Marys
- District 19 – Elmira & District

The service pins have proven to be quite popular, especially the 25-year pins. To acknowledge the significant contributions of our 50-year members, the OHA Board has added a 50-year service pin as well. Please take a moment to acknowledge a society member's contribution at your next AGM.

We have also created a new OHA decal for Societies to use. Our hasti-notes (Autumn, Trillium and Lily) are great cards to send out when you would like to send out a special thank you note, thinking of you, etc. They also make excellent door prizes. We also stock small notepads to be used as items for tables at District events so people can write notes, etc.

We still have bookmarks available to give out at promotional events. The supply of various certificates is always available to reward service.

I would like to thank the Societies across the province who use these as well as Directors who consistently stock their District supplies.

Over the past two years, we have been emailing the quarterly Trillium Newsletter to Societies. This has significantly decreased our administration costs. All OHA information and documents which normally were included in the Trillium are now available online at our website www.gardenontario.org. It is important that this information is getting to the correct person at the Society level. Please check with your Society to ensure that this information is getting passed along.

If you would like to receive a copy of the Trillium, please contact our editor, Linda Hugli at editor@gardenontario.org and she will be glad to add your name to the mailing list.

We have also moved to emailing the quarterly OHA Youth Newsletter. Please contact me at secretary@gardenontario.org if you would like to receive this through email or by mail.

Convention 2012 took place on August 17-19 and was hosted by District 9, with it being held at Niagara College in Niagara-on-the-Lake. The theme was **1812-2012, Gardening Then and Now**.

We were pleased to honour the following Society members who were nominated for their contributions to their Society, District and OHA.

- **Community Improvement Award** presented to **Oakville Horticultural Society**.
- **Environmental Award** presented to **Streetsville Horticultural Society**.
- **Youth Leader Award** presented to **Sandra Cressman** (Wilmot Horticultural Society) and **Bev Silk** (Grafton Horticultural Society). This plaque is presented to a person who has been a Youth Club leader for a minimum of five years. This year it was presented to two very deserving leaders.
- **Award of Merit** presented to **Bev Silk**.
- **Silver Fir Award** presented to **Phillip Kennedy** and **Jim Mabee**. This is a silver lapel pin that was initiated by OHA Past President Alastair Crawford.

With great appreciation.

Kelly Taylor
OHA Secretary

Diamond Jubilee Oaks



President John Sellers plants a bur oak to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

The dictionary says a Diamond Jubilee is an anniversary celebrating the passage of 60 years, an event of rejoicing, festivity, jubilation. It seemed as if the whole world was happy about the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II in 2012, and the OHA had its own distinctive event. Each of its 19 Districts was asked to plant a tree to mark the occasion - and what kind of tree? An oak, of course. Ancient, mighty, the symbol of sovereignty. We're told the oak was thought to be the first tree created by God, its fruit, the acorn, the first food people ate. Socrates, some say, believed the oak to have divine powers. The royal connection in recent history is evident in the fact that when George VI was crowned in 1937 and Queen Elizabeth II in 1952, acorns from Windsor Castle were sent around the world to be planted in commemoration of their respective coronations.

To honour the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, the OHA selected the Bur Oak (*Quercus macrocarpa*) since it will grow well in all parts of the province, and plaques were created to be installed at each location. Fitting also was the day chosen for the District festivities to take place wherever possible - National Tree Day, Wednesday September 26. We gathered, we planted, we ate, we had fun rejoicing, each District in its own way. The OHA will have plenty to marvel at, watching these wonderful trees mature. Oaks can grow over 100 feet tall and as much as 30-40 feet around, but they live well over 100 years so we who planted them won't likely see such majesty incarnate. Sadly, some of the settings of the earlier coronation oaks have been lost or forgotten. The challenge now to succeeding OHA generations is to be on guard, keep watch over these very special 2012 plantings, and celebrate our Diamond Jubilee oaks long into the decades ahead!

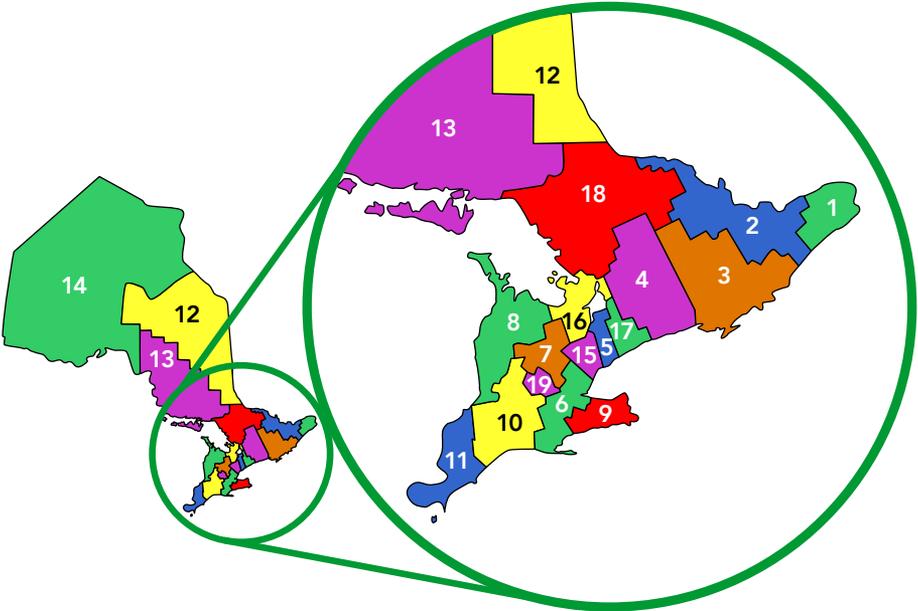
OHA Districts

Since the early years of its formation, the Societies that comprise the Ontario Horticultural Association have been grouped into Districts. Initially, with just 62 Societies in the Association, only seven Districts were needed. But as membership grew, the Districts underwent several changes, resulting in the 19 Districts that we have today. Although the boundaries have changed over time, the concept remains the same: groups of like-minded people gathering together to share their gardening knowledge and experience.

The Districts facilitate communication between the OHA and its member Societies and promote interaction and cooperation among the Societies themselves.

The 19 Districts in the Association are comprised of approximately 280 Societies, ranging from Evergreen Thumbs and Fort Frances in the west to Williamstown Green Thumb in the east, and from Kingsville and Leamington in the south to Sioux Lookout in the north.

Shown below are the boundaries of the 19 Districts, and on the pages that follow are reports from each of the 19 District Directors.



Reports of District Directors for 2012

DISTRICT 1

DUNDAS, GLENGARRY, PRESCOTT, RUSSELL,
STORMONT

District Director - Pat Stachon

7 Societies



District Executive: Carole Larocque Assistant Director, Mary Higginson Secretary-Treasurer, Jacqueline Wyss Webmaster. Cornwall hosted the 2012 District Annual General Meeting in Cornwall at the NAV CENTRE.

Alfred, located east of Ottawa just south of the Ottawa River, is an agricultural community in Prescott-Russell, French speaking, with the advantage of having an ecological treasure, the Alfred Bog, in their backyard. The Society partnered with Bois du L'Air, a group very involved with the care and preservation of woodlands. They will combine their trips to the Bog, picnics, a trip to the Montreal Botanical Gardens and other points of environmental interest.

Cornwall, the most southerly eastern Horticultural Society in Ontario on the St. Lawrence, had many community projects. On Canadian Tire Day, members assisted shoppers in the garden centre on the long weekend in May, identifying plants, helping with demonstrations and answering many questions regarding horticulture. Bark and Compost day was the highlight of the year and a fundraiser, working in partnership with the City of Cornwall for this annual event. One dollar from each bag of compost was donated to the Children's Christmas Fund for the purchase of cereal and milk. The Society hosted the District Annual at the NAV CENTRE, where in 2014, the OHA Convention will be held.

Martintown was part of an ambitious project working with other community groups and other Martintown organizations and the Township to plant trees and shrubs behind their Community Centre to improve the function of the area. The flower boxes on "the bridge" were envied by all the Societies in the District as well as the flower barrels throughout the village.

Maxville hosted their second annual very profitable Garden Tour with many gardeners taking part. In August each year Maxville Village plays host to the Glengarry Highland Games where thousands of international dancers, bands, and pipers, visit the village. The Society played an enormous part decorating barrels, window boxes, and homes with plaid and everything Scottish, making this a spectacular event.

Russell is the largest Society in the District because of the rapid growth of the village. The Society was very involved with the community, St Thomas Aquinas Catholic High School, the Township, and the Library. Funds are being raised for the Children's Fantasy Garden at the Library which will be educational gardening for children young and old and those who enjoy reading. It will be designed by a professional designer and promises to be one of a kind. The Junior Program had three co-ordinators with 46 children participating in preparing produce, crafts, and flowers for the Russell Fair in September. The Living Locally Fair held in January featured locally grown products and encouraged visitors to buy locally while protecting the environment.

Williamstown has been enjoying a great partnership with the Williamstown Fair Board over the past number of years. 2012 marked the 200th anniversary of the Williamstown Fair and the Society was involved with some of the celebrations. The enhancement of many areas on the grounds will continue. Unsold plants were donated to Char Lan District High School where a garden project is underway. Beautification abounds, the containers on the bridge and the Williamston Fair Grounds bring tourists galore to admire.

Vankleek Hill held their first Spring Plant Sale, sponsored by Scotiabank. This was a fundraiser for the Convention 2014 and a comfy cushion as well. All members of the Community were very supportive. For public planting the Society distributed well over 200 bulbs to two schools and the Dalkeith Historical Society for community beautification. The town signs and the town park were cared for by Society members.

The Diamond Jubilee Tree Ceremony in District 1 was held in Cornwall, at the NAV CENTRE overlooking the waters of the St. Lawrence. About 40 people from the District's seven societies, as well as the staff of the NAV CENTRE, took part. A reception was held in the Roberta Bondar Lounge, and the event was televised on Cogeco Community TV, photographed by the Seaway Press, and the media and public relations staff of the NAV CENTRE.



DISTRICT 2

GRENVILLE, LANARK, OTTAWA, RENFREW

District Director - Kathryn Lindsay

21 Societies



In 2012, District 2 had 21 Societies with 2,246 members who volunteered 25,986 hours for an average of 11.5 hours per member. Societies awarded 12 scholarships with a total value of \$3,775. District events included the Spring Advisory and AGM hosted by Ottawa, attended by 254 delegates (a record). Table centrepieces provided by Societies were used as door prizes and a trophy was awarded to the member whose design was chosen by the most delegates as their favourite. The Summer Flower and Edibles Show was hosted by Manotick with 231 entries by 23 exhibitors from 9 Societies where 111 members of the public attended. The Fall Advisory was hosted by Eganville & Area. At the Convention, District 2 Societies and members placed in the floral design, horticulture, art, publications, website, creative writing, photography, and youth competitions. On National Tree Day (September 26), the District held a ceremony at the Agriculture and Agri-Foods Canada Central Experimental Farm in Ottawa to plant the OHA bur oak to commemorate Queen Elizabeth's Diamond Jubilee.

Almonte & District supported the Town of Mississippi Mills Communities in Bloom project by sponsoring a Garden of the Week competition. Members judged the gardens, and sent a photo and brief description of the winner to the local paper. The feedback was great and they expect that this will encourage winners and residents to find out more about the Society. The August pot-luck with recipes using garden produce continued to be a highlight. Their Harvest Show which included flowers, vegetables and photography was held at the Mississippi Textile Museum. The September meeting was well attended with Ed Lawrence speaking on tips, tricks and techniques to garden without pesticides.

Beachburg held ten meetings with speakers, friendly competitions, and a summer potluck picnic. There were successful flower shows in May, June, July (at the Beachburg Fair) and September with a tea in June and September. Planting was done and maintained at three community locations. Many compliments were received about twelve large planters placed along the Main Street and tended by volunteers during the Level 2 drought. The Society was grateful to five corporate sponsors (who also helped with memberships). Members attended D2 meetings and AGM, and the OHA Convention. They gave donations to the Beachburg Fair, Ottawa Botanical Garden Society and Royal Canadian Legion. Awards for competitions were presented at the annual general meeting and dinner in November; a silent auction and door prizes added to the fun.

Carleton Place & District had a “speaker series” for their meetings and a flower/vegetable/ photography mini-show in the spring and fall. They funded Carleton Place in Bloom, the “Garden of Hope”, the Franktown Lilac Festival and Almonte Fair, provided \$100.00 to elementary schools for horticultural projects and \$250.00 bursaries to two Carleton Place High School students for post-secondary education in a horticulture-related field. The annual plant sale provided major funding for their projects. They assisted the Carleton Place in Bloom Committee to plant decorative flower baskets, held their annual Flower/Design Show and English Tea which included photography and art classes, had workshops on floral design and on pruning, trimming and thinning, and members participated in the Labyrinth Walk Festival. A Society potluck supper was held in June and the annual general meeting in December which included awards for Volunteer of the Year and flowers/art/photography, a floral demonstration and musical entertainment.

Deep River celebrated its 65th Anniversary. Themes for the Spring Flower and the Summer Flower and Vegetable Show featured their milestones and 2012 anniversaries. Their continued focus on vegetable gardening saw them host a three-part series where members and public were invited to host gardens to learn about vegetable gardening and tour the gardens. The Society established and maintained an Incredible Edible Vegetable Garden on property given to them by the Town. The five-year plan includes planting fruit and fruit trees.

Eganville & Area held an outstanding or unusual fundraiser when a member’s son donated a “Giant Pumpkin” (1146 pounds). It was displayed at the Foodland store which sold ballots to “Guess the number of seeds” with proceeds divided between the Society and the local food bank. A partnership was also built with the local Farmers’ Market who displayed the pumpkin for two market days and sold tickets there too. Highlights included a name change to Eganville and Area Horticultural Society to be more inclusive, and a monthly column in the local newspaper initiated and penned by the President that helped recruit new members and created interest in the Society. They started a “Garden of the Month” contest, which proved popular and increased their profile in the area.

Gloucester had a great program with topics including a seed exchange and presentation about the OHA 2011 Convention, winter propagation, native orchids in Ontario, a flower arranging workshop, a fresh approach to Fall florals, and a treasure trove of trilliums. They also had field trips to Rockwall Gardens, Stoneridge Gardens, Kiwi Gardens and McDonalds Corners Farmers’ Market (which included a workshop by Ankaret Dean on willow weaving with everyone taking home a project). They were saddened by the loss of Gaston Tessier, a member who enriched the Society with his talents and generosity.

Greater Ottawa Water Garden had another fabulous year in 2012. In addition to monthly meetings, they continued their unique summer “pond socials” that were well attended and enjoyed by their members. The 4th Water Garden Tour was a resounding success. The profits from the tour, a tree grant from the OHA, donations from local businesses and huge amounts of sweat equity were directed towards the completion of their first Community Project – the installation of a waterfall and gardens at the Peter D Clark Long Term Care facility. A GREAT feel good project as the greatest gift in life is giving.

Kanata-March had a successful 2011 that helped KMHS redirect fund-raising and renew community connections. As a result, 2012 became a year of rebuilding and growth. An improved program, including relevant topics and notable speakers, was promoted extensively through local media and community notice boards. Interest in the program consistently increased visitor traffic and new members. Volunteers spent hundreds of hours, weeding, rebuilding, planting, transplanting and mulching the Molly Wilson Garden - including the planting of over 1000 tulip bulbs. The City of Ottawa donated the mulch and, of special note, the National Capital Commission donated tulip bulbs from the Commissioners Park display from the Tulip Festival.

Kemptville enjoyed the usual Society year, with flower show, public planting, community outreach, and a plant sale in the pouring rain! A large group of members attended the District 2 AGM with some financial support from the Society. The President represented the Society at the OHA Convention. Get-togethers throughout the year included “First Friday Coffee Mornings” with garden gossip, and the ever popular weekly early evening gatherings at a member’s garden during the summer months. Lots of bragging and useful information too could be gathered from both of these events.

Madawaska Valley participated in regular activities including: May plant sale; June strawberry social; July BBQ & auction (a very fun event); August flower show; September plant auction with Ken Fink (always a fun evening); and November pot luck dinner with a speaker on Christmas arrangements.

Manotick enjoyed yet another successful year, during which members shared the fellowship of meetings, garden tours and workshops, while at the same time continuing their community support service program through the Village of Manotick.

Nepean had an excellent speaker series in 2012. The plant auction and sale was spectacularly successful with the highest revenue in recorded history. They continued support of a young person studying horticulture by providing a bursary to Sir Guy Carleton High School, completed the Joan Long Legacy Project which extended over a two year period, and worked on various gardens in the community. With the addition of maintenance of the Nepean Museum and various church gardens by individual members, they had a high number of volunteer hours at 1,662.

Ottawa continued to have a substantial membership and to be financially strong. In March, they hosted the District AGM with 254 delegates (a record) of which 27 were OHS members (also a record). They made two constitutional changes: one to their fiscal year-end date and another to increase the time from year-end to their AGM. They had a successful Friends of the Farm plant sale and Society plant sale and auction, and partnered with the Ottawa Valley Rock Garden H.S. on a very popular bus trip to the Montreal Botanical Garden. Over the summer, they visited many beautiful and interesting gardens, mostly by members, but also a wonderful vegetable plot by the Shepherds of Good Hope. The Ottawa South Porch Sale will be remembered for the torrential rains and ripping winds, a day that was atypical for a summer of record drought which thwarted their community planting ambitions. In this first year of their new Long Range Strategic Plan, they focused on organizing their volunteer lists so they can better serve members' interests and distribute the effort.

Ottawa Valley Rock Garden held their second annual photo contest, seed sorting and potluck in January. To fund raise, they participated in the Rare and Unusual plant sale at the Central Experimental Farm in Ottawa.

Pakenham were participants in Communities in Bloom in 2012; the Beautification Committee planted 10 trees and 500 flowers bulbs along the roadsides. They had a booth at the Pakenham Home Show in April to promote the Society in the community, held a successful plant sale in May (raised \$1192), three successful flower shows and their second annual Christmas Tree lighting in December. This was in conjunction with the Pakenham Country Christmas event which was well publicized and attended. They continue to support Junior membership as the future gardeners of tomorrow.

Pembroke continued with their endeavors to increase membership and to create more interesting and membership-friendly meetings. They won an international award from Communities in Bloom. Urban reforestation was another priority; three native trees were planted at Pembroke's Pansy Patch Park. The Communities in Bloom judges also suggested that the Society aid in the visual and environmental improvement of the Park. Their annual fundraising events were well attended and successful.

Perth & District participated in Seedy Sunday in March and in April the Junior Gardeners' program began its seasonal 6-week session with 240 children. Other highlights included a donation to the Maberly Agricultural Society for the Junior Gardeners' class, the perennial plant sale, the donation of a red oak tree to Queen Elizabeth School to commemorate the 60th Diamond Jubilee, and a Society social and Q&A. Volunteers prepared and cared for the historical gardens at the Perth Museum for the opening of the new Visitors' Centre, and tended the Museum, Crystal Palace, Cenotaph and Flag gardens. Members attended the OHA

Convention – the Year Book won Best Cover and the website placed second. Perth's Mayor unveiled the newly installed PDHS heritage sign at the Flag garden. The Society sponsored a popular public lecture and held their AGM and holiday dinner in December.

Petawawa began the year with their AGM in January, enjoyed speakers at monthly meetings talking about organic gardening, making floral centerpieces, and how to winterize gardens and preserve produce, attended a Seedy Sunday in Pembroke and the District AGM. In May, the plant sale went well, the community gardens opened and two benches were purchased. There was a garden tour in Eganville in June and they started their Friday markets that ran until September. A tree was planted at a new school in Petawawa as a community project and the Trillium award for the best front yard garden was presented at a Society wine and cheese. The young gardeners planted pumpkins in their community garden plot, learned to make terrariums, visited a local florist and in November made Christmas crafts and winter birdfeeders. The year ended with a turkey dinner prepared by the Petawawa Legion Ladies Auxiliary.

Smiths Falls enjoyed a full year as follows:

- Monthly meetings with interesting speakers, photo contest, opportunity table, refreshments and social time, and four flower shows;
- Yearbook, monthly newsletter and monthly article in the local newspaper;
- Participation in the Home and Garden Show with speaker;
- May to October - Garden of the Month competition with a lawn sign and write-up in the local paper;
- Presentation on identifying and using herbs;
- Workshops: for seniors on starting plants indoors; dividing and transplanting perennials which helped supply the annual plant sale; on paverpol to make art pieces for home or garden;
- Gardens at the Town Hall, Library and Legion were planted and maintained;
- Three bus trips;
- Three demonstrations on fall flower arranging at PickleFest;
- Horticulture books were purchased for the public library;
- \$500 bursary to a student for post-secondary study in a horticulture-related field.

Stittsville-Goulbourn, to commemorate their 50th anniversary, had one "Special Project" and several smaller yet significant projects that helped to beautify the community. They planted a red oak for the Society founding members at the Granite Ridge Long Term Care Centre. Their plantings in late 2011 to renovate the "Welcome to Stittsville" sign/entrance survived surprisingly well despite record drought conditions and no supplementary watering. A new venture was the establishment of two raised planting boxes as Community Gardens located behind the Stittsville Food Bank. The aim was to demonstrate how to grow food on a small scale and provide a resource for community groups to learn and participate in gardening activities. Any food harvested was available for use by the Food Bank.

West Carleton completed Phase Two of their beautification project by installing a heritage sign in the garden at the Memorial Hall in Carp. Their urns were changed seasonally. A bench was donated by the City of Ottawa. They had a float in the annual Santa Claus Parade entitled “We’re Bloomin’ Crazy”. The club had a garden tour fundraiser with thirteen local Carp gardens that raised \$4000. The gardens were many and varied; each a reflection of the uniqueness of the setting and growing conditions and the gardeners themselves. Denise Burnham was presented with a certificate of achievement at the Christmas Potluck by Candace Dressler from the D2 executive. Denise has put in many hours as secretary, working on the newsletter, and as liaison with the City of Ottawa on the beautification project.



District 2's bur oak was planted on a beautiful fall day at the Central Experimental Farm in Ottawa, on the front lawn of Agriculture Canada's Eastern Cereal and Oilseed Research Centre (ECORC).

DISTRICT 3

FRONTENAC, HASTINGS, LEEDS, LENNOX
& ADDINGTON, PRINCE EDWARD

District Director - Robert Simmons

16 Societies



For District 3, 2012 was an eventful year. For the second year in a row a member received the Silver Fir. Philip Kennedy, past District Director, was given the award for his dedicated work with students at the greenhouse in Prince Edward County Secondary Institute. This year we welcomed the Bath Gardening Club and Horticultural Society to the OHA and the District.

Ameliasburgh were pleased with their win for their float “Golden Oldies” at the Ameliasburgh Fall Fair. They visited the Sculpture Garden at the Oeno Gallery outside Bloomfield. The tour was made special because they were given a description by Drew MacCandish who designed the garden.

Athens celebrated their 10th year as a Society. They are proud of their Tree of Knowledge Program that provides the community with trees for the future. Athens Library is now the proud recipient of a long awaited garden supplied by the Society.

Bancroft took a trip to the Prince Edward Hort Society Flower Show and then visited the Lavender Farm in the area. A most interesting speaker was Jim Jones the ‘Garlic King’ who drew a number of new members to the meeting.

Bath, our newest Society, was very active with 110 members. A highlight of their year was a tour to Kiwi Gardens near Perth.

Belleville had the best turn out for a speaker who talked about attracting birds to the garden. Sheila Simmons did a Sogetsu Ikebana Demonstration. Members also participated in the Quinte Home Show, a three-day event. They began restoring the gardens at the new Via Station in Belleville.

Brockville and District started the “Garden of the Month”. Six gardens were nominated and received top honours May through October. Members took several bus trips that included the Peterborough Garden Show, Paul Fritz’s garden near Athens and the Dominion Arboretum in Ottawa.

Collins Bay and District had many interesting speakers including Tom Brown who spoke on the development of Spindletree Gardens in Tamworth, and Holly Platz who spoke on the Community Gardens in Kingston. Members renovated the gardens at the eastern gates to the Loyalist Parkway.

Gananoque provided a workshop for children at their June Flower Show and in May had a school garden competition for three kindergarten classes. The outstanding presentation was a demo by the members on Pot et Fleur. Tulips were planted at the Town Hall and East Gate in Gananoque.

Kingston completed the second phase of the Pollinator Garden which is spectacular. The Community Improvement Fund assisted six groups including two Home-Based Housing units where residents planted vegetable and flower gardens for the first time. Members hosted the Argenteuil Quebec Hort Society as they toured Kingston, showing them six private gardens, a City Conservation Garden, a Sensory Garden and a native plant nursery run by volunteers.

Land O' Lakes worked with the local Nature Club planting saplings along a creek bed at the school and donating \$400 to the club. This is the start of an ambitious program for youth which involves starting seeds, and continued restoration of the creek near the school. Hayley Anderson of the Ontario Invasive Plant Council talked about the control of invasive species and in particular about growing some plants instead. Members also took a trip to the Peterborough Garden Show.

Lennox and Addington continued with their Urban Forest project in spite of some adversity with the stock and weather. They utilized the Stewardship Rangers for two days of assessing, pruning and mulching trees that had been previously planted. The community gardens were very successful with food production. The president, Hildegard Dorosh, presented her extensive collection of succulents.

Prince Edward County held their major event, the Gardner's Gala and Flower Show, at the Crystal Palace in Picton. For the first time the Sophiasburgh 4H Club joined the Flower Show in the junior division. There were 14 participants who displayed what they had learned at the horticultural club. Terry Sprague, a local field naturalist, presented at the Gala. A judged rose show, held at one of the regular meetings, was quite successful.

Rideau Lakes saw the start of a community garden program in partnership with County Roads Community Health Centre in Portland to be continued into 2013. The production of food exceeded expectation for the Food Bank. The outstanding speaker was Ed Lawrence.

Stirling and District participated in the Stirling Agricultural Fair showing flowers and vegetables. Rowena Burns was an interesting speaker on the ins and outs of water gardening. Ms Burns runs a water garden nursery. A talk on medicinal plants was also enjoyable. Members attended the Peterborough Garden Show. Steve Airhardt won the Sowing Seeds Award for his work with young people in the greenhouse at Central Hastings High School.

Trenton worked with the Trenton High School Track Quest selling rain barrels to raise money for beautification to the entrance to the new track. They had speakers on Floral Design and Native Plants. Members took several field trips which included the Peterborough Flower Show, Canada Blooms, Tweed Hort to hear Paul Zammit and Brighton Hort to hear Denis Flanagan.

Tweed and District was entertained by Paul Zammit. Other speakers included Liz Corbett and Mary VanderDussen from Twin Sisters Hive and Honey who spoke about bees, and Elizabeth Otonicar on planting with stones. The Society received the District 3 Appreciation Award for their new public library garden. They had a first time photography show of members` gardens and plants.



District 3 planted a Red Oak at Fairfield Park at the Eastern Entrance to the Loyalist Parkway. Pictured are District 3 Director Robert Simmons and Carol Hegadorn of the Collins Bay Horticultural Society.

DISTRICT 4

HALIBURTON, NORTHUMBERLAND,
PETERBOROUGH, VICTORIA

District Director - Rose Odell

17 Societies



Bobcaygeon held a special celebration for their 90th anniversary at the Kawartha Settlers Village in conjunction with their Annual Garden Tour. The Society had a history display at Muir House from May until November and The Earl Murray garden was renovated with perennials and shrubs. A bur oak was planted at Shea Park with OHA President John Sellers, District 4 Director, Rose O'Dell and Bev Silk as well as other dignitaries in attendance.

Brighton enjoyed eight excellent speakers with Master Gardeners available at most meetings to give advice. This year when a speaker was not able to attend, there was a question and answer night which was well received. Members participated in a one-day trip, the annual plant auction, and the Yard and Garden Sale. Community and volunteer work included the annual Brighton Garden Awards, the planting of gardens at the three entrances to town, Proctor Park and Memorial Park. A bursary was presented to a student graduating from East Northumberland Secondary School. The Society is exploring new opportunities for community projects, including starting a historical planting garden across from the YMCA.

Campbellford moved in a strong, impressive direction. New members, executives, and outreach brought an infusion of vitality. Outreach included caring for public gardens, a garden tour full of variety and a garden party. Well-organized plant sales were held in spring and fall and plant quality was excellent. Youth support continued. Members often spoke and demonstrated skills at meetings. Outstanding entries in mini-shows attested to horticultural growth. Every District 4 occasion was attended by members who enthusiastically brought back new, invigorating ideas... hence, all benefited... and a stronger, interesting, progressive society continued to develop.

Coboconk held two successful Plant & Bake Sales, a Gator was donated by the Lions to assist with watering. There was special funding by "Communities In Bloom" to enhance two flower beds with armor stone in Lion's Park. The Society planted many trees and shrubs at Kirkfield, Coboconk schools and sister hort society Norland. The trees were made possible by Home Hardware/Trees Canada and member Bill Barber. Two wonderful guest speakers were enjoyed as was an outing to a perennial garden.

Cobourg continued to maintain two important community gardens – the Millennium Garden at the Five Corners Parkette in Cobourg and the Rose Garden at Victoria Park. Key highlights were hosting the Four-Club Members Garden Tour, a members' tour to the Peterborough Garden Show and some private gardens, three flower shows and the building of raised garden beds for the Cobourg Daycare Centre. Members also maintained a booth at the Cobourg Home Show in April as part of their outreach efforts in the community and, of course, held their annual plant sale, a major fund-raising event for the Society.

Cramahe took a close look at the ways they were conducting their business and the programs they were providing after a year in their new location. The venue was working well for members but was out of the way for the public to attend events. So they are going out into the community more next year. They also recognized that their policies and procedures needed revamping and officers and directors needed manuals outlining their jobs. The Society is enthusiastic about the positive changes that this evaluation will achieve in 2013. Some of the things members especially enjoyed were James Graham's "inspirational" visit, the club BBQ in their Ecology Garden, and the unique variety of speaker topics. The future includes looking at a Habitat build, new plantings at the town entrances, and a community garden. 2012 was a good year!

Fenelon Falls had many guests attending the monthly meetings with interest in guest speakers and presenters. The sharing of gardening expertise by members, pot-luck suppers and hands-on workshops were very popular. The Queen's Jubilee Garden was a major achievement of the FFHS with donations of time and equipment from local contractors. The maintenance of their public gardens by members and volunteers was made even more challenging by the summer drought! The 2013 Executive includes three new members, and they are drawing on the support of the experienced executive members to bring in new members and fresh ideas to enrich the work of the Society.

Grafton held two flower shows and five mini shows at their meetings. Speakers captivated with a variety of topics. The plant auction was successful and the Growing Together Committee also raised funds with a plant sale for upkeep of a greenhouse. The Society maintained a number of gardens in the community, participated in the local Canada Day parade, and provided a youth programme "Go-Go Grafton Gardeners". Members were recognized with the Ontario Volunteer Awards and presented with OHA 25-year pins supplied by the District. Bev Silk received the OHA Youth Award and Award of Merit.

Lakefield celebrated its 50th Anniversary. Mag Goode was the recipient of the Hazel Wilson District Award, nine members were given 25 year pins and the District Service Award was presented to a member as well. The OHA convention, District AGM, Fall Seminar, and Awards Banquet were all attended by members who also enjoyed a bus trip to Northumberland County Garden Tour, an Antique Sale & Flower Show, Pot Luck events, and two Plant Sales. A \$500.00 Scholarship was presented to a local student. The Society had Vickie Taylor-Scott as a speaker and sold out. They also provided plants, seeds and equipment to the local teenage group – Youth Unlimited – who grew veggies, greens and made tomato sauce for local establishments.

Lindsay The Lilac Festival committee had a booth at the Port Perry & Oshawa Home & Garden Shows and the Peterborough Garden Show to promote the Lilac Festival. During the Festival a lilac was dedicated in honour of Angie Clark and a lilac was planted to honour Bill Huskinson for his extensive contribution to the Lilac Gardens of Lindsay. Len Shay was presented with certificates of honour from all three levels of government. A plant sale and tool sharpening event was held to raise funds. The Society published its first yearbook. Members attended all District 4 events and the OHA convention, and entered floats in both the Lindsay Exhibition Parade and the Christmas Parade where they won 2nd prize.

Minden hosted a successful District 4 AGM with guest speaker Martin Galloway, had a huge plant sale, a Flower Show, and planted and maintained colourful Community gardens. The Youth group worked with grade 3 students on the Three Sisters Garden resulting in produce going to the Food Bank. The first Newsletter (The Water Lily) was published. Minutes of the monthly general meetings were emailed to members who could also view them on the web site. Local garden centres offered 10% off plant material to members when they presented their membership card. This helped encourage new membership.

Norland had a plant sale and held their third annual Garden Beautiful Contest, Summer Garden Party. Members shared the theme of “Bring and Brag” showcasing botanical expertise in photography, quilting, poetry, storytelling and master gardening. They toured private gardens and Anna’s Perennials. Judy Seymour shared her trip to Butchart Gardens. The Society celebrated its 55th Anniversary. Rose Odell presented nine members with 25-year service pins. Members enjoyed a floral power-point presentation and historical skit of the last fifty-five years. The Society received four trees and six shrubs from the Home Hardware Initiative with Trees Canada, thanks to Paul and Marie South from Coboconk, who included Norland. With great sadness the Society mourned the loss of their senior member Vernon LeCraw. The Vernon LeCraw Historic Forest Reserve, presented in his honour in 2010, and his book “The Land Between”, a historical account of Norland’s early beginnings, will keep him in their memory.

Norwood celebrated their 20th Anniversary and AGM in a special way. Guests were Mr. Elmer Buchanan, the Minister of Agriculture and Food in 1992 when the Society’s charter was granted, and Mr. Jeff Leal, MPP for Peterborough and Chief Government Whip. The Charter Members with us were presented with certificates designating them as Charter Members, and also Past Presidents. Ferne DeBaeremaeker was also presented with a Horticultural Service Certificate and a Certificate by Mr. Leal celebrating Ferne’s 20 years of volunteering in the Society, having been on the Board all that time, including being the first President. What a way to end the year!

Omeme planted two new gardens at the base of the village stone entrance. Signs now welcome visitors to the town. Attractive new garden signs bearing the water lily emblem and the OHA logo identify our nine gardens. Volunteers maintained the 30 downtown planters featuring seasonal changes - spring, summer, winter. The Mammoth May Plant Sale (over 2,300 healthy plants) was the major fund raiser supporting the Society’s gardens and the Junior Garden Club. Members participated in the village Santa Claus Parade receiving a first place award for the third year and throughout the year enjoyed garden tours, field trips, workshops and road trips to shop at nurseries.

Peterborough presented the Peterborough Garden Show April 5-7, 2012, again very successful with 150 vendors and about 8,000 visitors. It continued to be a major event for the Society involving about 100 volunteers and many hundreds of hours to organize and run. Highlights were prestigious garden speakers including Charlie Dobbin, demonstrations, a judged flower competition and an expanded Children’s Garden. Profits funded generous scholarships plus \$6,000 in community beautification grants, including plantings of trees and shrubs. The Society held a Spring Plant Sale, two exciting car pool trips, the June Celebration Luncheon awarding four 25-year pins and another Volunteer Celebration Event in June to thank the many PHS volunteers. They also hosted the District 4 Spring Get Together in March and the Fall Seminar. Another busy year!

Port Hope had a very busy and productive year. Members enjoyed four successful flower shows, decorating the Walton St. Winter Baskets, post office planters, did some guerilla gardening that evolved into a workshop and daffodil planting along the Ganaraska River, and gave two bursaries to students continuing their post-secondary education in horticulture and environment. The Society will be the host for the 2013 District AGM.

Rice Lake held many interesting meetings through the year with a variety of speakers. The Society donated 50 potted Red Maples to Grades 1, 2 & 3 at Plainville Public School. Members enjoyed a trip to Anna's Perennial Gardens. A scholarship of \$500.00 was given to CDCI East in Cobourg. It is with sadness they report that, due to lack of leadership, they are not able to hold any future meetings and will be dissolving the Society.



Bobcaygeon Horticultural Society was the lucky winner of the draw for the planting of District 4's bur oak. The tree was planted in Shea Park, one of the Society's newest garden projects, and a partnership with the "Beautification of Bobcaygeon" committee. Here we see District Director Rose Odell with two of the many members of the Bobcaygeon Horticultural Society who turned out for the planting.

DISTRICT 5

TORONTO EAST, YORK REGION EAST

District Director - Nancy Serrick

18 Societies



We're made up of 18 societies with 2127 members, all contributing in many creative ways to Keeping Ontario Beautiful. My position as Director wouldn't be as easy as it is without the tremendous support of the D5 team: Gloria Broks, June Morton, Malcolm Geast and Tina Forrester, Assistant Directors, Dawn McEachern, secretary, Ellen Power, treasurer, Trudy Tatangelo, supplies coordinator, and our Past DD Nikola Warnock. We answered questions and gave advice when asked, visited our societies through the year and installed officers at all of our societies' annual meetings, worked on District events, and just plain enjoyed ourselves as we carried out our duties.

Agincourt held their Fall Flower & Vegetable Show + Tea Room where there were beautiful displays and a luncheon for volunteers & judges - a good way to say thank you. On October 1st, the Club celebrated its 60th Anniversary with a catered dinner, entertainment, silent auction, and best of all, the meeting up of old members and new. In December, the Club held its Annual Pot Luck Dinner & Flower Show with entertainment by the Male Police Choir and a free draw for 24 poinsettias and other awards - another great way to say thank you.

Aurora made their first appearance at the Aurora Home Show, winning Most Attractive Booth and bringing in new members. For the second year in a row, “our fantastic designers” won the District 5 top design trophy. AGHS was honoured that OHA District 5 chose the Aurora Arboretum for the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee Tree Planting. Services provided to members included a lending library, newsletter, member manual and monthly programs that inspired and educated. In December, members transformed both Hillary House and the Aurora Cultural Centre into beautiful Christmas venues.

Beach was a beehive of volunteer activity. Plant sale, garden tour, bulb sale and bus tour all went off smoothly to the delight of participants. Gardens were maintained at the Beaches Library and Northern Dancer. Community outreach continued as volunteers worked with Malvern CI to design and assist with two new plantings to counter the effects of vandalism. Several workshops were held with an emphasis on design in the hope of increasing show participation. In October a “Round Tables” meeting was held in response to suggestions and requests received from an informal survey held in 2011.

East York continued maintenance of the Stan Wadlow Park Rockery. In cooperation with the City of Toronto, they resurrected the community front yard contest. A six person committee handled the nominations and teams of judges composed of EYGC members viewed the gardens before a final outside judge selected the winners. An awards ceremony was held in September attended by local City councillors. A lot of work was involved but the contest provided nice community spirit and the homeowners really appreciated recognition of their efforts! EYGC also sponsored a group of grade 3-4 school children for an educational workshop at the Toronto Botanical Garden.

Greater Toronto Bulb maintained the same membership (81) as in 2011, their founding year. There were seven monthly meetings and a potluck party in a member’s garden in July. Flower shows were held in all but one of the regular meetings with 22 participants and over 200 entries. Members participated in the CNE’s Bulb Show and the Society’s entry of a pair of doorway planters in the CNE’s Society Class won first prize! A variety of interesting speakers gave talks on summer bulbs, narcissi, caudiciform succulents, bulbs in the wild, lesser known species, new introductions of Holland bulbs and even bugs. Donations of interesting and hard-to-find bulbs/plants helped significantly with fundraising.

Greater Toronto Rose gave rave reviews to a diverse group of speakers on beautiful garden experiences, the best bulbs to plant with roses, gorgeous peonies, fabulous photos and a review of the Chelsea Flower Show, and 'everything you ever wanted to know about clematis.' The annual Rose Show held in June was better than ever! Members attending the annual OHA Convention in Niagara awarded the event high praise. Some GT Rose members won red ribbons at the CNE. The 2012 AGM was held at their last meeting at the TBG. The Society will be moving to a new venue in 2013 ... Cummer Park Community Centre.

Greater Toronto Water Garden enjoyed an eventful year of good speakers, friendship with the plant sale, and the nine-garden Pond Tour in East York, accessible by bus routes and with quite a few gardens within walking distance of each other. At the end of the tour there was a barbecue in a private garden for the hosts and volunteer organizers of the tour. The Society launched its new GTWGHs T-Shirts which were worn at garden shows so people could identify the volunteer members in the booth. A good profitable year!

Lake Simcoe Gardeners held Houseplant, Spring, Summer and Fall Flower Shows with many members exhibiting the 'fruits of their labour'. A floral design workshop was offered which increased the showing of designs in the flower shows. Plus, there were three 'just for fun' competitions – desserts, pumpkin carving, and garden poetry. LSG provided prize money for certain classes at Sutton Fair, planted several Town beds, and awarded 50 local homeowners 'Way to Grow' signs for their efforts in creating gardens with curb appeal. The Society hosted a 'Garden Mystery' bus tour where people did yoga stretching in a member's garden, visited a butterfly conservatory and learned how to geo-cache.

Leaside installed a large commemorative garden on Library grounds made possible by a generous OHA grant, and donated a large permanent planter to be maintained seasonally at the Library entrance. Several public areas were planted by four different schools' Grade 3 classes in keeping with their curriculum, in cooperation with the City and the school board. The Society subsidized and provided supervision for the total cost of two classes from Thorncliffe P.S. (largely new Canadians) to attend the TBG's Teaching Garden. Members maintained and planted the 8 gardens at Lyndhurst Rehab Centre, as well as the gardens at Sunny View P.S. (school for the handicapped) and provided a hands-on workshop for the children in the spring and fall.

Markham had to work with the fact that there is such an influx of new housing and new immigrants to the City of Markham, there is a need for knowledge in how to start a garden, what flowers are available, etc. Hopefully through speakers, garden tours and bus tours, the Society was able to provide such info. Youth projects included visiting a school (planting peace garden) and donating to the TBG youth leadership camp. The Society wants to remain supportive of the TBG by donating money to their summer camps for youth. Members also continued maintenance of gardens at Farintosh House, planting 120 new tulip bulbs.

Mount Albert held workshops for children at two East Gwillimbury library branches and members also took part in a planting event at Mount Albert Public School. To commemorate the War of 1812, the Society encouraged the planting of red geraniums in their community gardens and around town. The Celebration of Gardens and Silent Auction was held in conjunction with the Annual Flower Show in August to which the 50 winners of the Thumbs Up Awards for outstanding front yard gardens were invited. In November, members and their guests thoroughly enjoyed a relaxed AGM with delicious finger foods and a great speaker.

Newmarket went on a great bus trip to the Orillia area which included a boat tour of Lake Couchiching, lunch and shopping in town, and a visit to a local garden centre. Their plant sale was well attended and very successful. Notable speakers were Martin Galloway's son when Martin was unable to be there at the last minute, and he presented a fantastic talk. Eric Lee spoke on orchids and Cathy Kozma's presentation on the "Importance of Bee-ing" was informative. Many members attended the Society's annual meeting and potluck dinner in November and as always there was great food and entertainment.

North Toronto was founded in 1926 and over the 86 years since then, members have shared their knowledge and gardening experiences. This past year they enjoyed informative speakers, an interesting flower arranging demonstration, two great talks on Sissinghurst Garden in England and the activities of the Toronto Evergreen Brickworks market place. The annual photography show was a great success with once again a record number of entries. There was a tour of members' gardens in July and another beautiful garden was the site of the annual Pot Luck Supper. The Annual Flower Show at the TBG was of high quality, a great success, and showed to the many visitors the Society's talents in horticulture and floral design.

North York continued with two outreach programs: design and planting at the Parkview Neighbourhood Garden and the North York Front Garden Contest. The club was busy with eight monthly meetings, two workshops, one field trip, and a plant sale. The very successful annual flower and vegetable show was held at a new location and drew many garden enthusiasts. There was constant traffic and the entire room was covered with designs and cultural displays. The show was also broadcast through Rogers Community TV and Fairchild TV.

Riverdale enjoyed good speakers during the year, there was more involvement by new members in flower shows, and the Society continued to receive help from the City in watering their public garden bed throughout the hot, dry summer. Continued projects included maintaining a perennial garden in Withrow Park and assisting with gardening activities from May to October at Bridgepoint Health with palliative care patients.

Scarborough enjoyed nine speakers with topics ranging from 'Starting from Seed' to the 'Mistakes we made in our Garden.' The indoor plant sale was a huge success as was the garden tour. The Annual Flower Show was popular with friendly competition among members, and as well, the number of people entering the

monthly Mini shows increased this year. The bus tour was a success again and the November Pot Luck/Awards night was well attended. The Society was as busy as beavers all year preparing for the District 5 AGM in April 2013.

Stouffville successfully hosted the District 5 AGM on Sat April 28, their largest project in 2011. Their May plant sale had much competition from other plant sales held by various groups in the community. A dedicated group of members continued to maintain gardens at Parkview Home and at the Care & Share building. Their six speakers, three flower shows, and photography contest were all enjoyed by members. In July the Society was forced to move out of their regular meeting place and settled into a new location in September. The annual pot luck dinner in November was a great ending to an eventful year.

Toronto Region Rhododendron continued their community garden focus and volunteer numbers grew as they renovated, maintained, and replanted in the original rhodo beds at Edwards Gardens. Also included was the reverting of one of the original rhodo beds, which had been significantly impacted by flooding and erosion, to a native plant material garden, now appropriate to the current state of the site. Cost of the work was assisted by grants from both the OHA and OHA District 5. A new Logo for the Society was created by Malcolm Geast, using an illustration from an 1897 copy of *The Canadian Horticulturalist*.



District 5's bur oak is in the Aurora Community Arboretum. Shown here is Nancy Serrick, District Director, unveiling the plaque at the Diamond Jubilee commemoration ceremony.

DISTRICT 6

BRANT, HALTON, HAMILTON, NORFOLK

District Director - Donna Hussey

21 Societies



District 6, “a Carolinian District”, had a very successful year. Twenty-one societies comprised of 2,457 members worked hard to beautify their communities’ gardens/ planters by continuing maintenance, donating and planting countless plants and bulbs, easily racking up 38,268.25 volunteer hours! Societies benefited from continuing to nurture partnerships or by starting new partnerships with other community groups in efforts to combat declining memberships and to share costs.

Acton chartered a bus, invited members of the Georgetown and Milton Societies to join them, and attended the District’s Annual Fall Dinner in Port Dover. The three Societies enjoyed a bus trip to Whistling Gardens and Bonnie Heath Lavender Farm in Norfolk County in July. During an Earth Day event at the Georgetown Market, Acton gave a presentation to the public on invasive species. Residents at the Halton Hills Extenda-A-Care facility enjoyed helping pot up balcony planters. Acton partnered with the Acton BIA to beautify the town and planted annuals in planters and gardens throughout the town.

Ancaster under its new Youth Program Director built a community garden with young volunteers who are busy planning a fundraiser calendar this year. Two new gardens were established at Fieldcote Museum for Hostas and one in conjunction with the Ancaster Garden Club. Three garden tours and four Diamond Trilliums were awarded. Record sales were achieved at their annual Plant & Bake sale supplemented with a new horticultural product produced locally called Nincompoop. The society contributed \$1,000 to the expansion of the Fieldcote Museum watering system.

Brantford enjoyed 160th Anniversary celebrations throughout the year, including special speaker Denis Flanigan, and a Perennial & Lily Bulb Sale, a bus trip to private gardens/nurseries in Norfolk county and a 160th Flower & Garden Show that were all successful. A pine tree was donated to Bell Homestead and plants for landscaping to James Hillier School. Maintenance and plantings continued at the Waterwise Demonstration Garden. Members assisted the City of Brantford with judging waterwise gardens in the city. The Club hosted the District 6 Fall Breakfast Meeting and ended the year with a catered Christmas dinner with entertainment by Toronto jazz singer, Andy De Campos.

Bronte enjoyed a wide variety of topics presented by 9 guest speakers. Due to increased advertising, the society’s spring plant sale was very successful. Thirty-two members and guests enjoyed their fall bus trip. The itinerary included the Potting Shed, Earthgen (fast growing trees) and the National Monument and Historic Site of the Battle of Stoney Creek. The society received many compliments on their

maintenance of the gardens at Sovereign House. A new children's garden was created at the Oakville Christian School . Seven society members were presented with 20-Year Service Pins.

Burlington learned from nine interesting speakers on various topics. Increased advertising helped with the success of the spring plant sale. Members enjoyed a wonderful fall bus trip to the Potting Shed, Earthgen and the National Monument and the Battle of Stoney Creek Historic Site. Compliments were received on the Gardens at Sovereign House. Consultations by Burlington members inspired the Oakville Christian School to install a children's garden. Seven members were awarded 20 Year Service Pins. A meeting was attended to determine the society's possible involvement with 2017 Flora Niagara, Wonders of Nature.

Delhi & District kicked off the year with a catered dinner to celebrate their 30th Anniversary. They hosted the District 6 Spring Workshop & Flower Show in April and held a successful Annual Plant & Bake Sale in May. The Society won 1st place for their Delhi Harvest Festival Parade float entry and donated funding to several other groups in Delhi. They continued their partnership with the Delhi BIA to offer the Delhi Adopt-A-Planter contest. The community benefited from the Society's hard work, donations of plants and maintenance of over seven community gardens.

Flamborough worked with children, parents and other volunteer groups with the annual cleanup at Millgrove Public School. They had a successful plant & bake sale, garden tour, Trillium judging, enjoyed very good speakers and promoted an educational column in the local newspaper. Flamborough looks forward to being involved with the planning and organizing of the 2015 OHA Convention that District Six will be hosting.

Georgetown is part of a Halton Region committee committed to establishing vegetable gardens at all elementary and secondary schools in Halton. The Society continued projects and plantings at the Civic Centre Garden, Greenwood Cemetery Entrance Gardens and other community gardens. Newly designed bookmarks modeled after their new portable vertical sign helped to advertise the Society. Members were involved with Earth Day and Mompreneurs and were situated next to the guest speaker, Frankie Flowers! They also enjoyed a very successful spring bus trip to Whistling Gardens and Bonnie Heath Lavender Farm in Norfolk County.

Glen Morris members were very involved with youth at the Glen Morris Public School. Students helped plant seeds, bulbs and plants in the school's garden. Halloween crafts, Christmas crafts and Christmas greenery arrangement demonstrations were presented to the Grade 4/5 class. The society's 60th Anniversary Iris was officially named, "Pride of the Glen". Glen Morris hosted the District's Spring Breakfast Meeting and presented six deserving members with Life Memberships. Guest speaker topics varied from learning about Pigpen, the trumpeter swan, to how the Ontario Christian Cleaners use Ontario's surplus crops to feed the hungry.

Haldimand worked very hard with the town's BIA and Revitalization Groups to redesign the town gardens. The Oasis Bed located just over the town bridge, complete with multiple walkways, four trees, hundreds of perennials and annuals,

was a huge project. The Society was involved with the Home & Garden Show in March, Plant Sale at the local high school, and a Flower Show at a local Seniors' Retirement Home. Members are busy planning and organizing the District's 2013 Spring Workshop & Flower Show (AGM).

Lynden went through a year of transition with the incoming President having lots to learn. A well balanced program of interesting speakers and tours of nearby small agribusiness operations was well received. The Society continued to sponsor prizes at the Rockton Fair in the school age group.

Milton & District expanded the Japanese-themed garden on the south side of the Milton Hospital Emergency Department entrance. Two existing trees were implemented into the design and spring bulbs and plants for all seasons were planted. The Society purchased and installed a wheelchair accessible raised bed for the residents of Deborah's Home. Maintenance at the Allendale facilities, the Town Hall rose garden and the new garden at the Centre for the Arts continued. The year included a successful plant sale, flower shows, workshops, a Pot Luck & Awards Night Dinner and everyone loved the Jams, Jellies & Preserves Sale which raised \$173.00!

Mount Hamilton enjoyed many activities including book sales, a seed exchange, indoor tropical plants, pansy and geranium sales, a big plant sale as well as a number of flower shows and competitions. A Strawberry Social, Annual Dinner and a special garden tour to celebrate their 85th Anniversary were well received. Members were involved in many outreach activities: garden maintenance of Jason's House, a March of Dimes home, delivery of polka dot plants to residents of Macassa Lodge, magazines to local libraries, bursaries to Mohawk College, and they contributed "Growing Green" articles to the Mountain News newspaper. A number of workshops were conducted at the Harvest Festival in September.

Oakville participated in Family Day Fun with Flowers, the OHA Annual Convention, District meetings, the Ontario Garden Show, Successful Gardening, Canada Blooms, Garden Expo and the Gage Park Chrysanthemum Show. Members prepared/presented addresses to dissuade the Town from closing its Municipal Greenhouse. Their Junior Garden Program raised a variety of vegetables and flowers in their garden plots located behind the Municipal Greenhouse. Members enjoyed excellent monthly speakers, informational newsletters and a great website. The Society celebrated the opening of the Anderson Bridge Parkette which won the Oakville Horticultural Society the 2012 OHA Community Improvement Award presented at the OHA Convention.

Paris continued its public planting programs at Cenotaph Park, Garden of Hope and Grand River Dam gardens. In addition to the maintenance of the Paris Fairgrounds gardens, the Society completed the initial plantings of the Society's landscape project slated for completion over several years. Financial support was provided to the Keg Lane School Fair and to the Paris Agricultural Fall Fair. Monthly meetings featured a wide range of horticultural speakers, competitions, a lending library, draws and socials. Their "Spring Time in Paris" Garden Tour, Annual Plant Sale and Auction and Adopt-A-Road programs were all successful.

Port Dover & Woodhouse looked after maintenance and planting of sixteen community gardens. In partnership with the other Norfolk County Societies, members participated in a bus trip to Canada Blooms, a bus trip to the Royal Winter Fair and helped with a BBQ to raise funds for a joint meeting. Over twenty gardens were judged at their society's annual garden competition. To celebrate their 50th Anniversary an afternoon tea was held. Their booth that was entered at the Norfolk County Fair won 1st prize! The highlight of their year was hosting the District 6 Annual Dinner with 252 tickets being sold.

Simcoe & District partnered with Eisings Greenhouses to host a booth at an annual Wildlife Show in March. Over 1000 children potted and took home three plants to nurture. Each child was given a gift certificate from Eisings Greenhouses who donated all of the materials. A large turnout of members toured Whistling Gardens and had a successful Flower Show. Simcoe's large junior membership of 16 tended their community gardens under the leadership of Simcoe's Past President.

St. George enjoyed presentations by speakers on a variety of topics ranging from Natural Lawn Care to a personal chef who served up ideas on using local produce. The club maintained several community plantings and held a successful plant sale in May partnering up with the Master Gardeners to provide advice. Their Adopt a Road volunteers collected 30 bags of garbage from their clean-up of St. George area roads.

Stoney Creek had great success with four seasonal flower shows, maintenance of the Legion Garden and new plans for developing the garden at Saltfleet Library as well as a community plant sale in May. An annual scholarship of \$350.00 was awarded to a deserving student at the Saltfleet District High School.

Waterford & District celebrated their 55th Anniversary this year. Members built a new pergola in the downtown core for shoppers and visitors to enjoy. Despite spring frosts and summer drought, a wonderful Annual Flower & Vegetable Show was held in July with record high entries! Due to the generosity of their members, the annual May Plant Sale was successful with buyers coming from all over Norfolk County. Members enjoyed interesting guest speakers throughout the year.

Winona was very successful with fundraising and promotion at the Winona Peach Festival; maintenance of the public gardens; "Winhort" was represented at OHA events and the Mum Show. Guest speakers gave informative presentations on topics ranging from Japanese gardens to maintaining the Bruce Trail. Members enjoyed an interesting, fun-filled tour at Puddicombe Estate Farms and Winery. The Society supported local schools with five bursaries.



District 6's Diamond Jubilee Oak was planted at the Royal Botanical Gardens in Burlington. Located next to the main entrance, the oak has a place of prominence that ensures that it will be seen by all who visit the Gardens for many years to come.

DISTRICT 7

DUFFERIN, WELLINGTON COUNTIES

District Director - Dorelene Anderson

14 Societies



The past few years have been interesting and rewarding for me as I enter my last term as District Director. The members of my board have been supportive and I feel as if I have gained so much from them. Our incoming Director has already started serving the OHA, taking on the job of youth leader. We accomplished a lot in 2012 with excellent speakers and good attendance at our District meetings with good press coverage for our endeavors. Our most outstanding speaker was OHA 1st Vice President, James Graham. Not only did he do an excellent job of speaking about membership, he filled in for nearly an hour when our other speaker was late, keeping the members entertained while delivering an excellent presentation. Good job, James.

Arthur and District reported that they enjoyed speaker Rob Johnson from Green Legacy. A unique presentation was a Virtual Garden Tour where photographs were taken of three different gardens at different times of the year, spring to fall. The owners were at the meeting and described each garden. The Youth Group was very active and held a Scavenger Hunt/Weed Event to welcome a new business into town by weeding around their property.

Clifford and District held a spring and summer Flower Show for both adults and youth. They maintained ten public flowerbeds and ten planters in town, using more perennials instead of annuals to cut down the cost. Their youth participated in the Plant a Row, Grow a Row program to help the Food Bank. Members took part in a local golf tournament by collecting raffle prizes and working for a day at the tournament. They received \$3000 for their efforts and were able to buy six new planter boxes for the main street of Clifford.

Elora and Salem held a Garden Conference on February 5th, a great success, with speakers Lisa Hunter on Art in the Garden and Chris Gihuly from Lee Valley on Seed Starting Tools. In addition, there were six interesting programs during the year. As their Diamond Jubilee Tree Project, the Society donated a large maple tree to a public school in the area, and also planted sixty trees in the local cemetery. Members planted and maintained ten flowerbeds and gave financial support to the planting of a new corner park where formerly there was a gas station. They call it Corner Grass! At their May plant sale they sold manure as a fundraiser. There was a tour of Avalon Gardens, and also their Peony Project where nine front gardens in Elora and Salem were recognized for their attractiveness and interest to those passing by. The Society had a float in the Canada Day Parade where members gave out packets of flower seeds.

Erin had very interesting speakers, two wonderful flower shows, their plant sale went over very well, and their garden tours were well attended with excellent gardens on display. The bus tour was an experience to remember as the bus got stuck - it took three hours to get it moving again. The downtown parkette couldn't have looked nicer, but there is still more planting to do in the future and more lawn is needed.

Fergus and District played a vital role in the maintaining of the flower displays in town, held three flower and vegetable shows with good involvement, and had interesting speakers at their monthly meetings. They continued to support CWDH and the James McQueen Public School where the assembly there made members realize how much the students looked forward to this event. The Society presented 10 year pins at the AGM and continued giving poinsettias to life members and community supporters. In the summer months they held coffee mornings, one in July in BT Corner Park and again in August at Temple Gardens, all at 10 o'clock.

Grand Valley and District were proud to have Open Garden Day 2012 featuring artists of Grand Valley. Six lovely gardens were showcased with the artists displaying and selling their creations. The Society held a silent auction and a plant sale as fundraisers. In June they visited Wild Things Plant Farm near Mount Forest, Carrick

Vineyards in Walkerton, and Yesterdays Garden Centre in Hanover. Speaker topics included Landscape Design, Water Features in the Garden, New Trends in Garden Design, Perennial Favourites, and Photography in Your Garden.

Guelph provided a series of educational lectures and basic gardening demonstrations. They had four mini flower shows and an annual flower show “Summer Pleasures”. Members participated in a bus trip to Canada Blooms and the National Home Show; a fund raiser Garden Tour and Garden Showcase; and a plant sale. The Society maintained four civic gardens and gave support to Guelph University Arboretum, Guelph Enabling Garden, and St Joseph’s Horticultural Therapy Program.

Guelph Township enjoyed a variety of speakers such as Sharon Steward - the Julien Project at the Ignatius Jesuit Centre, Chris Earley - Dragonflies and Damselflies; Larry Halyk - Marden Creek Restoration, especially brook trout; and Gwynedd Brunret - Gardening in Small Spaces. Two members provided a demonstration on preparation for showing in competitions. The Society continued with the planting and maintenance of the Marie Brennan Enabling Garden, and worked with their youth.

Harriston and District sponsored a Greenway Trails committee who looked after the trails, and their tree committee worked on identifying unique trees, their size and location. The Society contributed to the establishment of a new park in town and helped the municipality save \$25,000.00 when one of their member horticulturists realized mistakes had been made by the consultant/design architects and offered a Hort Society version. Various members have adopted-a-bed throughout the town. The Society supplied envelopes of seeds with each paid membership.

Hillsburgh had their first full flower shows in many years including flowers, vegetables and photography. Other highlights were a plant sale, the planting of public areas and donations to community plantings and large hanging baskets, a bus trip to Casa Loma and its gardens, a plant and seed exchange, two workshops and five speakers.

Maryborough held meetings from February to November except July, with flower shows in May, June, September, and October. Members learned from speakers Clara Bauman, Dale and Linda Franklin, James Graham, Barry Hopkins, Joanna Baars, and Hanna Veld, and participated in several trips.

Mount Forest enjoyed outstanding presentations by Cliff Smith about photography, Patricia Black demonstrating container planting, Janice Schmidt on growing roses, and Donna Wilson showing holiday planters. A new project for the Society was the North Wellington Sports Complex.

Orangeville and District listened to interesting speakers on topics such as Building Dry Stone Walls, Dwarf Conifers, and Headwater Hospital Gardens. Members attended the Home & Garden Show to promote the Society. There was a plant sale in the spring and although there was no meeting in the summer, the Garden Angels worked on eight gardens in the Town of Orangeville. Members also took two bus trips, one traveling to local gardens and one to Whispering Gardens in Brantford. Many plants were bought. There was also a garden show in September.

Shelburne and District celebrated their 50th Anniversary. In May they held a special Anniversary lunch with Wayne Townsend from the Dufferin County Museum and Kiei Inki who spoke on Trumpeter Swans in Ontario. The Society purchased and planted twelve native maple trees in the K Park in Shelburne. Membership was up this year but entries in flower shows were down. The Society sadly lost one of their more active members, Alice May Laver, to cancer.

District 7 planted a bur oak in honour of the Diamond Jubilee at the Moorefield Terrace Seniors' Home in the Village of Moorefield. Maryborough was the lucky Society to have this honour.



DISTRICT 8

BRUCE, GREY, HURON COUNTIES

District Director - Sharon Nivins

18 Societies



Auburn had a very successful year, with all of their meetings being well attended, spectacular plant sale proceeds of over\$ 900.00, and a membership increase of eight new members. They continued to get calls to present to other societies on their Land Stewardship project, two of their members being group facilitators.

Brussels had fun at two fundraising auctions, one for plants in the spring and one for Christmas gifts at their Christmas meeting. They maintained town flower beds and their Butterfly Garden at the Conservation area. Members helped plant a memorial tree by arranging the hole-digging as well as the planting. They entered the Communitree county wide competition, decorating a large spruce tree with garden artifacts which had been painted in pastel colours - and won \$100.00. They also purchased a large display banner which can be used during parades or as a backdrop at shows.

Chesley had a very busy year. Members attended the spring District 8 meeting in Hanover, had a very successful flower show, plant sales in May and September, went to Canada Blooms and enjoyed three garden tours. Their final project was assisting at the Chesley Opry from which they received part of the proceeds.

Clinton learned from their speakers including native trees and shrubs, the care of orchids, birds in the area, and the amazing Sea Buckthorn plant. Other events were the annual plant auction, a booth at the Clinton Spring Fair, a tour of six gardens, and the Flower Show with 147 entries and a fun Toonie Cafe. They continued to maintain the flower beds at Sloman Park.

Durham planted perennials and more annuals in various gardens as well as plants around the Town of Durham, including five parks and the bridge baskets on the main streets in Durham. They had a Plants & Herb Sale and a Flower Show along with a Salad Luncheon. Members participated in Durham's Annual Fall Fair, won 2nd prize for their float and 3rd for their group display. They came 4th for their float in the Durham Santa Claus Parade.

Goderich had sixty-eight members with twelve members joining for the first time, some of whom represented the Society at all District 8 meetings, the District Annual Meeting, and the OHA Convention. The Society encouraged the planting of trees, shrubs and flowers in five public gardens and on private grounds by providing a plant auction and plant exchange. Special events included a Display at the Arts and Crafts Festival, Summer Garden Tour, Summer Pot Luck Picnic, and Christmas Party. Their on-going special project at the Maitland Cemetery is in cooperation with the Town of Goderich as well as many other corporate and private donors. The Society wishes to express sincere gratitude to the many Horticulture Societies, Gardening Clubs, Districts and individuals who donated to the Goderich disaster relief for trees and plants.

Hanover marked their 50th Anniversary. The Society actually was formed in 1912 but had to disband and be reorganized in 1962. The District 8 Annual Meeting was hosted at St Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran Church where in addition to business and reports, a humorous "Flower Fashion Show" was presented, Charlie Dobbin was the featured speaker and a successful Silent Auction was held. There was a plant sale under rainy skies, a Flower Show "Celebrating Summer" at Grace United Church, and the Annual Craft Show in November featuring 34 crafters, a Toonie table, a raffle, and lunch booth. Other highlights included a trek on the Bruce trail, a group picnic, and the year-end Christmas banquet.

Hensall held nine regular meetings and tried to feature one of the local greenhouses/nurseries that give discounts at their meetings. Members carpooled to different locations to take part in garden tours or plant flower containers that would be delivered to their homes. At the Christmas meeting they enjoyed a demonstration by the Bayfield Agricultural Society who on an annual basis make 250+ natural wreaths and swags and sell them as a fundraiser for their society.

Kincardine enjoyed many highlights including informative guest speakers. The Society's Bring a Friend night was a great success and they plan to continue this event. The garden tour was another triumph with the gardens being in the neighboring community of Tiverton. The annual plant sale was well attended and was a good fundraiser for the Society. The season ended with a potluck dinner and show. The Society is striving to maintain their membership as well as get new members and increase the volunteers on committees.

Lucknow had a very productive year. Besides the 38 barrows that were planted and placed on Campbell Street, the gardens at the arena, the medical center, the raised bed at the north end of town, and the flowers on the bridge at the east end of town, they are working on designing a stone horseshoe in Waterworks Park's garden. The Society also supported the efforts of the H.A.W.K. theatre groups for funding an elevator in the Lucknow Town Hall, and worked toward having a washroom facility placed in Waterworks Park. They had a very successful Soup and Sandwich lunch, flower show, card party, very interesting meetings and a garden tour.

Markdale celebrated the milestone of its incorporation 100 years ago. Activities included: 2012 M&DHS calendars produced and sold as a fund raiser featuring the photography of members; a compilation of the Society's 100 years' history undertaken (and continuing) by a member; a Centennial Celebration Dinner held and attended by Society members, Sharon Nivins, District 8 Director, representatives from five other District 8 societies and the local community; and Carol Dunk, President, OHA, was welcomed to the June meeting, bringing greetings from the OHA. Members actively promoted the Society with town beautification, their annual Green Thumb Sale, Flower Show and Mystery Garden Tour, and participated with a float in the Santa Claus Parade.

Neustadt had several successful meetings, with guest speakers and garden tours enjoyed by the membership.

Ripley learned from speakers such as Lynne Taylor from Bruce Botanical Food and Gardens and Marlene Wynnyk, manager of the Healing Arc's Golden Orchard of Sea Buckthorn Products. Children painted pictures a la O'Keeffe. Members celebrated Earth Week, held a Yard Sale, a Flower Show, a Sale of Baking, and potted greenery with Jeff Davis of Davis Hill Nursery showing how to arrange pots of greens and making bows.

Seaforth raised \$253.45 at the local Ciderfest event and \$659.70 at their plant and bake sale. Annuals and perennials were planted and maintained in three town entrance gardens, the town hall, Library, Legion and Northside United Church gardens. Members won prizes at the Seaforth Fall Fair flower show. One highlight every year is the turkey dinner held in November which this time had the added feature of a photography contest, greatly enjoyed by participants and dinner guests. The Society began a project at the Seaforth Library--a patio seating area which will be finished in spring 2013.

Southport has lots of talent within the organization and utilized their members. A garden stone workshop was well received. Ursula Karalus worked in a member's garden, giving a hands-on demonstration of pruning showing that "You need to be ruthless". The garden tour will return in 2013 bigger and better.

Tara continued to use their very effective “Adopt A Garden” plan on village plantings. Twelve beds, eighteen hanging baskets, ten street boxes and ten bridge boxes are maintained each year. The annual plant sale was held as was the summer flower show for adults and youth. Each November an evening of information and a silent auction provides funds for their local Christmas Outreach.

Teeswater maintained the flowers at the post office and town hall but otherwise there was not much done in the community as the whole town was torn up putting in sewers, a project not to be completed until 2014. A donation was received from the Lions Club to plant trees to replace some that were cut down. The Society will be meeting with the town about the new planters that were installed and the new light posts with hangers on them.

Wingham worked on the rejuvenation of the Mary Lloyd Trail, the gardens in Cruickshank Park and tended the beds where the Welcome to Wingham signs are located. Highlights were the Best Kept Garden competition, a window showcase of seasonal themes at the former Vance’s Drug Store, the Alice Munro Garden being featured in the Rural Garden in Grey Bruce Counties Tour, the annual Bake Sale & Coffee Drop In at the Museum and the annual Tree Lighting in Cruickshank Park where Christmas Wrought Iron Decorations were set up. Memorial tree planting ceremonies for Ross Hamilton and Murray Gaunt took place in Cruickshank Park. The Society is busy with preparations to host the District Annual General Meeting on April 27, 2013.

*Goderich Horticultural Society
Past President Helen Sager and
District 8 Director Sharon Nivins
are shown with the Diamond
Jubilee bur oak planted in Bingham
Park in Goderich.*



DISTRICT 9

HALDIMAND, NIAGARA NORTH,
NIAGARA SOUTH

District Director - Susan Lusted

13 Societies



The highlight of 2012 for District 9 had to be hosting the OHA Convention, an event that was the culmination of four years planning. Over 450 delegates arrived and sampled some of the horticultural delights of our District. We hope delegates left understanding how important the horticulture industry is to our local economy since our produce and products are shipped throughout Canada and the USA. District 9 knows how to work together - 135 volunteers offered to don the green shirt. Hard work, countless hours, new friendships - priceless!

In 2012 our societies still managed to work in their respective communities and much was accomplished.

Dunnville partnered with the students at the local high school to restore the floral clock to working order.

Fort Erie laboured on the gardens at Waverly Beach and the Douglas Seniors' Centre.

Grimsby planted the downtown hanging baskets, and saw their membership grow by 18%.

Lincoln planted the 1812 roses at the Beamsville cenotaph and over 1000 daffodils at various locations in Lincoln.

Niagara Falls had a huge volunteer presence at the convention and won many awards in various competitions.

Niagara-on-the-Lake continued to beautify Niagara-on-the-Lake with their plantings, making floral decorations which were delivered to members who are now in nursing homes. They furthered horticulture by encouraging their members and partnering with St. Catharines Horticulture Society to attend such events as Canada Blooms.

Pelham found time to plant new gardens at the Pelham Public Library and the Maple Acres Library Garden.

Port Colborne worked with students from Lakeshore Secondary School, building and planting containers. The Society was the recipient of the bur oak which was planted in the historic Doan Cemetery to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee.

Ridgeway continued to support the plantings at the local high school, held plant sales, hosted design courses and conducted flower shows.

Smithville hosted a garden tour, a flower show at the local fair and assisted youth in planting containers with plants which were grown from seed.

St. Catharines promoted their society at the Niagara College Spring Showcase. Over 30 members volunteered at the annual OHA convention.

Thorold planted a tree to commemorate the War of 1812, and still found time to organize and run the volunteer room at our convention.

Welland hosted a plant sale and the proceeds went towards the purchase of a bench. Members were involved in the convention.

District 9 donated \$1,000 to the Niagara Region Science Fair. A day was spent judging and five students received awards. The District also gave out over eighty 25-year Membership pins. Over 1,500 1812 Rose bushes were sold, the original idea coming from past District Director Marvin Myhre.

2012 was a very good year for District 9 and its member societies who can be pleased with what was accomplished. We truly did “Keep Ontario Beautiful”.



District 9's bur oak tree was planted in the Doan's Cemetery in Port Colborne, an official United Empire Loyalist graveyard and also a designated heritage site. Aaron Doan, the settler who is buried there, was a United Empire Loyalist who also fought in the War of 1812. His great great great granddaughter, Janet Hodgkins, is the woman in the blue dress and she unveiled the plaque. The other people in 1812 dress are members of the United Empire Loyalist Association Colonel John Butler (Niagara) Branch. Also present, were the Deputy Mayor of Port Colborne, Councillor Barbara Butters, and Geoff Baudwin of the Port Colborne Museum who gave a few words. Along with the historians, were members of the Port Colborne Horticultural Society and eight members of the Doan family.

DISTRICT 10

ELGIN, MIDDLESEX, OXFORD, PERTH

District Director - Roland Craig

24 Societies



District 10 had a very good year. Memberships and volunteer hours were up overall although some Societies still struggled with finding people to serve as presidents and vice presidents. The Goderich tornado brought out wonderful support throughout the District, and surrounding Districts' gardeners helping gardeners was very heart warming. It's wonderful how Societies are taking on many new garden projects such as Veterans Memorial in Thorndale and the downtown London Market by London Fanshawe. There were many successful plant sales and bus trips and a number of anniversaries, London Hort's 160th being a highlight. Well done, London.

Aylmer & District had a successful year and maintained a membership close to 100. Conducting a Community Outreach and Membership Drive at local garden centres in early May brought in over 25% new members. The Plant Auction was the best ever. The Society revived a Garden Tour program marrying with Heritage Homes and Gardens in support of the town's 125th anniversary, and they installed three garden displays in the town.

Belmont & Area enjoyed a wonderful tour at "Shades of Green" who specialize in hostas and daylilies, a highlight of the year. The Veterans Memorial Garden was trimmed with brick and new red tulips were planted. Annuals were added for summer colour at the Ron Lake Parkette, some bushes suffering from drought were replaced, and new gardens were planted at the village Post Office. The Strawberry Fundraiser was again a huge success. The Society enjoyed a selection of good speakers throughout the year.

Dorchester completed their regular plantings with an increase in the number of plants used, and six large pots were decorated seasonally in the village. A car trip to Guelph Arboretum and the RBG was enjoyed by members. The Society gave a \$250 bursary to a local high school student who is going on to study the environment.

Dutton-Dunwich had a very busy year, highlighted by hosting the District AGM. There were around 200 delegates attending and all enjoyed the day. 2012 was also the Society's 15th anniversary.

Glencoe held a well-attended plant sale, their main fundraiser, and had a booth at the local fair canvassing for new and old members. A highlight was a hands-on night constructing a miniature Hanging Wall Garden.

Grand Bend planted and maintained sixteen gardens helping Lambton Shores win the Communities in Bloom National Award. The Society completed a project of eradicating the invasive Phragmites in twelve different locations in the area, with help from local people licensed to treat this difficult common reed.

Ingersoll & District held a plant sale in the barn of the Ingersoll Cheese and Agricultural Museum. This location brought a lot of new people to their sale, and being able to partake of Back Bacon on a Bun proved to be very popular. Members participated in a road trip to a number of greenhouses with a lovely lunch as well as an Ornament Supplies Store.

Kirkton had a busy year with a bus trip, two workshops, three youth events, three flower shows, and five members attending the District AGM. The Society made two donations, planted the KWCC bed, decorated the Kirkton Fair Stage, and gave five potted amaryllis bulbs to local nursing homes. They also held a floral design activity at the Wildwood Care Centre for residents.

Lambeth enjoyed a flower arranging workshop which was well attended. Their annual Rose and Flower Show was again a success. Funds were raised from a plant sale, silent auction, two bus trips and a 50/50 draw at their general meetings.

Listowel & District celebrated their 20th anniversary with many guests, including featured speaker Paul Zammit. They also had great presentations inspiring the audience throughout the year, including Robert Trout on Bonsai Trees and Cathy Swain from Van Noort Bulbs. Members enjoyed a visit to view robotic milkers in action. Wow, farming has really changed.

London was in another new location and at their general meetings hosted speakers from the London Orchid Society, Canadales Nursery, Ontario Growers Supplies, Master Gardeners, Parkway Gardens, and Deb Benner on herbs. The membership once again assisted the OHA with a booth at the Western Fair Farm Show and held a flower show at the Home and Garden Show. They planted two trees at the Cancer Survivors Garden and two more at White Oaks Community Church. The celebration of their 160th Anniversary with past and present directors and dignitaries on hand, and many archives on display, was well attended and enjoyed. The Society judged the Sifton Properties Annual Garden Competition with a BBQ following, and did some more guerrilla gardening in Old South, planting 350 bulbs.

London Fanshawe met in a new larger location to accommodate their growing membership. Community beautification included sixteen large planters at Covent Garden Market and outreach continued at the McCormack Home and Alzheimers Daycare. They expanded their commitment at the Salvation Army Village garden by constructing a pergola. There were two very well attended bus trips, and a Garden Walk completed the year.

Parkhill Area completed the Royal Oak carving and planted a new Red Oak in Coronation Park to honour Queen Elizabeth's Diamond Jubilee.

Port Burwell-Bayham 2012 was a year of staying the course with eight speakers, three summer garden tours and refurbished public plantings which included moving a large concrete planter for better floral showing and maintenance.

Rodney& District participated with West Lorne and Dutton at the Gem Showcase Expo. They visited Empire Valley Farms to view the organic growing of tomatoes and members planted and took home their own hanging baskets. Rodney took part in the local fair and parade where their float won a prize. They assisted Dutton with the AGM and are partnering with them and West Lorne pooling finances to attract better speakers at general meetings.

St. Marys made a donation to Goderich towards replanting trees destroyed in the tornado, and also donated a bench to Rotary Park. Fundraising consisted of a bake sale, Garden Fair, garden tour, two plant auctions and a yard sale. Members planted seven gardens and did winter decorating at the Legion, Hospital and Museum. There were three workshops, four flower shows, five general meetings with speakers, youth classes in two schools, 174 entries at the Convention and 63 youth entries at the CNE. Wow, what a year.

St. Thomas took part in activities such as a bus trip to Canada Blooms, London Master Gardeners Seedy Saturday, Canadales Spring Festival and Kids Club. Members participated in the spring clean-up at the Kiwanis Gardens and Adopt A Highway. The Society held a successful Rose and Flower Show which had three youth classes and 75 entries. Funds were raised with a plant sale, and a pledge of \$2500 was made towards Railway Bridge where there are plans to have an elevated garden.

Stratford held a Flower Show and Tea Room and camera club exhibit that proved successful, and a five-week design course was also well supported. Landscaping of a reproduction pergola along Lake Victoria was redone and urns at the Library and the Centre Garden were maintained. The Society had a booth with a knockout display at Stratford Festival which is always well attended.

Strathroy-Caradoc participated in A Day for the Arts and had 225 people drop ballots at the Society's booth. Good speakers, an outing to DeGroots Nursery of Sarnia with lots of shopping, another excellent garden tour, and a summer social night with a Crazy Shoes Contest were enjoyed by all. A Christmas Pot Luck finished the year.

Tavistock had excellent attendance at meetings with outstanding speakers such as James Graham, John Drummond and Roland Craig. Funds were raised from the Community Plant and Bake Sale which helped to maintain their community gardens. The Society has no president; however, volunteer members did a great job of organizing events.

Thorndale had a successful year with their annual plant sale and Green Thumb Celebration. They continued to add bulbs to public gardens and promoted the Society with Information Booths at Heemans Nursery, Parent Teacher Night at a local school and London Master Gardeners Seedy Saturday. The Society supported youth activities, Girl Guides, and the local Bug Club.

Tillsonburg had eight beautification projects. An excellent speaker program kept a steady attendance at general meetings. The annual Garden Auction was a great fund raiser. Members enjoyed two bus tours, and a photo contest and flower show were held. The Junior membership was up slightly with each one planting, growing and eating cherry tomatoes. A BBQ at Whistling Gardens with a musical fountain display was a highlight and the Society finished the year with a Christmas Pot Luck.

West Lorne & Community assisted Dutton with the District AGM which was very well attended. To offset speaker costs, their own members researched and presented programs and workshops at general meetings which proved to be very cost effective. They partnered with Rodney to bring Denis Fallat of Van Noort Bulbs to a joint meeting. The annual Plant and Bake Sale to raise funds was organized and tools were purchased for hort classes at the local high school. There was a bus trip to the Stratford Festival.

Woodstock had Master Gardeners available to offer advice at meetings, held a flower show and enjoyed a variety of speakers. Funds came from a successful auction. The Juniors met in the school greenhouse and learned how to plant seeds and take cuttings. The Society participated in the Woodstock Home and Garden Show, the Recreation and Leisure Show and Active Living Fair. Members helped in planting the flower beds downtown and at the Fair Grounds, the VON, and donated plants to Habitat for Humanity

Parkhill's Coronation Park was the location chosen for District 10's Diamond Jubilee Oak. The park was also the home of an oak that grew from a 1937 Royal acorn and in 2011 was carved with a tribute to the wedding of the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall. Shown here is Parkhill Horticultural Society President, Marion Robinson.



DISTRICT 11

ESSEX, KENT, LAMBTON COUNTIES

District Director - Jennifer Plaus

14 Societies



Ambassador donated \$2,000 to the Town of LaSalle for a planter along Front Road, supported three schools by giving them \$300.00 each for horticulture projects, and gave out 16 Trillium Awards to homes with beautiful front yards. They had a potting table made and gave it to Chartwell Oak Park LaSalle, a senior's residence, and donated and delivered 114 plants to seniors. The Society had a successful plant sale in May and ran the first Garden Tour in LaSalle.

Amherstburg Fort Malden enjoyed several meeting topics such as Organic Gardening, Orchid care, Dahlia gardening and Dried Flowers & Making Cards, held an annual plant sale and a Rose show. The year's highlighted event was the 27th annual two-day Garden Tour and Fair which included gardens at homes on Boblo Island, coordinated with the Town of Amherstburg's celebration of the 200th anniversary of the War of 1812. At the October meeting, ten Trillium Awards were presented to local homeowners, and an interactive demonstration creating holiday winter planters took place. In October, there was also the annual Decking the Planters in the town for the holidays. The Society made financial donations to the town's 'Hanging Basket & Planter' program, the new Fort Covington Garden, the A.M.A. Sportsmen's Association Garden and a local church garden, and members worked on several community gardens. The year ended with a Christmas Potluck Dinner.

Belle River & District Interesting speakers and events brought an average of ninety members to meetings. The society was awarded the bur oak commemorating the 60th anniversary of Queen Elizabeth II. Instead of a memorial tree, they placed a seasonal planter and an inscribed rock near the gazebo in Lakeshore Park. A Pasta Dinner and Chinese Auction and Plant Market were successful fund raisers. Members enjoyed the annual bus trip, June BBQ and Christmas Party.

Blenheim-Harwich has a new website and BHHS has a page/portal. They presented a bursary to a Blenheim high school graduate, ran their "Container Garden" contest at Cherryfest where ribbons and small cash prizes were awarded, and sold rain barrels recycled from food containers. The Society sent a delegate to the OHA convention in Niagara and the District 11 spring meeting in Windsor, and three directors attended the District 11 fall meeting in Kingsville. Popular seminars were "water features", "therapeutic gardening", "new greenhouse introductions", "landscaping front yards", "herbs for home use and decoration", and "fall to winter outdoor arrangements." There was a field trip, a garden tour and tea in Tilbury, and at the annual pot luck dinner members and guests enjoyed a power-point "garden tour".

Brigden No report

Essex & District enjoyed eight dynamic speakers at their general meetings, a successful Plant and Bake Sale in May at the Essex Railroad Station at their annual Garden Delights Day, a bus trip co-ordinated by Sandy Ellenor for June 16, the annual Flower Show July 14, and Members Garden Tour July 8. The Christmas Party on November 28, including a speaker and the annual election of officers, rounded out the year.

Greater Windsor hosted the District 11 AGM with 96 delegates. They donated over \$75 worth of perennials to Ashgrove Manor Senior's Complex to help complete their community garden, and supported Jeannie Thomas in her "Plant-a-Row" initiative. They participated in the building of the LaSalle Community Garden with Ambassador HS and the Open Bible Fellowship, where the GWHS emblem is proudly displayed on the garden's sign. The Society partnered with the City of Windsor Housing and the Senior Campbell Ave Seniors Complex distributing both vegetable & flower seedlings. A Red Dawn tree was planted on the riverfront celebrating their 60th year Anniversary as a Society. They helped create the Centre for Senior's Front Memorial Garden and also helped restore the Food Matter's vegetable bins at the back garden. The indoor plants at the Centre were all re-potted. The Society was part of the building of St. John's Anglican Church's War of 1812 Memorial Garden and were consulted to help the DWCC "Downtown Windsor Community Collaborative" with their community garden at Bruce Park.

Kingsville learned from speakers about Unique Flora & Fauna in South Africa, Restoring the Carolinian Habitat of Point Pelee, the Chelsea Flower Show, and Poisonous Plants. Members designed and built a display at the Migration Festival, planted and maintained eleven planters and sixteen flower beds around town and planted and dedicated a tree in honour of a member who had passed away. They had two plant sales and a flower show and garden tour together, enjoyed two Pot Luck Suppers and went on two Wildflower walks. Four members attended the OHA Convention. The Society manned the Tourist Booth for the B.I.A., had booths at the Holistic Fair and The Older Adult Expo and helped with an 1812 Peace Garden at the Carnegie Arts and Community Centre. They held an open house for Life Member Jennie McLean for her 95th birthday, and hosted the District 11 Fall Advisory Meeting with an 1812 Theme.

Leamington planted and maintained ninety pots and nine flower beds, planted eleven trees, maintained Garrison Garden with the labyrinth and Mersea Park. They participated in the Leamington Home & Garden Show where they promoted the Society, had a small flower show and sold tickets for their annual raffle. They applied for a \$23,000 grant for a Water Garden in Seacliff Park in co-operation with the town and ERCA. A plaque was installed to memorialize the donations for trees from other horticultural societies after the tornado. Members have taken over a 10 year old "Replanting our Streets" project. Leamington is the only town where individual citizens have started planting memorial trees on town property with the cooperation of the town. Excellent speakers were Clement Kent Ph.D on "Pollinators in the Garden" and Dan Bissonnette on the Pawpaw Tree Project.

Ridgetown & District built a new stone wall at the Ridgetown Public swimming pool and the whole garden was re-landscaped. New trees were planted at the Ridgetown Medical Centre, a garden at Mickle Park was completely redone and planted with perennials, shrubs and rose bushes, three new trees were planted at the north end of Mickle Park, a garden on Richard St. was tidied and re-mulched, and the garden in front of Penny's Restaurant on Main St. was tidied and an old tree removed. The Society maintained various gardens throughout Ridgetown, including numerous planters and hanging baskets, and tended gardens at Village Retirement Home. They held Spring and Fall Plant Sales and sold plants at the Saturday Farmers' Market in Ridgetown from May to September.

Sarnia & District had meetings with educational speakers, held four member garden tours during the summer months as well as a park social in May. Members joined with Communities in Bloom and won Five Blooms for Sarnia. They had a successful Plant Sale, maintained the College Street Park, working each week with two general clean-ups in spring and fall. The Society gave trees to the school board and donated to Goderich to help replace trees lost in the 2011 tornado. For the first time they had a booth at Hobbyfest which was very successful. Members attended regional District 11 meetings, won the Lambton County Rural Organization of the Year and gave to the One Tomato Project and the Inn of the Good Shepherd.

Thamesville planted flower beds, and maintained. They hung baskets in town, and maintained. They put up fall and Christmas decorations on Main Street. They planned for raised planters on the east end of London Rd to fill with War of 1812 roses to prepare for upcoming celebrations in October 2013.

Tilbury and District held eight monthly meetings with great speakers, had a successful plant sale and Flower and Vegetable Show. The Society handed out ten \$30.00 vouchers to churches, schools and parks. Six members attended the OHA Convention in Niagara Falls, two members completed the Judging Course, two members attended a "Pawpaw Tree" workshop and two Pawpaws were planted in Northside Park. Several people went to Niagara Falls for a garden tour and orchid show, and participated in the Tilbury Fun Fest Parade as the "HAPPY HOE-ERS". The Society was instrumental in providing input and labour to develop period landscape for the historic Lanoue House, organized the Annual Memorial Tree planting in Tilbury Northside Park, and wound up their busy year with a November Potluck.

Watford/Warwick held a pot luck dinner for all volunteers, enjoyed a field trip to Canada Blooms, weeded and mulched the Sunken Gardens and Memorial Park, weeded the Rock Garden and around the wagon, and planted the uptown planters. Their youth gardeners met, dug and potted plants. The Society canvassed for memberships, held a perennial sale, selected Gardens of the Week, learned from a Barbed Wire Flower Workshop, and decorated for Cornfest. Members attended the Niagara Falls Convention and the District 11 Advisory Meeting. They planted daffodils at Memorial Park, prepared pots and greenery for planters and decorated the planters for Christmas/winter, held a Snowman Workshop and the Annual Meeting, worked on a float for the Santa Claus parade, and decorated their building for Moonlight Madness.



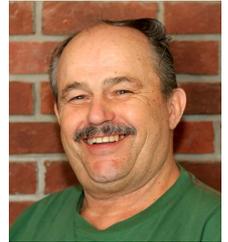
The District 11 bur oak was planted in Belle River's Lakeside Park with their once-a-year memorial trees. Pictured above is District 11 Director Jennifer Plaus, along with the Belle River Horticultural Society Executive.

DISTRICT 12

**COCHRANE, TIMISKAMING,
NORTH NIPISSING**

District Director - Kees Stryland

7 Societies



District 12 in Northeastern Ontario is comprised of seven societies. The District covers a large area from Kapuskasing in the north to Englehart in the south. The area includes large forests, agricultural land, many lakes, cities and municipalities.

Cochrane held its flower show on August 24 & 25 at the Fair Grounds. There were 92 entries by adults and 13 junior entries in the floral classes. There were more hot-weather vegetables such as squash and the quality of both flowers and vegetables was very good. Their outstanding event was a "Bluebird Box Workshop". Kits had been made up in advance and members put them together at the workshop. Prize money was paid to Junior Youth exhibits in the vegetable displays at the Fall Fair.

Englehart moved their show forward a week to allow members to attend the OHA Convention and the move was successful as the hot, dry weather brought plants to maturity earlier. Entries were the same or up in most sections with vegetable and fruit entries down in number. There were 22 adult exhibitors and 4 youth, with 526 entries in total. The tea garden was very successful. There was a visual display of pictures taken over the years which was presented on a computer. An outstanding fundraising event this year was the very successful Yard Sale. Another interesting event in which Society members participated was the banding of Boreal owls in the area.

Iroquois Falls participated in the 2012 Arbor Day and gave away 1,500 white spruce seedlings to people in the area. Members continued planting at local churches, the senior centre and manor, the local museum and a large flower pot in town. 2012 was the 100th anniversary of the town and the 95th anniversary of the Society. This past year was a busy one for members with planting workshops and flower arranging.

Kapuskasung had interesting topics at their meetings, including the “Re-Greening Kapuskasing Project” to plant trees within the community that replace the mature trees that have been removed over the years. They heard about the benefits of growing and eating “More Greens” for improved health. A local Forester spoke on the development of silviculture practices that have improved forest productivity and health over the past thirty years. At the Society’s AGM, a workshop on “Making a Cranberry Wreath” was just in time for Christmas preparations. This past summer, the most common gardening complaint in the community was that worms and caterpillars consumed most of the seedlings and ravaged mature plant growth.

Kirkland Lake held their flower show at the Legion Hall in August. Scrapbooking was introduced and was popular. They are considering changing the hours for next year’s show. Despite a reduction in the number of entries, overall it was a fun and positive event. One of their members, Shellie Kolomeitz, spoke of the importance of “tooting our own horns” to draw and retain members and mentioned that a display board could be made to attract members. This display board is portable and can be updated with new pictures etc. each year.

Porcupine hosted the District 12 AGM. No flower show was held this summer. Members volunteered their skills to plant perennials and roses at the newly developed Bannerman Park which has proven to be very popular as a setting for graduations, wedding pictures and picnics. The Society also planted at the Lions Park in South Porcupine and the Anglican Church.

Timmins incorporated the city’s colours into its annual flower show as the community celebrated its 100th anniversary. Centrepieces in blue and gold and baskets of fresh vegetables were raffled off after the show. One of the city councillors opened the show and brought wishes from the city. A 100th anniversary cake was cut and shared with those attending the event, and there were more visitors than last year. Nineteen exhibitors entered over 200 exhibits with photography being very popular. Ten youth members competed in the Flower Show. The children grew

their own raised-bed gardens within the Community Gardens under the guidance of the Youth Leader and entered their vegetables and flowers. A special category this year included floral arrangements commemorating the 100th anniversary. In the spring, a Seeds of Diversity event was held in conjunction with the Anti-Hunger Coalition and Community Gardens. Suzanne Hanna, District 13 Director, was in attendance at the event and spoke on the importance of heritage seeds and growing potatoes. 1,000 annuals were planted in a new community circular bed at the Lions Club McIntyre Park in Schumacher. Another garden maintained by the Society is at Gillies Lake, where perennials continue to be planted.

Members of the Porcupine Horticultural Society gather to plant the District 12 Diamond Jubilee Oak at St. Paul's Church, in South Porcupine.



DISTRICT 13

ALGOMA, MANITOULIN, SUDBURY
District Director - Suzanne Hanna
14 Societies



District 13 encompasses three distinct areas: Algoma Region in the west, Sudbury Region in the east and Manitoulin Island and is comprised of 14 societies.

Assiginack's dedicated members devised a plan to improve the curb appeal of the homes and businesses of their township by introducing their new Assiginack Blooms Contest which saw 62 entrants involved in its initial year.

Blind River continued to work with community and corporate sponsors to maintain numerous community planters and park gardens. They organized an educational seminar at a local garden centre and a raffle to raise funds. Blind River continues to serve as the location for our District 13 Advisory meetings held in March and October.

Bruce Station was the recipient of the bur oak awarded to District 13 by the OHA in commemoration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. A sod turning ceremony was held in the fall of 2012 at Lookout Park in Bruce Mines. They held a Kool Kids Camp at the Library during the month of July.

Campbell's membership planted and maintained flower beds and planters in four communities located on Manitoulin Island. Their Rainbow Youth Group held a workshop on the War of 1812 and planted pumpkins and sunflowers with the 4H Club. Youth leader, Bev Webster, retired after 12 years of service and the club disbanded and joined the local 4H Club in September.

Elliot Lake experienced a lot of change in their community as a result of the partial collapse of the Algo Mall roof on June 23. Despite this tragedy, the Society took on a new project—the planting of the Atrium that was housed at the White Mountain Academy. Their flower show was relocated and downsized and held in late September for benefit of their members only.

Espanola received OHA Special Project funding for their Triangle Park Project to assist with the planting of the large trees and sourced additional funds from elsewhere to begin work on Phase 2 (gazebo & walkways). The proposed Community Garden Committee and town officials have come to agreement regarding the location of the garden. Planning for their biennial garden tour which will take place in July 2013 will feature 14 gardens and artisans/artist displays.

French River & District, our youngest Society, continued to grow and explore new opportunities. They hosted the District's 2012 AGM which was a huge success and they received an OHA Tree Grant which resulted in a tree being planted at the Cenotaph. They recognized four homes that displayed special curb appeal in their neighbourhoods and are planning a new park project in Noelville.

Lake George celebrated the Echo Bay School Reunion in July with a special planting of annuals that earned them many favourable compliments. Their Society continued to award two annual scholarships (1 male, 1 female) to students at a local high school.

Massey-Walford worked hard to maintain their Heritage and Hope Gardens. A white crab apple was planted at a local church in memory of a long time member who passed away.

Sault Ste. Marie received a 2012 OHA Tree Grant and purchased two apple trees for the Sault Area Hospital's Mental Health garden. Members and community volunteers gave the perennial garden at the Allard St. Community Garden a much needed facelift and organized an Open House in celebration of the garden's 10th anniversary.

Spanish enjoyed a July garden tour featuring five members' gardens which was followed by a potluck lunch. They received municipal and area support for their proposed "Three Phase Plan of Beautification" for their community. Spanish's three-day Halloween Haunted House fundraiser was again a resounding success with over 600 in attendance.

St. Joseph Island members planted and maintained the public gardens in the villages of Richards Landing and Hilton Beach and other locations on their beautiful island. Their Pumpkin Contest is very popular with the younger generation.

Sudbury, our largest society, was very active with their Ugliest Schoolyard Garden Contest. They organized an annual Gardening Festival and maintained gardens at John St. Park and the CNIB. A new project this year was the restoration of the existing Kirkwood Greenhouse at a local hospital site for therapeutic use. The membership donated ten new gardening books to the Sudbury Public Library as well.

Thessalon, one of our smallest societies in the District, grew its membership enough to capture the District's first annual Membership Award and celebrated this achievement by holding their AGM with their District Director in attendance at a local tavern!

After an official sod-turning on September 26, 2012, District 13's Diamond Jubilee oak was planted in May 2013 on land adjacent to the Bruce Mines Library. As well as District Director Suzanne Hanna, members of the Bruce Mines Society and a stand-in for the Queen were in attendance.



DISTRICT 14

KENORA, RAINY RIVER, THUNDER BAY

District Director - Shirley Robson

9 Societies



The District Societies are busy working together to create an excellent 107th OHA Convention being held July 19-21, 2013 in Thunder Bay. A dedication ceremony was held on September 26, planting a bur oak tree and a commemorative plaque for the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth on the grounds of the Thunder Bay Community Auditorium. A Floral Design Workshop conducted by Celia Roberts was held on October 12 and 13 at the Oliver Road Community Centre. All participants benefited from this workshop and now have some more insight into floral design.

Atikokan had a successful 2012 gardening year and held four workshops. Membership totaled 231 which included twelve new members who received two tulip bulbs for planting. Bedding plants were purchased for the gardens around town and thirty-two hanging baskets were the best showing the Society ever had. They celebrated the “Queen’s Jubilee” in conjunction with the Atikokan Museum with the planting of two apple trees, following which they all enjoyed tea and dainties at the Museum. Their fund raiser was a bake sale in September with proceeds going to the bursary fund for a graduating student in an Environmental program. Members also participated in the Christmas Parade with the theme of a “Disney Christmas”.

Dryden included floral design and pruning in their program and had a goal of increasing entries at the flower show. The plant sale was a success and allowed them to contribute to the beautification projects of the local churches. Deer continued to be a problem, especially for the Garden Tour and Showcase of Gardens, but members managed to deter the deer with the following repellent: 1 egg, half cup of milk, 1 TBSP cooking oil, 1 TBSP dish soap, mix in the blender and add 1 gallon water. Let the mixture sit outside until it becomes stinky and then spray on shrubs, plants - whatever the deer eat. Reapply after rain. It works! The Society rounded out the year with two craft sessions: wreaths using dried garden materials in October, and in November centrepieces for their Christmas potluck. Community activities were enjoyed, the summer picnic with hosts Karl & Millie Lang, Family Safety Night, Garden Tour, Flower Show and Tea, Produce-Perennial-Preserve and Plant Exchange and Christmas Crafts. A Showcase of Gardens committee was created which did a wonderful job promoting, advertising and acknowledging their winners at their local Flower Show & Tea. The Society’s goal for 2012 was to increase membership and they were successful. Their plan was to do hands on programs each meeting to attract new members and they did. They hope to add more members next year.

Evergreen Thumbs participated in 'craft' days throughout the spring in order to have items to sell at the Annual Plant Sale, in hopes of not only raising more funds but attracting more people. This coincided with the Community Gardens Grand Opening where a member gave a Gardening 101 Demonstration. The Society partnered with the Vermilion Bay Community Gardens and with these gardens, they had a more active youth group. Some of the youth also had their own garden beds with their parents (and they managed to give them all the new, wonderful advice they had acquired at their youth meetings!) There was a 'Kids Garden Party' in July during which children (and parents) made garden crafts, floral arrangements, and had snacks. July also included a Garden Tour where three gardeners volunteered their gardens and at the third one everyone was treated to Afternoon Tea. The Annual Plant and Veggie Exchange (always a hit) occurred in September and in November members enjoyed the Pot Luck Fall Feast (always good to try different veggies that others grow). Unfortunately, no one was able to attend the AGM or Convention but just you wait until 2013!!!!

Fort Frances held their annual board meeting in January when all of the committees for their planned events and activities were set up. Regular meetings started in March with registration and a seed exchange. Other activities included a video presentation and virtual tour of the Royal Botanical Gardens held at the Fort Frances Library and Technical Centre, the seed potato distribution for the annual potato contest, the annual plant sale, a nursery visit and a presentation on Voyager's National Park. Community plantings at the local Library, CN Station, Rainycrest Home for the Aged, Good Neighbours Sign and the Salvation Army were completed by early June. Members signed on again as mentors at the community garden project. The June meeting was held as a potluck in the park. There was a garden party in the Rainycrest courtyards when cookies, iced tea and lemonade were enjoyed by many of the residents, club members and the public; and two garden tours, one at a member's rural country garden and another within the Town limits. The Annual Flower and Vegetable Show was held at the local Farmer's Market in August where nearly 200 visitors viewed the Society's exhibitor's entries and enjoyed coffee and refreshments. The Potato Contest weigh-in, Photo Contest, fall member plant exchange and the ever popular Fruits of the Harvest feast all took place in September and the year concluded in October with the acceptance of the 2013 executive and a fall potluck.

Geraldton provided the Legion and two churches with bedding plants to beautify their grounds. The Welcome bed was planted with a golden 75 for Geraldton's 75th Anniversary. Members continued participation in the upkeep of the gardens at the Hospital and Clinic, and in the revamping of Rotary Park. Fundraisers were three barbeques, a plant sale, and a bakeless bake sale. They held one pot luck dinner and finished the year with ninety members including two Life members.

Longlac “So soon it was March” - back from holidays and time to get busy. With “Spring into Spring” they hosted the 2012 AGM for District 14 - much work for members but lots of fun. There was a good turnout and people, as usual, gave freely of their time-crafting, baking, donating, decorating - whatever was asked of them. On to planting - a planter workshop, six flowerbeds planted and a new one at the Historical Society Bldg. Next on the agenda was the float for the Summerfest parade and a planter competition which the public judged, always a fun time. Cement left over from the AGM and other workshops was used for a stepping stone workshop in late September where various methods and containers were used with great results. In October two members attended a potluck supper hosted by the Geraldton Horticultural Society where District Director Shirley Robson and Assistant Director Marie Hynna were present as well. The Society co-hosted the annual Craft Sale which meant more donations from members and more work for all, but again, successful. Lesson learned –they will be “adopting” a flowerbed in 2013 to ensure that it is maintained properly.

Nipigon had twenty-seven members and five life members, held three executive meetings and two general meetings where presentations included Vertical Gardening and Living Walls and making a Christmas Outdoor Wreath for the Birds. Special visitors were District 14 Director Shirley Robson and Assistant Director Marie Hynna. The Society worked with the Township of Nipigon Beautification Committee, suggesting information and methods on “How to Beautify our Town”. They held their Annual Waterfowl Viewing field trip along the Nipigon River with an MNR biologist guiding, and twenty seven birds’ species were viewed. There was a plant sale with members donating perennials and seedlings from their own gardens. In May, local Sea Cadets turned over the Town flower beds, which were subsequently planted and maintained throughout the summer. Sunflower seeds were distributed to the grade three students in five local schools and the students were taught how to grow them. A Garden Tour was hosted in Nipigon featuring six beautiful gardens. Throughout the year to raise money the Society sold black plastic, slow release fertilizer and black sunflower seeds. They wrapped up their year with an Executive Christmas party.

Sioux Lookout began working to improve waning interest. A new executive was elected, a membership drive was completed and a scarecrow contest was also held in order to bring attention to the group. In the new year, the Society has plans to further that work by holding plant sales, other contests and fundraisers as well as by striving to complete a “natural” playground for the community.

Thunder Bay presented a well-rounded program at meetings from new garden plants to “seed meatballs”. The Spring Home Show allowed members to meet the public. The District Meeting in Longlac was well represented by the Society. The Plant Auction in May was expanded to a Saturday with better participation. The July Flower Show was a dress rehearsal for the 2013 Convention show and the OHA Convention in Niagara prepared the Society for next year. Garden visits in July were welcomed by everyone, the September Fall Show was a successful fruit and vegetable exhibit and a design workshop in October was well received. The AGM, Christmas Show and Potluck supper in November rounded out the year.

District 14's bur oak was planted in front of the Thunder Bay Community Auditorium.

Left to Right: Shirley Robson, District 14 Director; Ken Boshcoff, City of Thunder Bay Councillor; Bob Halversen, General Manager, Thunder Bay Community Auditorium; Marie Hynna, Assistant District 14 Director; Crystal Caputo, Administrative Assistant to Michael Gravelle, MPP; Erika North, President Thunder Horticultural Society.



DISTRICT 15

PEEL, YORK REGION WEST, TORONTO WEST
District Director - Carole Spraggett
17 Societies



Membership: 2,216 including 256 new members

Youth members: 29

Community Projects: 48 including 3 new projects in 2012 as reported

Funds spent on Plantings: \$29,000 as reported

Convention 2012 attendance: 29

Volunteer Hours: 34,935.25

Scholarships/Grants: \$1800 approx

2012 was a most successful year for all seventeen Societies. They are to be congratulated for continued success in building communities with their ideas, time, conservationism and love for horticulture and the environment. The growth of youth programs was tremendous and the District supported these endeavours with \$50 grants and the awarding of the Baker Trophy and prize money, thanks to the Baker fund. Highlights were many but the planting of the bur oak at the Humber College Pre-School Development Centre must be at the top of the list. Two very successful Presidents meetings, which we are working to call "Fall and Winter meetings", provided a great opportunity for discussion on how to make change in the communications between the OHA, the District and probably most importantly Societies. Out with the speaker or presenter and in with the talking, talking and more talking was the message the District board heard.

Bolton & District completed its 17th year. They held four Board and eight general meetings. Membership decreased & meeting attendance declined despite an excellent speaker program. Three plant sales were held at members' gardens and tours of the hosts' gardens were included for a modest entry fee. The website won 2nd prize in the OHA website competition. Grants and donations raised \$24,000 from organizations and individuals to plant native trees. Including Girl Guides in the work crews was very successful. An additional \$7,500 was raised to support two children's learning centres to be established in 2013 at community gardens in Palgrave & Bolton.

Brampton held a well-attended Annual Garden Tour of private gardens in their community and selecting gardens relatively close together generated positive feedback. Pre-orders offered as part of the Annual Plant Sale were modified to include half and mixed flats of annuals and mixed herb and veggie packs; these were very popular. The Society found that continuing to offer a floral design course encouraged new flower show participants and renewed the inspiration of regular participants. To address a declining membership, they started an annual "Bring a Friend" night at a general meeting, which included a gift draw for the member and friend.

Caledon found that additional advertising helped increase membership. Several local gardening specialists shared their knowledge at monthly meetings, helping to keep expenses down. The new joint venture with Grade 3's at Belfountain Public School was exciting for both volunteers and students, while bringing interaction from other specialist groups. They ran an informal garden tour and a couple of hands-on workshops. Members want more options; they're making suggestions and volunteering to make things happen.

Chinguacousy were very proud of the work Susan Morley did in updating their website. She allowed speakers to use her power point projector for presentations. There were wonderful flower shows during monthly meetings as well as the annual show held at The Greenbriar Rec. Centre. In order to prepare for the fall show they had Gera Koster teach a class on vertical design. They enjoyed many good speakers this year, such as Doris and John Brownlie on African Violets - Queen of Houseplants. Members worked with the residents of Tall Pines Nursing Home each month doing crafts, flower arranging, planting containers, starting seeds to name some of the activities, and helped Historic Bovaird House raise funds by doing flower arrangements for their Mother's Day Tea and Christmas Tea.

Cloverleaf underwent an exciting growth spurt in the Junior Program. First of all, for the first time in its history, District 15 awarded Cloverleaf the William Baker Youth Award in recognition of its excellence in Youth Programming. In addition, the Society received a second place award for its Youth Scrapbook. Now in six schools in Mississauga, with another one on the way, students from ages 5 to 12 years have had the opportunity to experience both indoor and outdoor learning.

Credit Valley planted 600 tulip and other bulbs at a local retirement home, partnered with Riverwood Conservancy for two gardening events plus a \$1000 donation. They conducted a successful plant sale, bus tour and garden tour. A \$1000 CVHS Scholarship was awarded to a student in horticulture at the University of Guelph. Member Lorraine Robbins awarded the Liisa Wolfram Excellence in Horticulture Trophy for most points in the Horticulture division of CVHS flower shows. Members conducted four Litternot Walks on a local park trail. Over 100 poinsettias were donated to two local hospitals and a women's shelter at Xmas.

Etobicoke experienced a very exciting year. They hosted the 2012 District 15 AGM at the Weston Golf and Country Club, a success due to the hard work of the planning committee and all the EHS volunteers on the day of the AGM. EHS also served its membership and community through its many activities throughout the year: excellent meeting speakers, the annual plant sale, the school program where students created Christmas centrepieces for their families, supported senior's activities and the local food bank, maintained community gardens such as the Dorothy Ley Hospice and the Eatonville Library. Many of their members were recognized for their volunteer work and contributions to the community by local MPP Donna Cansfield.

Nobleton & King City saw a new president at the head of the Society. They began the year as hosts of the winter's president meeting. The garden tour was their best one yet! The properties were amazing, and with the community really supporting the event, they made the second highest profit in the history of the Society. Their AGM was a fun filled evening and they were thrilled to have Carole and Ron Spraggett in attendance. Seven well exhibited flower shows were held during the year.

Parkdale and Toronto continued their on-going core program of support for local community gardens. The annual Plant Fair served approximately 250-300 community participants. The annual Garden Tour enjoyed nearly 200 visitors. The maintenance and expansion of their website continues. The newsletter is now available electronically and a substantial number of members have chosen to receive it in this form.

Richmond Hill had twelve general meetings. Excellent guest speakers, youth group meetings, seven flower shows, the plantings and maintenance of several community gardens, barrel and basket plantings, and Front Garden Recognition, were a few of their events. A bus trip, garden tour, photography contest, plant sale and Hobby and Craft show added to the list of their numerous activities.

Roselands was lucky enough to have two of their own members present talks on "The Care Of Garden Tools" and "Propagating Dahlias". Aside from their three annual flower shows, they had a "Pot Luck and Penny Auction", a great fundraiser and social evening for members. Community involvement included supplying ten schools and the Mount Dennis Community Association with tulip bulbs. The Society also participated in a very active children's program with the youth in the neighbourhood. They planted flowers and made Christmas arrangements for West Park Long Term Care Centre.

Schomberg held seven regular meetings with flower shows, had their annual plant sale for Mother's Day, and garden tour in June. They planted and maintained six community gardens including a new one at the play park, and participated in the Schomberg Fair, giving the children a sunflower seed in a peat pot to take home. Members also sold waffles at the Main St. Christmas event in town.

Streetsville continued to maintain the Rotary Park garden and to work with Museums of Mississauga maintaining the established gardens at Leslie Log House. They had excellent speakers, a bake sale, silent auction and Christmas Workshop, friendly competitions, and their most successful plant sale ever. They represented and actively participated in the Environmental Stewardship of Lake Wabukayne Project. There was an excellent garden tour and members served as judges for the Tecumseh Townhouse Garden Competition and Streetscape Mississauga.

Swansea had a memorable year, celebrating their 75th Anniversary. They had representation at the OHA Convention and a great bus trip to the Lavender fields. Their Pot Luck picnic, plant and bake sales and Christmas Party were well attended. With involvement in the CNE patio planting competition, community projects, and volunteer outreach gardening, the Society continued to grow their aim to encourage increased membership.

Thornhill participated in planting and maintaining five local community projects. Members donated time and planted many plants, bulbs, and seeds at a local home for physically disabled gardeners. They held Spring and Fall plant sales for the general public, and participated in Thornhill Village Festival to promote education in horticultural activities. Local students earned community service credits for helping at the society's events. An award was given to a local non-member garden during the summer months.

Westway had many volunteer activities planned and well attended by members, including Successful Gardening, Canada Blooms, a community event at the Cloverdale Mall, and the CNE Heritage Court Garden Volunteers' booth. In Toronto's Best in the West Garden Contest, Westway had eighteen members participate as judges. At the District 15 AGM the Society won third place in the Yearbook competition and an honourable mention for their Speaker flyer, and at the CNE, a member won third place in the patio door container competition. The Society participated in maintaining gardens at Richview Public Library and upgraded a garden at Dixon Grove Public School. An Elderberry Tree was planted in tribute to a former deceased member. Fundraiser events included garage sales (including plants sold); and at a community event, a Westway member gave instructions on how to build a bee house. They held a Christmas Party and a Food Drive for a local foodbank.

Woodbridge - a year at a glance . . . major bridges of Woodbridge were graced with flowing flowers in summer and delightful boughs to celebrate Wintertime. The annual garden tour was another great success. They continued to maintain two community gardens - Armstrong Park and Historic Wallace House, and celebrated

Easter where again bridges and community gardens were decorated with bunnies and Easter eggs. They participated in significant tree plantings in the community. Their yearend celebrations and awards night was a very special event, recognizing the achievements of the membership.



A new playground and garden being developed at the Child Care Development project of Humber College in northwest Toronto was the scene selected for the District 15 Diamond Jubilee Oak. Several horticultural society members, the local MPP, the Dean of Health Sciences and the College President were present for the planting, together with many pre-school children, faculty and students of the Child Development Programme.

DISTRICT 16

SIMCOE COUNTY

District Director - Judith Rogers

18 Societies



Once again the societies of OHA District 16 had successful plant sales which are a vital fundraiser and several societies also had a garden tour. Each is proud of their contribution to civic beautification and many hours are volunteered for these efforts.

Alliston & District participated at the local animal shelter yard sale by selling perennials and were at the Museum on the Boyne's "Live Green Event", an environmental local event focusing on vegetable gardening and composting. This year they introduced Power Point presentations at their general meetings to keep members informed of horticultural events and society news. They also partnered with Alliston's Business Improvement Association to design and display urns in front of select local businesses.

Angus continued to maintain five gardens plus the Cenotaph, Cemetery and Peacekeepers' Park. Peacekeepers' Day is celebrated in August and Angus was the first town in Canada to honour Peacekeepers. The Society name was engraved on "The Wall of Honour" for donating the cement planters. They worked with their council to hang Canadian flags on streetlights along main routes. In August a Victorian Tea & Flower Show was hosted to honour the Queen's Diamond Jubilee with a prize for the best male and female century costume. In September they purchased and planted four Flowering Crabapple trees.

Barrie enjoyed a bus trip to Canada Blooms and held their annual garden tour in the summer.

Beeton had a very successful garden tour they called Paradise Found. Those attending were provided with a continental breakfast at the beginning of their tour which consisted of eleven distinct paradise gardens in the local area. They teamed up with the local businesses for an unforgettable event.

Bond Head entered a float pulled by two Percheron horses in the Bond Head Festival parade. They also had a booth at the festival to promote their society and flower, the Black-eyed Susan. Participation in the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources native butternut tree recovery program was done by planting a seedling on the property of one of the members.

Brentwood enjoyed several good speakers during the year and participated in the Creemore spring garden show.

Coldwater held a beautification awards program and supported their youth group. They attended and supported as many events as possible sponsored by other societies, garden centres and private residences and community groups such as the Lions Club, BIA etc. Seeds were distributed throughout the community.

Collingwood rewrote their flower show handbook which was attached to their yearbooks. A new webmaster changed the format of their Society website to appear as a picture book of the activities. They hope to create an outdoor learning centre at the arboretum they oversee.

Creemore enjoyed a bus trip to the Royal Botanical Gardens and had an experimental 'Progressive Culinary' garden tour that was enjoyed despite the heat of the day. A portion of their horticultural park has been redesigned and rejuvenated.

Elmvale has been submitting bi-weekly articles/photos to the local newspaper which gained them 10 new members. They purchased and planted sugar maples at six local schools and assisted with pulling garlic mustard at a local conservation area. The proceeds from a silent auction were donated to the District judging school.

Gilford enjoyed a car-pool trip to Plant Paradise and had Yvonne Tremblay, a published herbalist, present (with samples) cooking with herbs.

Midland proudly had varied workshops including planting bulbs for early spring to making hypertufa troughs at a picnic. Funds were donated to a school for landscaping done for entrance improvements.

Orillia won the District award for community improvement at the local bus terminal, as well as paid for and installed five benches. They decorated the Stephen Leacock Home for the 100th anniversary celebration and again at Christmas. Forty-nine homes in Orillia received a Garden Pride sign award from the society to recognize their beautiful gardens. At their arboretum, they were pleased to discover and identify a Kentucky coffee tree.

Oro-Medonte created a new fundraising sign for \$10 saying “A Passionate Gardener Lives Here” that can be left out all year. Their Landscape Appreciation program gives a “Bloomin’ Good Garden” sign but it only stays for two weeks so this will fill a void for those gardeners who wish to keep a sign. They continued to give valuable volunteers the Ontario Volunteer Awards as their years of service increase.

Painswick celebrated their 40th year with a barbeque and cake at Knock Heritage School and purchased and planted a red oak tree with the dedication on June 14, 2012. They participated in the Innisfil/Rotary Family Fun Day and gave away dozens of marigolds to children and adults to plant at their homes. A \$300.00 bursary was given to a local high school student to further study horticulture/agriculture.

Penetanguishene Between their new constitution and executive, Penetanguishene had a successful year. Fresh wreaths were made at a Christmas workshop and by hosting a District event in the spring, they realized how a small group can work together to complete a large task.

Stayner worked in their community gardens and had two plant sales for fundraising, ending the year with a Christmas dinner.

Tottenham participated in the Community Week Festival in July, where in a tent they displayed pictures of gardens, information about the society and sold memberships. They also hosted a successful children’s activity where they decorated cups and then planted marigolds in them to take home.

With Simcoe County Warden Cal Patterson, OHA Past President Carol Dunk, and District Director Judith Rogers present, the District 16 Diamond Jubilee Oak was planted at the Simcoe County Museum, near Midhurst.



DISTRICT 17

DURHAM REGION

District Director - Sandy Rakestrow

12 Societies



Ajax is a small but enthusiastic group, in large part due to their highly engaged executive. The Society hosted eight guest speakers that delivered wonderful presentations. In the spring, the membership opted to return to grassroots ideas and had a plant exchange at the regular meeting instead of the annual plant sale. They concluded the year with a wonderful potluck dinner and a very entertaining spoof on a fashion show for gardeners. Their youth group, now two years old, is doing remarkably well-- its membership increased from 5 to 9 very enthusiastic and engaged young people, very eager to learn and dig in their community garden plot.

Beaverton had highlights such as a successful Silent Auction as a fundraiser, gardening advice given at a clinic by Durham Master Gardeners, a flower show and photo competition in April with Charlie Dobbin as the guest speaker, and a plant auction fundraiser with a Georgina Brock Garden Youth Club promotion for giant veggies. This was the Society's 90th year so they celebrated in June with Sonia Day as the keynote speaker, an anniversary cake, and a flower show. At the AGM, OHA President John Sellers presented District 17 Directors Sandy Rakestrow and Elaine Davidson with a 90th Anniversary certificate. A cast iron bench was dedicated to a former member as part of Canada Day festivities. Members enjoyed a summer barbecue, worked on the "bring a friend" idea to increase membership, held a flower show at a local long term care facility where they provided refreshments to residents and gave out bouquets. They learned from a design demonstration by Scott Turner using flowers from the garden and containers from home, and a Bulb, Tuber, Rhizome workshop and presentation by Judy Mitchell-Wilson. At the annual meeting, Christmas designs created by members were auctioned off as another successful fundraiser. Good write ups and photos in the newspaper, posters around Town, brochures created and left at local businesses, and a regular newsletter sent to members by email, all helped boost membership by 13 in 2012, their best increase in membership in years.

Bowmanville enjoyed good speakers, a plant sale, and workshops conducted by members Beth Cook, David Bryant and Leslie James. Other highlights included a Society Picnic, the commemoration of a bench in memory of Kathryn Englert, the Annual Flower and Vegetable show, and a design workshop by Diana Kennedy. Members benefited from a Question and Answer session with Peter Keeping, John Windatt and Dave Hinton and ended the year in November with their AGM and Pot Luck supper.

Brooklin found that partnering with Whitby in Bloom allowed them to enjoy several popular speakers including Mark Cullen and Marion Jarvie. These speakers increased the numbers at those meetings and possibly added to the number of new members. The Society participated in several community events, including the Brooklin Spring Fair parade in which they had a stellar float, and the Harvest Festival. Together with the Optimist Club, they conducted a workshop for children called “Here We Grow”.

Cannington hosted the District 17 Annual General Meeting and benefited from their Plant Auction.

Georgina-Brock may be a small hort society, but they are enthusiastic gardeners, willing to share knowledge and techniques. They boasted one of the best annual plant sales in the area and doubled their sales. They were extremely proud of their youth members and leaders and their achievements in growing giant vegetables.

Newcastle participated in several fundraisers for the Newcastle Heritage Garden Project, including Hotel California, a yard sale, Harvest Brunch and Jackie Kent, Jewellery Extravaganza. The 6th Annual Daffodil Lunch, held for the first time in the Newcastle Community Hall, Main Auditorium, had its best attendance so far. At the Plant Sale on the day before Mother’s Day, many plants and planters were sold. At Fall Fest, members greeted visitors to Newcastle and promoted both horticulture and the Junior Gardeners. They also participated in the Santa Claus Parade with a float on which the Junior Gardeners showed off the log cabins they had built.

Orono held seven flower shows where fourteen exhibitors submitted 469 entries. In support of new designers, a hands-on design class was arranged for interested members. As part of their mandate to encourage young people in horticulture, the Society assisted the 4-H Garden Club with a flower bed at the Orono Public School and once again provided a bursary to Clarke High School for a student pursuing studies in a horticultural or agricultural field. A bench was presented to the Orono Town Hall and placed in the library park. Guest speakers covered species at risk, growing herbs, and taught about growing magnolias in Ontario. Members took an interpretative tree walk in the rain through the Orono Forestry property. Flora Sharpe, treasurer, volunteered her services for one more year until her replacement, Sandra Dean, was appointed. The Directors also appointed new auditors for the remainder of the 2012 fiscal year. A committee was formed to review and revise the Society’s Constitution which was presented and voted upon at the Annual General Meeting in November 2012.

Oshawa had a successful year that included ten amazing speakers, a plant sale, three garden tours, advice on landscaping and the environment, and a bus trip. The members of the OGC gave back to their community through: rehabilitative gardening with stroke victims, maintaining cancer centre gardens, CIB, Pitch-In, the Peony Festival and the OVBG. Members attended meetings in Orono, in Sudbury, and Seedy Saturday. The Greenleaf newsletter and website kept the club informed and provided gardening articles and tips. The Society established a Horticultural Scholarship at Durham College which will be awarded for the first time in 2013.

Pickering successfully started the year with their major fundraiser, the annual plant sale. Pickering's residents enjoyed the annual public flower show at the Recreation Complex. Many interesting speakers entertained this past year with topics including flower design, ornamental grasses, and garden art for cheapskates as well as gardens that glow. With great joy they saw last year's major undertaking, their bicentennial gardens, come through the first winter with only a few losses. Their bus tour to "Whistling Gardens", Canada's newest botanical garden, was well worth a visit.

Pine Ridge celebrated their 35th Anniversary at the March potluck dinner meeting. Vice President Norma Haney gave a presentation on the history of the club, along with a display of archived material. Members enjoyed special presentations by Trish Symons, Ken Brown and Paul Zammit, as well as other speakers. Special activities included the annual Plant, Bake and Yard Sale in May, the Best Hat Contest with the July potluck picnic, and the Best Looking Pie Contest in October. A winning float was entered in the Blackstock Fair parade and bus trips were organized to Toronto area gardens.

Uxbridge had an interesting year with speakers such as Charlie Dobbin on Behind the Scenes at Canada Blooms, and Darren Heimbecker on Choice Dwarf Trees. Members attended the District AGM in Cannington, participated in two plant sales and the garden tour and learned from three design workshops. They continued to plant and maintain gardens at the Cenotaph, Uxbridge Public Library, the Senior Centre and CIBC Gardens. The Society sponsored the junior division at the Uxbridge Fall Fair and provided a bursary for one Uxbridge Secondary School student of horticulture. At the annual meeting, the tables were decorated with centrepieces created by design volunteers and tickets were available for a chance to win one of the arrangements.



District 17 Director Sandy Rakestrow, members of the Oshawa Garden Club, Oshawa Mayor John G. Henry, City Councillors and City staff participated in the planting of the District 17 bur oak in the Brick by Brick Park, part of Oshawa Valley Botanical Garden.

DISTRICT 18

PARRY SOUND, MUSKOKA, SOUTH NIPISSING

District Director - Sandra Hartill

13 Societies



2012 was an exciting and very interesting year for me, after becoming District Director in April. After several major concerns in the past few years, the Powassan Horticultural Society installed their new executive in October. This is an exciting new chapter for the Society and I wish all of them every success in the future. Four Societies celebrated special anniversaries: Sprucedale 25th, Argyle 30th; North Bay 50th and Bracebridge 80th.

Argyle had an interesting year with a variety of speakers and events. Topics ranged from pruning to edible wild plants and herbs to preserving flowers to celebrating their 30th Anniversary. The latter was a lovely evening spent reminiscing with past and present members, local dignitaries and the District Director. Members planted five flowerbeds, and twelve planters were distributed locally. There were two interesting trips, one to a vegetable garden using layering mulch and stone works and the other to a flower garden and greenhouse. The Society successfully won a District 18 Special Project Award. They held their annual flower show and entered a float in the Canada Day Parade.

Baysville had a membership of 73 in 2012. Diversifying programs was their goal. There were Spring and Summer flower shows. Workshops were most successful and this year they added a Thanksgiving workshop making centrepieces in pumpkins. Gilberte Lambert was the guest speaker in November and her hands on planting of African Violet leaves proved most popular. Manpower for the parks proves challenging as members age. The addition of perennials with mulch has been beneficial in keeping costs and weeds down. Three parks were planted and maintained, Gris Mill, Centennial and Van Setters. The Society is keeping Baysville beautiful!

Bracebridge celebrated their 80th Anniversary. They were involved in an Earth Day cleanup of their six town gardens and adjacent park areas. Several members assisted gardeners with advice on vegetable gardens at the Community Gardens. There were carpool trips to Oshawa, Blackstock and Uxbridge, a May plant and bake sale, Spring and Summer flower shows, a very successful Front Yard Garden contest with prize money donated by a local citizen, and also a Garden Tour. Eight delegates attended the OHA convention in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Callander held a very successful plant sale raising \$1644. Their summer flower show in August had 18 exhibitors and 271 entries. An interesting speaker was Richard Page, President of North Bay Lapidary and Mineral Club, who spoke on “Volcanoes in Ontario”. Ed Lawrence returned this year and his talk was inspirational and informative. Benny Uetz spoke on Healing Plants and there was a workshop making tufa pot planters. One member was able to attend the OHA Convention. The AGM in November was a potluck dinner with a wonderful variety of foods. Members attending brought a donation for the Callander Food Bank.

Gravenhurst had a program that included six excellent speakers and two hands-on evenings. Members enjoyed a great bus trip to Canada Blooms and also held their annual plant and bake sale in May. They hosted a very successful District 18 AGM, assisted CIB in judging front gardens in town and presented awards to the winners. The Society held a tour of the town and two gardens for the Tillsonburg Horticultural Society bus group. The annual Flower and Vegetable show included a photo contest and there was a well-attended BBQ for members. They assisted Senior Centre volunteers with some renovation work in the Grow Room; maintained existing town gardens; commenced renovating gardens at the Senior Centre and successfully won a District 18 Special Project Award. A bursary was awarded to a Gravenhurst High School student. Members attended the OHA Convention, District Fall workshop and Presidents meeting.

Huntsville held a successful plant sale and enjoyed several very interesting speakers at their monthly meetings. The Society was awarded a special grant for the new garden on King William Street near the entrance to the Huntsville Place Mall. They also received a plaque from the Huntsville Public Library in recognition of the continued maintenance of their garden (since 1995). Jane Ellsworth, a Past President and a very involved member of the Society, was presented with a Horticultural Service Award before she left Huntsville to reside elsewhere.

North Bay celebrated their 50th Anniversary by having an Afternoon Tea catered by one of their members. Al McDonald, North Bay Mayor, and Sandra Hartill were special guests. The Society participated in the Seed Exchange and Eco Fair held on Feb 25th. Some of their beautiful gardens were celebrated in a special supplement produced by the North Bay Nugget and delivered with the newspaper. President Debbie Lee contributed 20 articles to a Living Green section in the Nugget. Each year in July there is a picnic at the waterfront hosted by Past President Ella Fudge. As well as continuing their various plantings, the Society donated money to perennial plantings in the city and at the Waterfront Pergola. In conjunction with the North Bay Public Library, their “Seedlings Storytime” program for Youth was extremely successful.

Parry Sound received a trophy for the Most Entries in the Annual Flower Show at the District AGM in Gravenhurst. One member received the Most Points in Photography and another won Most Points in Artistic Design. Seven people attended the OHA Convention and representatives went to the District AGM, the Fall workshop and the Presidents meeting. The Society received a \$50 grant to benefit the youth program.

Powassan During this past year the Society struggled. It became apparent in the Spring that they may have to disband. One of the reasons was that their President became very ill and died shortly thereafter, and with no direction they began to flounder. In the fall a steering committee was set up and the Society worked hard to survive and even increase its membership. Their record keeping had not been maintained including financial records but the newly elected Treasurer, with advice from Helen Scutt at OMAFRA, and the District 18 Board, worked diligently to clear up these concerns and is now happy to report that the financial statements for the past three years have been completed. With two co-presidents/chairpersons who are young and just full of new ideas, Powassan is looking forward to a wonderful year.

Rosseau began and ended the year with a well-attended social potluck dinner. The Society worked to maintain and extend the healing garden at the Rosseau Nursing Station and did large scale plantings around the village in barrels and gardens. Membership grew to a total of 49. Two speakers of note were Ms K. Virgoe on invasive species and Howard Owen on medicinal plants. As a fundraiser, members made concrete/rhubarb steppingstones and sold them at their plant sale.

Sprucedale and District enjoyed a very productive 2012. The township gardens were maintained and the new Sprucedale Community Centre garden was improved and also maintained by members. A tree was planted in honour of senior member, Mr Brazier, who passed away this year at 105 years, 8 months young. He was a delight to have at a meeting and would entertain his friends with songs. He will be missed. The Society celebrated its 25th Anniversary with goodies and joy at the May meeting. The Sprucedale Reeve spoke of all the improvements to the gardens.

Sundridge began the year with their annual potluck dinner in March followed by a demonstration on container plantings. Members enjoyed another trip to Canada Blooms; held a plant sale; the flower show was small but there were some beautiful specimens; and the Garden Tour in July was held over two days and enjoyed by many. The Society entered a float in the Canada Day Parade and again came in first. They were fortunate to win a District 18 Special Project Award and used the funds to refurbish the Children's Centennial Garden as well as many town planters and hanging baskets. Four members attended the OHA Convention. Presentations covered new plants, dahlias, hostas by Cindy Deutakom of Goldenbrook Hostas after the flower show awards were handed out, and a demonstration of various winter arrangements. The Election of Officers in November was followed by a potluck of decadent desserts. The Society welcomes everyone to come and see the beautiful gardens and planters in Sundridge.

Whitestone had a busy planting season in 2012. The old flowerbed in Ardbeg was dug up and revamped with a load of soil and mulch added along with some shrubs and bulbs. Another old planting in front of the local LCBO was given new life with some shrubs and bulbs. The Municipality built a new municipal building and fire hall and a new flowerbed was built. The Society only had enough time to plant some bulbs, but shrubs and flowers will be added next year. There were two good guest speakers and some members stepped up and gave interesting presentations and workshops. Though membership was down in 2012, a number of new members joined and the Society looks forward to the sharing of knowledge and new ideas they will bring.



OHA Past President (1986) Madeline Hobson, Parry Sound Mayor Jamie McGarvey, Anne Bossart (Parry Sound & District Horticultural Society, Lead Gardener at Tower Hill Garden), and MPP Norm Miller, with members of the Society in the background as the District 17 Diamond Jubilee bur oak was dedicated in Tower Hill Garden, Parry Sound.

DISTRICT 19

REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WATERLOO

District Director - Steve McKenna

9 Societies



Highlights noted at the District AGM included the following: Kitchener, Elmira and Wellesley received OHA tree grants in 2012. Wilmot Horticultural Society planted a bur oak Tree. Money was collected from each Society and sent to the Goderich Horticultural Society to provide help with replanting trees after the tornado. There was discussion concerning working with Habitat for Humanity and offering free membership to families of Habitat's new homes. The District proposed a region-wide garden show. There were 7,500 volunteer hours donated to the 2012 Plowing Match in Ayr. Sandra Cressman was presented the OHA Youth award at the 2012 convention. District 19 will be hosting the 2016 OHA convention and plans are already underway.

Ayr started the Ayr Community Garden, a highlight of their year. Twenty plots were available and all twenty were rented for the season. Local companies contributed materials and the Township supported the project with the use of the land and four composters. On July 7, a special Welcome to the Community Garden promotional event took place.

Elmira hosted its first ever Home and Garden Show in April. At the display at the Community Centre they gave away packages of sunflower seeds and offered information about the Society. Every year \$400 is donated to the library to purchase books related to horticulture. The books are very well used by the people of Elmira.

Galt presented its 20th annual Dream Garden Conference on January 20, featuring: Sean James of Fern Ridge Landscaping and Eco-consulting who has built an international reputation for forward-thinking and sustainable landscaping; Frank Kershaw, who has over 35 years' experience in parks, environment and horticultural fields; and Paul Zammit, inspiring horticulturalist, photographer, garden writer and stylist. David Hobson was Master of Ceremonies.

Hespeler focused on highlighting the Society in the newly expanded suburbs built in their area. They did this by taking part in the Forbes Park Music Festival. They had a booth set up and gave out free sunflowers to anyone who came to them with garden or horticultural questions or wanting information about the Society. On that one day they reached 180 individuals and gave out all of their sunflower seedlings.

Kitchener acknowledged the hard work of Board members without whom it would be impossible to do what the Society does. At the AGM, President Bruce MacNeil mentioned: Elaine Baldwin, organizer of all the events and Concerts in the Gardens except the bus tour; Rhonda Grein who is Vice-President of the Society and arranger of the bus tour; Steve McKenna who is the manager of the website, creator of the electronic membership renewal App, and designer of the membership management system; and Jonathan Kao, newest member of the Board who is active on the social media activities of the Board. Without the hard work that the Board does it would be difficult to run all of the Society's activities and it would be impossible to attract their almost 500 members.

Preston encouraged its small group to get involved in helping at meetings and maintaining Gore Park during the growing season. Ross Detweiler spoke on Daylilies at one of the meetings and gave members seeds and one-year-old plants.

Waterloo dedicated a new cedar arbour at the Memorial Garden on Erb St. in downtown Waterloo on Sept. 23, 2012. They have tended the garden since 1927, when sixteen trees were planted to commemorate the sixteen men from Waterloo who gave their lives in World War One.

Wellesley reported that their special event for 2012 was their visit to Langdon Hall in August where they enjoyed a presentation by the head gardener. He explained the history of the grounds and gave a tour of the large vegetable gardens. Tea was served in the conservatory.

Wilmot was privileged to have Richard Tofflemire as their guest speaker in April, one of the best attended meetings of 2012. Richard, from Wildbirds Unlimited, spoke about Migrating Spring Birds. Southwestern Ontario is one of the “pit stops” for a large number of species of birds that migrate and members learned that if they keep their eyes and ears open, they might be fortunate enough to see and hear them. There was lots of interest, which was evident in the large turnout



The Wilmot Horticultural Society planted District 19's bur oak at the Wilmot Recreation Complex. The engraved plaque which identifies the tree and the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee is attached to a rock supplied by WHS Vice-President Glen Zehr and Past-President Ron Zehr.



OHA Board members taking a break during a Board meeting at the Kempfenfelt Conference Centre, near Barrie.

COMMENTS FROM CAROL DUNK

My year as President of the Ontario Horticultural Association allowed me to view the organization from the inside out. I experienced the dedication that societies and districts give to horticultural across the province. Whether it is flower arranging in Sarnia, Guerilla Gardening in Sault Ste. Marie, or Community Gardening in Ottawa, some part of the OHA is always fostering the love of gardening in Ontario.

From my chair, I could see the work carried out by District Directors in each of the 19 Districts. Directors govern the OHA and enable Societies to carry on their work in their communities. They are often there to help solve the little problems that crop up when people are being people.



I learned first-hand the organizing and the people skills that Directors need to put on a convention. Planning a convention is more work than a three-day wedding! And still, year after year, Directors stand up to the challenge and take their turns hosting an OHA convention. But that's not where the story ends. After the Convention, those directors shrug the tension off and pitch in to guide the OHA in its next endeavour.

Societies don't always run smoothly. From my inside view, I saw that keeping a society working is like (as Suzanne Hanna would say) herding cats. Fielding a full slate of officers and having a successful year is much due to those capable volunteers, the Society Presidents and Board Members.

The OHA is a big organization that relies on its volunteers. My privileged peek from the President's chair gave me a chance to see the amount of time and effort put forward by many to maintain all the parts of OHA and its Member Societies each year, every year and for 106 years. You better believe that's an accomplishment!

Carol Dunk
OHA President 2011-2012

2012 OHA CONVENTION

GARDENING THEN & NOW, 1812-2012

Niagara-on-the Lake, Ontario

August 17-19, 2012

Well, we successfully made it through the weekend, tired but happy. In response to our invitation, over 450 of you arrived and sampled some of the horticultural delights of our District. Thanks for visiting. Whenever you return, you know that the private gardeners in the area will always welcome you. We also hope you left understanding how important the horticulture industry is to our economy since our produce & products are shipped throughout Canada and the USA.

District 9 knows how to work together, 135 volunteers in total offered to don the green shirt. Hard work, countless hours, new friendships, priceless! Comments tell us the volunteers were visible, helpful, and cheerful. Delegates were pleased with the ease of moving about the venue due to the clear and plentiful signage. The vendors aisle was a popular place. Many people went home with more “stuff” than they came with.

Our program was designed to provide you with great speakers, diverse seminars, and many fascinating destinations on the tours. Comments from happy delegates lead us to believe that we succeeded. Humorous speakers informed and entertained us adhering to the Then & Now theme in their respective topics of Garden Design, Garden Plant Choices by Consumers, and the Evolution of Gardening Literature.

Seminars tempted you in many ways, from wonderful plant material, ideas for our gardens or designs, the history of the plants, some methods for dealing with pests, the business of growing and selling, and improving your photographs to mention just a few. To prove horticulture is more than just planting, maintaining, and harvesting, we provided an unusual seminar - a culinary demonstration by Chef Jo Lusted, a local girl who has gone on to the bright lights of television. Judging by the delegates taking copious notes before being treated to the samples from the kitchen, it was entertaining and informative.

The 17 different tours took you to private gardens where you talked to the enthusiastic owners. Businesses like Cosmic Orchid took you behind the scenes to see the production process. The many wineries seemed to be popular stops and a lot of wine went home with delegates. Those who visited the Butterfly Conservatory also went behind the scenes and later enjoyed the Botanical Gardens. Tours visited a wide range of retail operations and took home some treasures.

A permanent symbol of the convention is the “Autumn Brilliant” Serviceberry tree planted to commemorate the site of the OHA’s 2012 Convention at Niagara College’s Niagara-on-the-Lake Campus. Another successful area was the Competitions. Entries were plentiful. The art work showcased the talent of OHA with different media. The flower show overcame the problem of fixed tables and displayed the entries beautifully. Many stopped to read through the various publications and take home some good ideas. The Youth room showed everyone that our young people can be successfully attracted to horticulture.



At the Saturday night Gala, the names of the recipients of the Award of Merit, Community Improvement Award, Environmental Award, Youth Leader Award (2), and Silver Fir Award (2) were announced. This is a wonderful way for excellence to be recognized by the OHA. The Gala keynote speaker, Trish Symons, taught us about the amazing Gifts from the Garden that are in our own gardens if we just take a moment to see.

Thunder Bay group certainly grabbed our attention with their invitation to visit District 14 next summer. Some people have already started to make plans. Drive or fly, seems to be the question. Whatever your answer, it is certain you will enjoy it and learn many new things on the western shore of Lake Superior.

Susan Lusted
2012 Convention Chair

Awards Presented at the 2012 OHA Convention



Silver Fir Award Recipients

Phillip Kennedy
Prince Edward County
Horticultural Society

Jim Mabee
Tillsonburg Horticultural Society
&
Port Burwell-Bayham
Horticultural Society

Youth Leader Award Recipients

Bev Silk
Grafton Horticultural Society

Sandra Cressman
Wilmot Horticultural Society





District 15 Director Carole Spraggett presents the Environmental Award to Nicola Hall, Streetsville Horticultural Society

District 6 Director Donna Hussey presents the Community Improvement Award to Catherine Kavassalis, accepting on behalf of the Oakville Horticultural Society



District 4 Director Rose Odell presents the Award of Merit to Bev Silk, Grafton Horticultural Society

2012 Convention Resolutions

Resolution 12/01

Be it resolved that By-Law 16-1 be amended by deleting the figure “90” and substituting “60” and by deleting sub-section 3 and substituting “The Secretary shall notify all societies of proposed amendments 50 days prior to the meeting.” **Carried.**

Resolution 12/02

Be it resolved that Constitution “Article VII – Amendments” be amended by deletion of the words in the sentence following “Association Secretary” and substituting the words “...at least 60 days in advance of the meeting so that all societies may be notified within a period of 50 to 10 days prior to the meeting.” **Carried.**

Resolution 12/03

Be it resolved that By-Law 13.1 District descriptions be amended to read as follows:

- a) District 5 - “Toronto East, York Region East” - **Carried.**
- b) District 6 - District 6 –“Carolinian” - **Tabled for further discussion.**
- c) District 11 - “Southwestern Ontario” - **Tabled for further discussion.**
- d) District 12 - “Northeastern Ontario” - **Defeated**
- e) District 2 be amended by deleting the word “Carleton” - **Carried.**

A separate vote was taken for each District description.

Resolution 12/04

Be it resolved that the Ontario Horticultural Association express appreciation to the Province of Ontario for the assistance provided to Horticultural Societies and to this Association by means of grants and by the continued review and implementation of policies aimed towards the promotion of interest and participation in horticulture. **Carried.**

Resolution 12/05

Be it resolved that the Ontario Horticultural Association convey to the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, his Deputies and Staff, our thanks for the support, assistance and co-operation accorded this Association by Ministry Personnel. **Carried.**

Resolution 12/06

Be it resolved that the Ontario Horticultural Association extend its thanks to the Director, Assistant Directors, Societies and members of District 9 who worked to plan and conduct the 2012 Convention, and to all others who had any part in contributing to its success. **Carried.**



The convention floor....



Past Presidents at the Convention: Jim Mabee, Bruce Wilson, Shirley Daniels, Bert Card, Earl Walker, and Madeline Hobson. Hidden behind Jim Mabee is Ken Fink.

Planting the Convention tree: Colleen Laverdiere, District 9 Assistant Director; Neil Miles, Lincoln Garden Club & Horticultural Society; James Graham, OHA 2nd VP; Sue Lusted, Convention Chair; Carol Dunk, OHA President; Dr. Dan Patterson, Niagara College President; Dr. Ben Cecil, Dean of Environment, Media & Technology; Jim Thomson, Manager of Campus Development and the Niagara College Greenhouse.





Trillium editor Linda Hughli gives her report and displays the covers of all the Trillium newsletters since its inception in 2006.

Treasurer Sharon Hill delivers the financial report.



*District 9 Director Susan Lusted accepts the **Fine's Flowers District Membership Growth Trophy** from District 2 Director Kathryn Lindsay.*

'GARDENING THEN & NOW, 1812-2012
August 17 - 19, 2012

District 13 Director Suzanne Hanna holds up a jar of seeds as she extols the benefits of heirloom vegetables and seed-sharing.



A newly developed "Quick Start" guide for Society Presidents is unveiled by District 16 Director Judith Rogers.

Keynote speaker at the Saturday evening banquet was Trish Symons, whose talk described the "Gifts from the Garden".





Don & Joanne Matthews at the OHA Supplies desk get their photo taken by Mike Dunk.

Ready for the day: District 11 Director Jennifer Plaus, District 2 Director Kathryn Lindsay, and District 10 Director Roland Craig.



Collecting their purchases at the end of an afternoon bus tour that included a visit to a Niagara area nursery.

Outgoing President Carol Dunk passes the Chain of Office to new President, John Sellers.



2nd Vice-President Jeff Blackadar, President John Sellers, and 1st Vice-President James Graham.

As the 2012 convention draws to an end, District 9 Director Susan Lusted passes the OHA flag to Shirley Robson, District 14 Director and host of the 2013 convention in Thunder Bay.



Competitions at the 2012 Convention



Competitions at the 2012 Convention



2011 & 2012 Society Membership Totals

	District	2011	2012
Acton Horticultural Society	6	83	63
Agincourt Garden Club	5	220	206
Ajax Garden Club	17	53	52
Alliston & District Horticultural Society	16	75	58
Almonte & Dist. Horticultural Society	2	51	52
Ambassador Horticultural Society	11	67	68
Ameliasburg Garden Club	3	52	52
Amherstburg Fort Malden Horticultural Society	11	166	106
Ancaster Horticultural Society	6	216	193
Angus Horticultural Society	16	73	57
Argyle Horticultural Society	18	42	30
Arthur & District Horticultural Society	7	53	53
Assiginack Horticultural Society	13	33	33
Athens Garden Club & Horticultural Society	3	78	71
Atikokan Horticultural Society	14	232	231
Auburn Horticultural Society	8	55	63
Aurora Garden & Horticultural Society	5	86	111
Aylmer & District Horticultural Society	10	102	97
Ayr Horticultural Society	19	71	77
Bancroft Horticultural Society	3	60	68
Barrie's Garden Club	16	121	125
Bath Gardening Club and Horticultural Society	3		110
Baysville Horticultural Society	18	63	73
Beach Garden Society	5	209	178
Beachburg Horticultural Society	2	50	50
Beaverton Horticultural Society	17	80	70
Beeton Horticultural Society	16	58	36
Belle River & Dist. Horticultural Society	11	182	158
Belleville Garden Club	3	61	73
Belmont & Area Horticultural Society	10	54	54
Blenheim-Harwich Horticultural Society	11	72	82
Blind River Horticultural Society	13	57	41
Bobcaygeon & District Horticultural Society	4	87	87
Bolton & District Horticultural Society	15	69	51
Bond Head & District Horticultural Society	16	108	97
Bowmanville Horticultural Society	17	72	70
Bracebridge Horticultural Society	18	57	67
Brampton Horticultural Society	15	153	151
Brantford Garden Club	6	115	149
Brentwood Horticultural Society	16	62	65
Brigden & District Horticultural Society	11	3	No Report
Brighton Horticultural Society	4	69	69
Brockville & District Horticultural Society	3	53	53
Bronte Horticultural Society	6	89	83
Brooklin Horticultural Society	17	212	209
Bruce Station Horticultural Society	13	25	43
Brussels & District Horticultural Society	8	59	55
Burlington Horticultural Society	6	115	107

2011 & 2012 Society Membership Totals

	District	2011	2012
Caledon Horticultural Society	15	52	52
Callander Horticultural Society	18	104	86
Campbell Horticultural Society	13	47	50
Campbellford & District Horticultural Society	4	59	62
Cannington Horticultural Society	17	71	54
Carleton Place & Dist. Horticultural Society	2	70	70
Chesley Horticultural Society	8	54	54
Chinguacousy Garden Club	15	108	108
Clifford & District Horticultural Society	7	236	239
Clinton Horticultural Society	8	50	54
Cloverleaf Garden Club of Mississauga	15	217	200
Coboconk Horticultural Society	4	54	55
Cobourg Horticultural Society	4	138	136
Cochrane Horticultural Society	12	No Report	65
Coldwater & District Horticultural Society	16	53	50
Collingwood Horticultural Society	16	59	70
Collins Bay & District Horticultural Society	3	52	54
Cornwall & Dist. Horticultural Society	1	120	131
Cramahe Horticultural Society	4	52	56
Credit Valley Horticultural Society	15	164	174
Creemore Horticultural Society	16	78	82
Deep River Horticultural Society	2	408	315
Delhi & District Horticultural Society	6	70	70
Dorchester Horticultural Society	10	85	69
Dryden & District Horticultural Society	14	61	81
Dunnville Horticultural Society	9	114	121
Durham & District Horticultural Society	8	59	54
Dutton/Dunwich Horticultural Society	10	100	100
East York Garden Club	5	166	167
Eganville Horticultural Society	2	83	87
Elliot Lake Horticultural Society	13	171	180
Elmira & District Horticultural Society	19	202	223
Elmvale & District Horticultural Society	16	53	63
Elora & Salem Horticultural Society	7	51	54
Englehart & District Horticultural Society	12	97	104
Erin Horticultural Society	7	134	108
Espanola Horticultural Society	13	127	99
Essex & District Horticultural Society	11	67	68
Etobicoke Horticultural Society	15	240	216
Evergreen Thumbs Horticultural Society	14	31	29
Fenelon Falls Horticultural Society	4	58	57
Fergus & District Horticultural Society	7	111	108
Flamborough Horticultural Society	6	79	80
Fort Erie Horticultural Society	9	76	62
Fort Frances Horticultural Society	14	35	39
French River Horticultural Society	13	50	50
Galt Horticultural Society	19	201	144
Gananoque Horticultural Society	3	61	57

2011 & 2012 Society Membership Totals

	District	2011	2012
Georgetown Horticultural Society	6	127	134
Georgina-Brock Horticultural Society	17	52	58
Geraldton Horticultural Society	14	105	90
Gilford & District Horticultural Society	16	112	114
Glen Morris Horticultural Society	6	177	171
Glencoe Horticultural Society	10	69	76
Gloucester Horticultural Society	2	96	73
Goderich & Distict Horticultural Society	8	55	68
Grafton Horticultural Society	4	69	69
Grand Bend & Area Horticultural Society	10	118	166
Grand Valley & District Horticultural Society	7	72	52
Gravenhurst Horticultural Society	18	76	75
Greater Ottawa Water Garden Horticultural Society	2	72	77
Greater Toronto Bulb & Horticultural Society	5	82	81
Greater Toronto Rose & Garden Society	5	115	120
Greater Toronto Water Garden & Horticultural Society	5	54	59
Greater Windsor Horticultural Society	11	130	87
Grimsby Horticultural Society	9	125	148
Guelph Horticultural Society	7	203	212
Guelph Township Horticultural Society	7	105	107
Haldimand Horticultural Society	6	141	155
Hanover & District Horticultural Society	8	58	51
Harriston & District Horticultural Society	7	217	217
Hensall Horticultural Society	8	50	50
Hespeler Horticultural Society	19	56	51
Hillsburgh Horticultural Society	7	56	56
Horticultural Societies of Parkdale and Toronto	15	268	285
Huntsville Horticultural Society	18	70	64
Ingersoll & District Horticultural Society	10	62	62
Iroquois Falls Horticultural Society	12	40	40
Kanata-March Horticultural Society	2	64	70
Kapuskasing Horticultural Society	12	60	44
Kemptville Horticultural Society	2	67	58
Kincardine & District Horticultural Society	8	76	72
Kingston Horticultural Society	3	191	216
Kingsville Horticultural Society	11	101	118
Kirkland Lake & Dist. Horticultural Society	12	113	99
Kirkton Horticultural Society	10	228	226
Kitchener Horticultural Society	19	417	467
La Societe d'horticulture d'Alfred et des environs	1	86	65
Lake George Horticultural Society	13	32	34
Lake Simcoe South Shore Horticultural Society	5	76	72
Lakefield & Dist. Horticultural Society	4	80	80
Lambeth Horticultural Society	10	208	201
Land O'Lakes Horticultural Society	3	65	59
Leamington Horticultural Society	11	81	67
Leaside Garden Society	5	139	146

2011 & 2012 Society Membership Totals

	District	2011	2012
Lennox & Addington Horticultural Society	3	52	54
Lincoln Garden Club & Horticultural Society	9	112	104
Lindsay & District Horticultural Society	4	111	123
Listowel & District Horticultural Society	10	78	74
London Horticultural Society	10	153	127
London/Fanshaw Horticultural Society	10	221	212
Longlac Horticultural Society	14	49	49
Lucknow & District Horticultural Society	8	204	142
Lynden Horticultural Society	6	60	54
Madawaska Valley Horticultural Society	2	99	98
Manotick Horticultural Society	2	183	164
Markdale & District Horticultural Society	8	55	68
Markham Garden & Horticultural Society	5	102	109
Martintown & District Horticultural Society	1	62	60
Maryborough Horticultural Society	7	85	82
Massey-Walford Horticultural Society	13	25	26
Maxville & District Horticultural Society	1	117	108
Midland Horticultural Society	16	164	110
Milton & District Horticultural Society	6	202	202
Minden & District Horticultural Society	4	83	125
Mount Albert Garden & Horticultural Society	5	66	63
Mount Forest Horticultural Society	7	54	52
Mount Hamilton Horticultural Society	6	94	108
Nepean Horticultural Society	2	80	74
Neustadt & District Horticultural Society	8	64	51
Newcastle Horticultural Society	17	93	83
Newmarket Horticultural Society	5	220	207
Niagara Falls Horticultural Society	9	177	170
Niagara-On-The-Lake Horticultural Society	9	228	211
Nipigon-Red Rock Horticultural Society	14	46	29
Nobleton & King City Horticultural Society	15	73	38
Norland Horticultural Society	4	63	54
North Bay Horticultural Society	18	130	153
North Toronto Horticultural Society	5	114	116
North York Horticultural Society	5	100	79
Norwood & Dist. Horticultural Society	4	56	52
Oakville Horticultural Society	6	227	233
Omeme & District Horticultural Society	4	94	95
Orangeville & District Horticultural Society	7	212	190
Orillia Horticultural Society	16	86	85
Oro-Medonte Horticultural Society	16	223	205
Orono Horticultural Society	17	97	81
Oshawa Garden Club	17	283	272
Ottawa Horticultural Society	2	298	273
Ottawa Valley Rock Garden & Hort. Society	2	61	56
Painswick Horticultural Society	16	96	96
Pakenham Horticultural Society	2	87	57

2011 & 2012 Society Membership Totals

	District	2011	2012
Paris Horticultural Society	6	94	96
Parkhill Area Horticultural Society	10	128	130
Parry Sound & District Horticultural Society	18	110	112
Pelham Horticultural Society	9	88	89
Pembroke Horticultural Society	2	102	98
Penetanguishene Horticultural Society	16	91	91
Perth & District Horticultural Society	2	165	153
Petawawa Horticultural Society	2	138	207
Peterborough Horticultural Society	4	233	221
Pickering Horticultural Society	17	115	100
Pine Ridge Horticultural Society	17	110	91
Porcupine Horticultural Society	12	38	35
Port Burwell-Bayham Horticultural Society	10	54	54
Port Colborne Horticultural Society	9	87	77
Port Dover & Woodhouse Horticultural Society	6	219	208
Port Hope Horticultural Society	4	55	55
Powassan & District Horticultural Society	18	No Report	25
Preston Horticultural Society	19	57	50
Prince Edward County Horticultural Society	3	106	100
Rice Lake Horticultural Society	4	54	53
Richmond Hill Garden & Horticultural Society	15	243	259
Rideau Lakes Horticultural Society	3	96	95
Ridgetown & District Horticultural Society	11	229	219
Ridgeway & District Garden Club	9	117	93
Ripley & District Horticultural Society	8	50	50
Riverdale Horticultural Society	5	53	52
Rodney & District Horticultural Society	10	186	186
Roselands Horticultural Society	15	78	61
Rousseau Horticultural Society	18	45	49
Russell & District Horticultural Society	1	140	208
Sarnia & District Horticultural Society	11	134	134
Sault Ste. Marie Horticultural Society	13	190	169
Scarborough Garden & Horticultural Society	5	183	215
Schomberg Horticultural Society	15	50	62
Seaforth & District Horticultural Society	8	84	66
Shelburne & District Horticultural Society	7	51	57
Simcoe & District Horticultural Society	6	153	118
Sioux Lookout Horticultural Society	14	No Report	120
Smiths Falls Horticultural Society	2	86	86
Smithville Horticultural Society	9	55	55
Southport Horticultural Society	8	62	51
Spanish Horticultural Society	13	178	162
Sprucedale & District Horticultural Society	18	107	111
St. Catharines Horticultural Society	9	124	118
St. George Garden Club	6	54	62
St. Joseph Island Horticultural Society	13	38	38
St. Marys Horticultural Society	10	205	171

2011 & 2012 Society Membership Totals

	District	2011	2012
St. Thomas & District Horticultural Society	10	120	114
Stayner Horticultural Society	16	53	50
Stirling & District Horticultural Society	3	53	53
Stittsville-Goulbourn Horticultural Society	2	73	53
Stoney Creek Garden Club & Horticultural Society	6	70	64
Stouffville Horticultural Society	5	80	76
Stratford & District Horticultural Society	10	213	207
Strathroy-Caradoc Horticultural Society	10	111	131
Streetsville Horticultural Society	15	179	179
Sudbury Horticultural Society	13	238	242
Sundridge Horticultural Society	18	63	63
Swansea Horticultural Society	15	75	73
Tara Horticultural Society	8	105	73
Tavistock & Area Horticultural Society	10	68	72
Teeswater-Culross Horticultural Society	8	70	79
Thamesville Horticultural Society	11	No Report	46
Thessalon Horticultural Society	13	87	70
Thorndale & Area Horticultural Society	10	71	69
Thornhill Garden & Horticultural Society	15	137	150
Thorold Horticultural Society	9	87	64
Thunder Bay Horticultural Society	14	203	201
Tilbury & District Horticultural Society	11	88	71
Tillsonburg Horticultural Society	10	211	211
Timmins Horticultural Society	12	63	43
Toronto Region Rhododendron Horticultural Society	5	103	105
Tottenham & District Horticultural Society	16	54	62
Trenton Horticultural Society & Garden Club	3	56	52
Tweed & District Horticultural Society	3	62	72
Uxbridge Horticultural Society	17	113	106
Vankleek Hill & District Horticultural Society	1	130	126
Waterford & District Horticultural Society	6	53	55
Waterloo Horticultural Society	19	306	287
Watford-Warwick Horticultural Society	11	165	204
Welland Horticultural Society	9	63	51
Wellesley Township Horticultural Society	19	107	103
West Carleton Garden Club & Horticultural Society	2	86	75
West Lorne & Community Horticultural Society	10	112	65
Westway Horticultural Society	15	53	45
Whitestone & Area Horticultural Society	18	25	22
Williamstown Green Thumb Horticultural Society	1	87	100
Wilmot Horticultural Society	19	187	162
Wingham Horticultural Society	8	82	52
Winona Horticultural Society	6	55	52
Woodbridge Horticultural & Garden Society	15	85	84
Woodstock Horticultural Society	10	70	72

District designations can be found on the map on the inside front cover.

2011 membership totals are provided for comparison purposes.

Presidents of the OHA

- 1906-1907 - W. Burgoyne* - St. Catharines
1908-1909 - H. J. Snelgrove* - Cobourg
1910-1911 - R. B. Whyte* - Ottawa
1912-1913 - Rev. A. H. Scott* - Perth
1914-1915 - J. H. Bennett* - Barrie
1916 - Rev. G. W. Tebbs* - Hamilton
1917 - Dr. F. E. Bennett* - St. Thomas
1918 - Thomas D. Dockray* - Toronto
1919 - William Hartry* - Seaforth
1920 - G. H. M. Baker* - Lindsay
1921 - Mary Yates* - Meadowvale
1922 - Rev. W. M. J. McKay* - Weston
1923 - J. P. Jaffray* - Galt
1924 - J. E. Carter* - Guelph
1925 - George Simpson* - Ottawa
1926 - F. A. Kent* - Port Perry
1927 - G. K. Klosterman* - Windsor
1928 - T. J. Hannigan* - Guelph
1929 - W. P. Bailey* - Fort William
1930 - F. C. Nunnick* - Ottawa
1931 - J. A. Smith* - Kitchener
1932 - Dr. A. T. Morrow* - Maxville
1933 - Fred Collins* - Chatham
1934 - C. A. Byam* - New Liskeard
1935 - H. Occomore* - Guelph
1936 - J. B. Spencer* - Ottawa
1937 - Lionel Godson* - Toronto
1938 - R. R. Trudell* - Thamesville
1939 - A. H. MacLennan* - Guelph
1940 - W. E. Foster* - London
1941 - Mrs. D. W. Boucher* - Kingston
1942 - J. P. Reed* - Sault Ste. Marie
1943 - F. H. Fairs* - Woodstock
1944 - C. H. Janzen* - Breslau
1945 - J. S. Hall* - Toronto
1946 - Mrs. D. A. Gillies* - Arnprior
1947 - Howard Harty* - London
1948 - Percy Bone* - Thornhill
1949 - A. F. Johnson* - Stanford Centre
1950 - Rev. E. Rigby* - Hamilton
1951 - R. D. Little* - Richmond Hill
1952 - A. J. Jackman* - Owen Sound
1953 - W. M. Brown* - Elora
1954 - J. A. Tiffin* - Scarborough
1955 - H. Beilhartz* - Sault Ste. Marie
1956 - Ken Gardiner* - Brantford
1957 - Dr. B. Kendrick* - Toronto
1958 - St. C. Tennant* - Kleinburg
1959 - R. F. Gunnell* - Hamilton
1960 - James Burston* - London
1961 - Rev. J. W. Siebert* - Elmira
1962 - Mrs. K. W. Biglow* - Chapeau
1963/64 - Murray Smith* - Chatham
1964/65 - J. Decney* - Niagara
1965/66 - H. E. Fraser* - Pembroke
1966/67 - Dr. R. E. Ives* - Stayner
1967/68 - Mrs. G. Lemke* - Pembroke
1968/69 - F. Lejeune* - Ridgeway
1969/70 - John Smith - Mount Hamilton
1970/71 - Donald Klinck* - Windsor
1971/72 - Philip Dodds* - Picton
1972/73 - Mrs. Ruby Bryan* - Englehart
1973/74 - Eric Slater* - Leamington
1974/75 - Gladys McLatchy* - Richmond Hill
1975/76 - Alastair Crawford* - Oro Station
1976/77 - Mrs. E. Whiteford* - Windsor
1977/78 - H. E. Markle* - Guelph
1978/79 - Mrs. M. Klie* - Hanover
1979/80 - Roy Carr* - Callandar
1980/81 - Ed Endersby - Scarborough
1981/82 - Pauline Richards - London
1982/83 - Bryce Japp - Brigden
1983/84 - Doris Lightheart* - Ridgeway
1984/85 - Maurice Marshall* - Ottawa
1985/86 - Marjorie Durnford* - Guelph
1986/87 - Madeline Hobson - Midland
1987/88 - Cam Stewart* - Toronto
1988/89 - Mary Yeoman - Burgessville
1989/90 - Gordon Winter - Maxville
1990/91 - Harry Wyma - Ridgetown

Presidents of the OHA

1991/92 - Bert Card - Richmond Hill	2003/04 - Wilma Wood - Thunder Bay
1992/93 - Dave Money - Scarborough	2004/05 - Ted Reed - Callander
1993/94 - Jim Trotter* - Hastings	2005/06 - Judy Lewis - Sault Ste. Marie
1994/95 - Metje Mabee - Gananoque	2006/07 - Liisa Wolfgram* - Mississauga
1995/96 - Anne Bourke - Whitby	2007/08 - Jim Mabee - Tillsonburg
1996/97 - Jim Anderson - Brampton	2008/09 - Ken Fink - Beachburg
1997/98 - Earl Walker - Stoney Creek	2009/10 - Kees Stryland - Timmins
1998/99 - Don Matthews - Harriston	2010/11 - Vickie Wiemer - North Bay
1999/2000 - Kevin Healey - Elmvale	2011/12 - Carol Dunk - Barrie
2000/01 - Kathleen Petrie - Blackstock	2012/13 - John Sellers - Cramahe
2001/02 - Bruce Wilson - Englehart	
2002/03 - Shirley Daniels - Mississauga	

* - deceased

OHA Presidents serve a term that runs from convention to convention. In the early days of the Association, the annual meeting was held in November, with the President elected for a term that was mostly served during the following year. The first five holders of the office were each re-elected for a second term. In 1916, the expectation that the President would serve two years was removed, and since that time, each convention has seen the election of a new President.

Over the course of the OHA's history, the convention month has gradually migrated forward to the mid-to-late summer. In 1918, as a result of the worldwide flu epidemic, it was switched to February of the following year. Conventions continued to be held in February until 1944. The following year, the annual meeting took place in early March, a practice that continued until the early 1960s. A more significant change occurred in 1964, when the convention was first held in the summer months, a move that was made to facilitate the use of universities as convention venues. From 1964 until 2002, the meeting was held in June. Since 2003, August has become the favoured convention month. Exceptions to this were 2009 and 2011, when it was held in July.

The effect of these changes has been to alter the term of office for the President from one that originally approximated the calendar year, to one that, since 1964, has roughly extended from the middle of one year to the middle of the next.

Gardening for Success

As Canadian gardeners, we know we cannot transplant orange trees into our northern gardens in January. When we sow seeds we know we must prepare the seed beds and patiently wait. When we plant perennials we know we must gently nurse them along until they are well established. As plants grow we must assist their progress by weeding, staking, fertilizing, dead-heading and controlling insect enemies. As gardeners we know we cannot expect the grape vine to immediately yield a bountiful harvest.

So too in an organization care must be taken to wisely guide people into positions where they will be successful. But before they start a new responsibility, it is wise to explain the position in terms of expectations and duties - the seed bed must suit the seed.

Once someone is installed in that new slot, education needs to continue. Educate for success - clarify, review, and check back continuously. Left on their own many keen and willing people are lost just as many plants are lost due to neglect. Be sure to give the person time to learn and to grow in any new situation. Patience often paves the road to unexpected success.

Even when someone is well on the way to handling the new job or position, don't forget to offer continuing support. Positive feedback makes people bloom.

Being an ever constant gardener for both plants and people will result in a bountiful crop of prize tomatoes or happy engaged volunteers.

James Graham, OHA 1st Vice-President

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OHA District 5 Director

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OHA District 5 Assistant Director

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Keeping Ontario Beautiful