



Dear OHA Judges

Welcome to the new OHA Judges Committee Newsletter for Judges , **JUDGES CORNER** a new communication tool that has been developed to help get out information on Flower Shows and Judging . We are hoping that you will let us know if you have questions or concerns that we can help address. We also have a similar newsletter the *SHOW TABLE*. that has a society focus to help get information out to them on best practices on flower show organization and selecting judges.

- **Who are We?** The Ontario Horticultural Association Board in the fall of 2013 established a new committee to provide guidance and long term planning to the OHA on matters pertaining to judging. It is known as the Judging Committee. It is made of up of a number of Directors with Judging experience. Committee members are Penny Stewart(Chair) Kathryn Lindsay (Vice Chair) Jim Mabee (Judging School Coordinator) Sharon Nivins (Judges Registrar) Jane McDonald , Roland Craig and Sandra Hartill.
- **What's happening with OJES?** There have been lots of questions about when it might be updated. The Ontario Judging and Exhibiting Standards is a joint publication of the OHA and Garden Clubs of Ontario and in past few months we have made a start to updating this important publication. We will keep you informed as this project moves along.
- **How to find a Judge?** The OHA web site www.gardenontario.org has listed the names of all current judges that are willing to have their names published .This list is available directly from the home page to anyone who wishes to see it. All that is needed is to enter the word Judges in the search box and the list comes up. It can also be found under the Resource tab. This list is kept up to date by Sharon Nivins the Judges Registrar.
- **Best Practice in Selecting a Judge** We hope that by making the list of judges easy to access that societies and show committees will be sure to use it as it lists all the judges that are certified by OHA. As you know there are many new judges being certified who would benefit from an opportunity to judge a Society show. We are encouraging Societies to check with judges with whom they are familiar on whom else to approach.
- **Judging Updates when and where?** Our Judging School Coordinator Jim Mabee has information on judging schools updates that he has posted on the website. Our Conventions are another place where mini-updates are held so keep Hamilton and D6 in mind for July 3-5 2015. Having an update in your area? Let Jim know then he can post it on the web. Contact Jim at judgingschoolcoordinator@gardenontario.org
- **Lost your Judges Pin?** New ones are available from OHA supplies for just \$5.00. Order forms are available on line supplies@gardenontario.org

- **Registering** You will receive an email notice from Sharon Nivins (Registrar) requesting you to submit the form with the necessary information and \$10.00 fee. The forms for Registering are now available on line .Print it off, fill it in and send it in. If you don't register by the deadline your name will be removed from the website. We will not be sending out the small green card with your name .The website list will be the official list of Judges certified by OHA .You can contact Sharon Nivins at judges@gardenontario.org
- **Have a Question? Looking for information?** Are there topics you would like covered at Updates? Are there judging dilemmas you would like discussed? Contact us by Email at ohajudges@gmail.com

We look forward to hearing from you.

Penny Stewart
on behalf of the OHA Judging Committee