



Keeping Ontario Beautiful

Trillium

Ontario Horticultural Association

Summer 2013



Now Available on GardenOntario.org:

- Proxy Forms **1** and **2**
for Convention 2013
- Convention Question Form
- Minutes from the 2012 OHA Convention
- **Convention 2013 Details: Early Bird
Registration available until May 31!**

www.GardenOntario.org

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Looking Ahead ...

Last year's drought is gone. Ponds and rivers are full; the cold of winter has given way to warmth with trees budding and flowers blooming. Yet snowflakes and freezing rain are with me as I write this in mid-May.

Mid-May! In two months my term as President will be over. It has been quite a learning experience, made easier by all the tips and my inclusion in meetings and presentations by Carol. Emails often just addressed to 'president' were plentiful, some requiring answers and others from acronymic organisations which assumed we did or should support their causes. Computer skills are also now a definite must for a president.

I have also had the pleasure and enjoyment of meeting and being welcomed by so many of you at society meetings and special events, such as welcoming a new society, Ennismore, in District Four. Nowhere does our sense of unity in our diversity become so obvious as at district AGMs such as the four I attended over the past month in Martintown, Watford, Dunnville, and Mindemoya, where we celebrated Campbell Horticultural Society's 85th anniversary. Thank you also to the other host societies who similarly welcomed my colleagues on the OHA Board to their district AGMs across this beautiful province.

The 107th Convention and AGM of the Ontario Horticultural Association will be held in Thunder Bay, hosted by District 14, on July 19, 20 and 21. This year we are looking ahead with proposals to reduce the size of the Board and make better use of the talents and experience of the elected officers.

Delegates will be faced with three proposed changes to our constitution, including changing the length of term in office to two years for the president and vice-president, deleting the position of 2nd Vice President, and removing the representative of the Past President's Council from the OHA Board. Only society delegates or those holding proxies may vote. Make your society's votes count.

As I move on I want to thank all who, over the past twenty years, have enriched my life in a field new to me. Any success in the past few years is directly attributable to the efforts of an excellent team in District Four, and especially to Sharon Hill and Kelly Taylor, our Treasurer and Secretary, who are always prepared for anything, and to Carol Dunk, still a teacher, and a friend.

John Sellers
OHA President



From The Secretary's Desk:

I was so happy to have a chance to work in the garden these last couple of weeks. With a slower start to spring, I've had a chance to enjoy the tulips this year. Well, except for the ones the squirrels devoured! It has been a very busy spring with our OHA Board Meeting, Seedy Saturday, AGMs, and the London Home and Garden Show. What a rewarding job I have! I am very fortunate to be able to participate in these great spring gardening events.

This year's convention is being held at the Valhalla Inn in Thunder Bay from July 19-21, 2013. This year's theme is *Up North and Down to Earth*.

Please take advantage of the convention early registration rate. Early registration closes May 31, 2013. The cut-off date for reserving rooms in the Room Block is June 17, 2013. After the cut-off date, the hotel will accept additional reservations which will be subject to prevailing rates and availability.

Please be sure to check out the exciting tours and speakers being offered this year at the convention. The Registrar and Treasurer greatly appreciate registrations that are received well in advance of the deadline!

Please note the forms and documents referenced on the Trillium cover. These are now available on www.GardenOntario.org. If your Proxy authorization form is completed and returned by June 17, 2013 the society proxy voting cards will be ready for pickup upon arrival at the Registration Desk. Please take some time to review the resolutions this year and have your voice heard. Please cast your vote!

Also included in this issue is the nomination of Suzanne Hanna for 2nd Vice President. Please review the nomination included on page four with your society members, as this will be voted upon at the Thunder Bay Convention.

Have a safe journey to Thunder Bay. I look forward to seeing you all there!

Kelly Taylor
OHA Secretary

*Cover Photo: 'Hemerocallis with Escargot'
Photographed at Casa Loma by Linda Hugli*

Report of the Nominating Committee

It is with great pleasure that the OHA Nominating Committee presents a full slate of officers for election at the upcoming convention in Thunder Bay in 2013.

James Graham has agreed to stand for the position of President.

Jeff Blackadar has agreed to stand for the position of 1st Vice President.

Suzanne Hanna has been nominated by the Sault Ste. Marie Horticultural Society for the position of 2nd Vice President. Suzanne has agreed to stand for that position.

Calls for further nominations for each position will be held each day of the convention.

Carol Dunk
Chair, Nominations Committee

Resolutions to be voted upon at the 2013 OHA Convention

Resolution 13-1: Be it resolved that: The office of Second Vice-President be abolished, effective with the beginning of the 2014 elections and that the Constitution and By-Laws be amended accordingly.

Rationale: *Given the OHA has the offices of a Vice President, Immediate Past President and 2 Regional Representatives serving on the executive, the office of Second Vice-President is not required due to an overlap in duties. Removing this office will streamline decision making on the board and executive and save annual travel costs associated with the office of Second Vice-President of approximately \$2000 each year.*

Resolution 13-2: Be it resolved that: The Past President's Council will be represented on the board and the executive council of the Ontario Horticultural Association by the Immediate Past President and that the Constitution and By-Laws be amended accordingly.

Rationale: *Given the Immediate Past President is a member of the Past President's Council; the Past President's Council can be represented by the Immediate Past President. A second member of the Past President's Council is not required to be on the board and executive of the OHA to represent the Past President's Council. Removing this office will streamline decision making on the board and executive and save annual travel costs associated with the separate representative of the Past President's Council of approximately \$2000 per year.*

Resolution 13-3: Be it resolved that: "By-Law 13.1 be amended to read as follows:

a) District 4 - "Haliburton, Northumberland, Peterborough, Kawartha Lakes."

Resolution 13-4: 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.

Resolution 13-5: 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.

Resolution 13-6: Be it resolved that: The Ontario Horticultural Association extend its thanks to the Director, Assistant Directors, Societies and members of District 14 who worked to plan and conduct the 2013 Convention, and to all others who had any part in contributing to its success

Resolution 13-7: Be it resolved that: The President and Vice-President shall be elected for a two year term, subject to a confirmatory vote at the next annual general meeting of the Association, or at a meeting called for that purpose.

Rationale: *This would provide for a similar training and practical period for the V.P. as now without the concomitant expenses. It allows a new president to learn and find his way in the first year, and then to follow through on ideas and practices in the second year. Many of our societies elect their presidents for a year with the understanding that they will be re-elected in the second year. It allows for a year learning on the job and a second year putting what one has learned into practice or to carry on a project one has started and which needs further development. Financially it saves OHA the expenses of a second VP.*

A Friendly Reminder from OMAF

Your Horticultural Society is legally incorporated under the Agricultural and Horticultural Organizations Act (Act). This is provincial legislation that outlines specific requirements for operating your Society. In order to maintain the legal status of the Society and to be eligible for the annual grant, your Society must comply with the requirements of the Act.

This is a friendly reminder about scheduling your annual meeting and the audit/review of your Society's financial records. When you are planning your annual meeting remember the following:

1. First, the financial statements (income statement, balance sheet and reconciliation of accounts) are prepared by the treasurer or person designated to compile them.
2. Then, the financial statements are reviewed by the appointed auditors/reviewers.
3. At the annual general meeting, the audited/reviewed financial statements are presented and approved by the membership. Also, the auditors/reviewers for the next fiscal year are appointed.
4. After the annual meeting, the annual return and grant application are submitted to the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food by the February 1 deadline. This must also include the approved financial statements, proof that the audit/review was completed, and the list of incoming officers and directors.

Information about the Audit/Financial Review: Our current position is that there is continuum of accounting processes that are accepted by the Ministry to fulfill this annual reporting requirement. Society financial records must be audited for the protection of both the treasurer and the Society.

One of the following must be submitted:

- a) A completed Audit Certificate (a form supplied by the Ministry) with two signatures of reviewers that are: not executive officers or board members of the Society, are not related to one another, and are not related to the treasurer (This is the minimum requirement for a financial review that is accepted by the Ministry for the Society to be in compliance with the Agricultural and Horticultural Organizations Act). This financial review can be done by volunteers at no cost to the society, OR
- b) An Audit Report that is done by a professional firm (CA, CMA, CGA). This may be called a review, compilation, notice to reader, or audit. There is also a continuum of expenses related to the depth of the process done.

I would encourage you to review all of the requirements under this legislation. You can access the legislation at www.e-laws.gov.on.ca. If you have any questions or need further information, please feel free to contact me. Happy Gardening!



Helen Scutt, Agriculture Organization Specialist
Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food and the Ministry of Rural Affairs,

1 Stone Road West, 3rd Floor SW, Guelph, ON N1G 4Y2
1-888-466-2372 x63115 or 519-826-3115 Helen.scutt@ontario.ca



Suzanne Hanna, 2nd VP Nominee

Suzanne Hanna has been a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Horticultural Society since 1998 and held a number of Executive positions (President, Vice-President, and Secretary) to name a few. She currently serves as our Newsletter editor and Membership Convener as well as the Coordinator of our annual Seedy Saturday events. Married and a mother of three adult children, she has resided in Sault Ste. Marie for the past 36 years. For the past 34 years, she has been employed by Community Living Algoma and supports people with intellectual challenges who are striving to live fully in our community. She received the CLA Volunteer of the Year Award for her ongoing promotion of sensory gardens and horticultural therapy within her field.

Currently serving as the Director of District 13, Suzanne has represented our region for the past four years on the OHA Board. She has worked hard with our 14 societies to ensure that all members are included and heard on matters of interest and has revitalized our participation at the District level. Suzanne worked with our District members over a period of two and a half years to organize and deliver the OHA's very successful 105th Convention held in Sudbury in July 2011 that fostered a sense of openness to all possibilities and encouraged advocacy and interaction. Whether it was the opening Guerrilla Gardening event in downtown Sudbury that captured the interest of CTV, the fun Youth Camp on Nelson Lake or the incredible Paint the Picket Fence project that found a dedicated home at Sudbury's Maison Vale Hospice for terminally ill patients, Suzanne sought to involve everyone and leave a permanent reminder that the OHA exists to *Keep Ontario Beautiful*.

At the OHA Board level, she has served as its North/East Representative since 2011 and has participated in various committees (Conservation and Environment, Fundraising, Seedy Saturday). She currently chairs the new Community Initiatives Committee and advocates on behalf of the OHA at Seeds of Diversity Canada meetings.

For these reasons, we feel that Suzanne exemplifies the embodiment of the Ontario Horticultural Association and is eminently qualified to be nominated for the OHA's next **2nd Vice-President**.

Rita West, President, Sault Ste. Marie H.S.

‘Lucky 13’

OHA’s 21th Annual Successful Gardening Flower Show

February 21-24, 2013

A major flower show in February? Last year when the show dates for the 2013 OHA flower show at the Successful Gardening Show were announced, the show committee members were very concerned. After a fabulous show in early April in 2012, we worried about entries, volunteers and the possibility of a major snowstorm. I’m happy to report that everything went beautifully.

With our theme “Lucky 13”, how could it not? Yes, it was cold and exhibitors needed to bundle up their exhibits and while the number of entries was down from the previous year, the variety and quality was outstanding.

The show committee, Wendy Gay and Dawn Teal (Roselands), Gera Koster and Cathy Faber-Rowlands (Etobicoke), Celia Roberts and Marie Decker (Oakville) and Barbara O’Malley and Heinke Thiessen (Credit Valley) would like to thank all the volunteers for their enthusiasm in promoting the OHA and everyone who braved the cold with their plants and flowers to make this a wonderful show. 46 exhibitors provided a total of 261 entries (192 in horticulture and 69 in design). Best in Show for her design “Luck of the Irish” went to Helene Selemidis-Hill (Richmond Hill) and Sandra Williamson (Georgetown) received Judge’s Choice for her dried miniature design “Fortune Cookie”. Exhibiting for the first time in the Society Class, proved lucky for Alliston & District Horticultural Society - they placed first.

This show would not be possible without the support of Showcase Marketing President Paul Newdick and all his staff, in particular Pat Gramsch. We extend a thank you for 2400 square feet of show space, skirted tables, curtains, carpeting, ribbons and printed material. We also thank Showcase Marketing for hosting our judges’ luncheon and extend our gratitude for \$2935.00 in



exhibitor prize money & demonstrator honoraria.

For the past 21 years, the OHA has staged a flower show at the Successful Gardening Show, held in conjunction with the International Home and Garden Show, at the International Center in Mississauga. Next year will bring a change, not only of show dates but also venue. The 2014 show, to be held March 6

– 9, is moving to the North building of the Metro Toronto Convention Center, Toronto. While the show committee will worry about entries, volunteers and the weather, we are confident it will once again be a great experience for all exhibitors and volunteers. Please don’t wait to be asked. Enter and/or volunteer to participate in any way you can. This is your show!

Look for the 2014 Show schedule, titled “Let’s Dance”, at gardenontario.org in November or ask your Society president for a copy. If you wish to be placed on the email distribution list or have any questions about the show, please feel free to contact me at heinkesg@gmail.com or 905-820-4751.

Heinke Thiessen, Show Chair



Flora Niagara 2017 'Wonders of Nature'

2017, Canada's 150th anniversary of Confederation, will be an occasion to celebrate our vast and stunning natural wonders, to inspire future generations to respect and live in harmony with nature, to take pride in the stewardship of our great land, and to better understand the role that horticulture plays, daily, in the lives of each and every one of us.

In the spirit of sustainability, and as a showcase of the vast potential of horticulture, **Flora Niagara** – an Association of International Horticultural Producers sanctioned International Horticultural Exhibition – will shine an international spotlight on Canada and Niagara's vibrant and economically significant horticultural sectors. It will create jobs before, during, and after the event, be a major tourism draw, position Niagara and the Golden Horseshoe as an exciting garden experience destination. It will contribute overall to the healthy economic development of, and the quality of life in, Ontario and Canada.



The outstanding 34 hectare (84 acre) primary event site is on Niagara Parks Commission lands directly adjacent to the thundering Horseshoe Falls, a truly majestic site on which to showcase Flora Niagara's 'Wonders of Nature'. Lasting 150 days, the event will open on the Flower Moon in May and close on the Harvest Moon in October. More than 50 countries are expected to build gardens and displays at Flora Niagara and the event anticipates welcoming 3 million+ visitors from all over the world.

Flora Niagara will not be possible without federal and provincial funding which is anticipated to be confirmed by August of this year. To help make this happen, politicians from every party and at every level – local, municipal, provincial and federal – need to hear from you. Send letters to them letting them know how much you support Flora Niagara and how important it is to the horticulture industry, Niagara Region, Ontario and Canada. Each voice is important, and together we can create a chorus that can't be ignored.

For more information about Flora Niagara visit:

www.floraniagara.com

**Carol Cowan, Manager
Flora Niagara 2017**

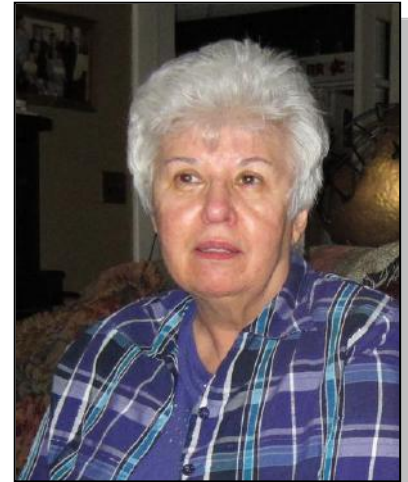
*Earlier this year, the OHA formed a committee to ensure our involvement
in this spectacular event.*

Donna Hussey, DD6

Introducing the New District Directors ...

Katharine Smyth – District 11

I am a wife to husband Doug, a mother of four- three sons and a daughter, four daughters-in-law. I'm also a grandmother known as Baba to five grandsons and three granddaughters. Doug and I own and operate a bed and breakfast. I am on the board of Chatham-Kent United Way and the Tilbury Revitalization Committee. I am past president of Gamma Upsilon Master of Beta Sigma Phi. I am treasurer and member of the Tilbury Ladies Golf League. I belong to the Tilbury Ladies Bowling League. I am a member of the Canada South Bed and Breakfast Association, the Windsor and Essex Tourist Association, the Tilbury and District Chamber of Commerce, Chatham-Kent Communities in Bloom, and the Tilbury Horticultural Society of which I am Past President. I love to garden, cook, bake, decorate cakes, quilt, and sew. I have big shoes to fill in District 11 and I hope that I will be an asset to my district and to the OHA. Thank you for giving me a chance to serve the members of District 11.



Penny Stewart – District 3

I am the incoming Director of District 3 and have been on the board for the past five years, serving as Assistant Director and Secretary /Treasurer. I became involved with Gananoque Horticultural Society about 14 years ago and am involved on the board and executive. I have been an active gardener since my early years, learning all about veggie gardening from my dad and grandparents. I have been expanding my horticultural knowledge by becoming an OHA certified judge as well as holding my RBG Accreditation in Horticulture. I am currently a student at GCO design school. I love to be outside in my gardens and have opened my garden for tours. I also actively enter shows. I have two grown children who, along with my husband, help me to keep up with the weeds. I also enjoy photography and pottery. I am a recent retiree, having spent 33 years with the Ontario Ministry of the Environment with a broad experience base in many areas of environmental protection.

Russ Talbot – District 16

Retiring seven years ago led my wife, Maureen, and me to Wasaga Beach. Under my wife's design direction and my muscles we have created a little back yard paradise. I can sit for many hours watching my wife work in the garden, while I am sitting in the shade of the patio, watching the bird life. My horticulture interest leans towards the landscaping aspect. To this end I have laid many a patio stone and built wooden creations to enhance our garden. Water conservation through the use of cisterns and grass substitution are other areas of interest. I am a Past President of the Stayner Horticultural Society and a member of the Wasaga Beach Garden Club. For the past three years I have been an Assistant Director with District 16. In April I was elected the District Director. My strengths lie in the administrative end of horticulture, not with plant knowledge. I am looking forward to working with the members of our 18 societies in Simcoe County. I am sure, with time, osmosis will help me absorb a few more plant names.



Gary Brenner – District 19 (Photo and bio in the fall issue)



Rideau Lakes Garden Tour

Saturday, July 6, marks the Rideau Lakes Horticultural Society's (RLHS) tour of private gardens. Arrive at 10:00 a.m. at any of the six gardens to pick up your information package. The gardens, presenting diverse styles and sizes, are open until 3 p.m. The tour includes a scavenger hunt for plants you identify using whimsical clues about Enchanted Gardens, the theme of the RLHS annual Garden Show, August 24 – another event you won't want to miss. After touring, come to the Delta Fairgrounds for prizes and a chicken BBQ. Advance \$15 tickets are available from Mark Stevens, mkbjstevens@ripnet.com or 613-928-2652.

OHA Convention 2013 – Thunder Bay

The Early Bird registration date of May 31 is fast approaching and my mailbox has been somewhat EMPTY!! Take the opportunity to visit this very beautiful area of our province, north of Lake Superior, and Thunder Bay. Enjoy the speakers and bus tours of the area, while meeting members of horticultural societies from all parts of the province.

I'm looking forward to a FULL mailbox every day!

Barb O'Malley
OHA Registrar



Horticultural Tours with Margaret



Looking for a speaker for one of your club's monthly meetings? Interested in using a trip as a fund-raiser?

Heatherington & Assoc. would be happy to assist – please contact the office for complete details.

OHA Fund Raiser

THE BUFFALO GARDEN FESTIVAL – July 21st to 23rd

Buffalo has the largest "garden walk" in the U.S. Come join us for this three day tour as we visit Buffalo's premium private gardens plus the Buffalo Botanical Garden; Marina Test Gardens; Knox-Albright Art Gallery.

Additional Garden Tours

QUEBEC GARDEN TOUR – July 12th to 18th

Includes the Mosaiculture at the Montreal Botanical Gardens; Reford Gardens (blue poppy); Domaine Joly-de-Loboniere; Rose des Champs; Gerbes d'Angelica; Blue Lavande; Vivaces Nordiques (daylilies); plus two nights in Quebec City – fabulous tour!

NEW YORK CITY – August 15th to 19th

Experience the "High Line" plus visit Wave Hill; Brooklyn Botanical Gardens; NY Botanical Gardens; the Cloisters; and a tour of Frank Cabot's Stonecrop. Accommodation is at the ideally located Hilton, near Rockefeller Centre. Evenings are free to experience the theatre or museums.

2014 TOURS

June – Visit Ireland for the WAFA fantastic show

July – Tour of the Hudson Valley Gardens and Mansions

September – Tour of the gardens of Cotswolds
including HIGH GROVE

For complete details call Margaret 416-746-7199/1-877-672-3030 or email Margaret@hnatravels.com

Heatherington & Associates – a trusted tour operator for the TBG and the OHA.

Come into Our Gardens: a four-club tour

In early 2008, the Past President of the Cobourg Horticultural Society Judith Goulin approached neighbouring associations with the suggestion of combining forces for an annual joint garden tour. The reasons for this were primarily to relieve each club of the need to plan an annual tour of members' gardens. In addition, the Cobourg club executive felt this would offer all participating club members the opportunity of touring gardens a bit farther afield. At the time there were two fundraising garden tours run by local charities, and a tour in Port Hope every other year by their Architectural Conservancy of Ontario chapter, with which we did not want to compete.

Thus was born a four-club tour titled, *Come into Our Gardens*, to take place on a summer afternoon, rotating every four years. The clubs which originally participated in this venture were Cobourg, Port Hope, Rice Lake, and Grafton. The inaugural tour was held in Cobourg on July 13, 2008, with seven gardens chosen by Judith Goulin, at one of which refreshments were offered. In subsequent years, tours were hosted by Grafton and by Port Hope – both very successful, with a great variety of gardens featured, each tour ending with refreshments.

The Rice Lake Society withdrew from the group in 2011, and the Cramahe Society was invited to join, to maintain the four year rotation. Cramahe hosted the 2011 tour, organized by Shirley Ross, who was a member of the boards of both Cramahe and Cobourg at the time. It was a lovely event, with a range of interesting gardens, ending up at the Ecology Garden in Colborne for refreshments.

The 2012 *Come Into our Gardens* tour was hosted once again by Cobourg, with six gardens selected by Vice-President Anne Parks - three in the north of the town, and three nearer to Lake Ontario. One of these was large enough to host over 80 visitors for refreshments, though a downpour somewhat dampened both spirits and visitors at the end of the tour!

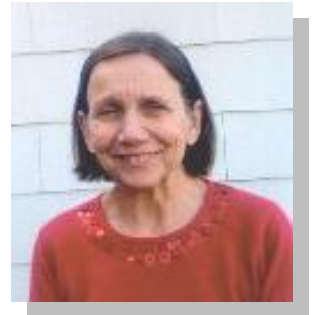
In the course of the five years of this project, technology has enabled us to move from a printed hard copy program delivered to each club in time for their June general meetings, to an electronic version, which each club can print as needed, and forward to members by email – so saving some trees, we would hope!

Collaborating on something like this has been a great way to meet other OHA members. I have enjoyed each one of these tours immensely, and I look forward to the 2013 tour, to be hosted once again by Grafton on Sunday, July 7, 2013.

**Sarah Holland, Past President
Cobourg Horticultural Society**

Introducing OHA's new Youth Leader, Jane McDonald

Approximately 25 years ago when my children were young, our neighbour, Marjorie Durnford (a past President of the OHA), suggested that we join the Guelph Township Youth Horticultural Society. "And the rest is history" as they say. My children were fortunate to have two very dedicated Youth Leaders during their time as members and when our Youth Leader stepped up to be Vice-President in 1994, I volunteered to take her place. While serving as VP, President, and Past President of our Society, I continued to lead our small group and I will continue to do so until another suitable replacement steps forward. I feel that I understand both the challenges and the rewards of maintaining a Youth Group within a Society of aging members (myself included!). My goal will be to look at our options for the future to ensure that the Ontario Horticulture Association can continue to offer youth the opportunity to participate in, and learn about, all things horticultural.



Marjorie Durnford Of Guelph, passed away December 13, 2012 at The Village of Riverside Glen, in her 96th year. Marjorie was a lifetime member of the **Guelph Township Horticultural Society** and a **Past President of the Ontario Horticultural Association**.. A tree will be planted in memory of Marjorie E. Durnford in the Wall-Custance Memorial Forest, University of Guelph Arboretum. The dedication service will be held on Sunday, September 15, 2013 at 2:30 p.m.





The Ontario Volunteer Service Award recognizes individual volunteers for continuous years of commitment and dedicated service to an organization. Adults are recognized for 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30+, 40+, 50+ and 60+ years of continuous service. Youth (under the age of 24) are recognized for two or more years of continuous service. Only organizations that have been in existence for at least five years can submit nominations for the Volunteer Service Award. An organization may nominate up to six volunteers if nominating adults, or seven volunteers if at least one of the nominees is a youth.

The deadline for nominations is January 25 of each year. Nominations may be submitted at any time. Nominations are checked to ensure criteria are met. The Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration then sends a letter to the organization confirming that the nominations have been accepted. The awards are presented at special ceremonies held across Ontario where recipients are presented with a stylized trillium service pin acknowledging their years of service. Recipients also receive a personalized certificate. Each recipient is invited to bring one guest. Nominating organizations are also invited to bring two representatives to the award ceremony.

Visit <http://www.citizenship.gov.on.ca/english/citizenship/honours/vsa.shtml> for more details.

Kirkton Horticultural Society :

On April 25, 2013 at the London Marconi Club, five Kirkton Horticultural Society Directors, Executive, and Examiners were recognized for their volunteer contribution. Ontario Volunteer Service Awards were presented by Hon. Minister of Health Deb Matthews to Doris Elford (Director since 1970); Sandra Kemp (Director since 2002, President 2008 and 2009, and Youth and Bus Trip Committee member), Rosemary Schaefer (Director since 2003, President 2006 and 2007 and member of Flower Show and Workshop Committees), and Lucille McCurdy and Grace Brine (Financial Examiners since 1991 and 2002 respectively).

Pictured L-R: Lucille McCurdy - 20 years, Rosemary Schaefer - 10 years, Hon. Minister of Health Deb Matthews, Sandra Kemp - 10 years, Doris Elford - 40 years and Grace Brine - 10 years.



Doris Richardson, Secretary



Teeswater-Culross Horticultural Society:

In this the 91st year of the Teeswater-Culross Horticultural Society, changes have occurred. The streets of Teeswater are under construction for a second year as the community is acquiring a sewer system. Thus the usual flower beds/pots are not being attended. But the Society has many long time devoted members and five of them were honoured in April 2013 in Kitchener, one of the many Province of Ontario 2013 Volunteer Service Awards presentation venues. Congratulations to the following volunteers who have put many hours into making the Teeswater-Culross Society recognizable in the community. Provincial Volunteer Service lapel pins and certificates were presented to Millie Blackwell - 40 years; Joyce MacDonald - 30 years; Gerald Baptist - 25 years; John MacDonald - 20 years; and Elizabeth Stobo - 10 years.

Sharon A. McDonald, President

District 3 Service Award

Carolyn Scott was presented with an OHA District Service Award on May 8th at the monthly meeting of the Gananoque Horticultural Society. All society members and the community have benefited from Carolyn's never tiring dedication to the Gananoque Horticultural Society's objectives of Community Beautification and Education.



Carolyn Scott has been a very active member of the Gananoque Horticultural Society for well over 35 years. Carolyn has been very active on the board of directors and has held the position of President more than once. She has also been active at the District level as Secretary of District 3 for a number of years and then serving as District Director.

Carolyn has dedicated a great deal of time to bettering herself and in sharing her horticultural knowledge. She is an OHA certified judge and holds her Garden Club of Ontario accreditation as a Floral Design Judge. Carolyn continues to educate members acting as a speaker on floral design topics. She is always keen to help new exhibitors in getting involved in the flower shows.

She has not only edited the annual year book but also authored garden columns for the local paper. Carolyn volunteers her time at the annual plant sale (no matter what the weather) and generously contributes plant material. Carolyn has opened her own beautiful garden to the garden tour repeatedly. She has been an active participant in shows, helping with set up, being on show committees, clerking and also entering. Her name shows up on those trophies dating back to her early years with the society. She is the main driving force behind the maintenance at the society's park in town and with the annual planting of tulips for the Town Hall.

The District Service Award recognizes that without the talents and commitment of people like Carolyn our organization could not continue to do all its good work.

**Penny Stewart,
District 3 Director**



Annual Rose Show

June 25, 2013 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Huronian Rose Society celebrates
33 years of growing and showing roses.

Guest speaker: Elizabeth Schleicher
*Rosafrika - Gardens & Rose Shows of
South Africa*

Held at Southshore Community Centre
205 Lakeshore Rd. Barrie

Open to public - free admission

For information: www.huroniarose.com
or

Ellen: 705-739-9101



District 16 Service Award

At the recent District 16 AGM, Carol Dunk was presented the District Service Award. Carol is the Immediate Past President of the OHA as well as a Past Director of District 16. She is shown here with fellow members of the Barrie Garden Club. Pictured L-R are; Jean Varep, Jane Falls, Carol Dunk, Clarinda Hamilton and Holly Wells.

**Russ Talbot,
District 16 Director**

Perth's Successful Partnership Project



The **Perth and District Horticultural Society** has been a victim of its own success. Among the many projects and activities, the Junior Garden Program has proven so popular with local schools that it has practically broken the Society's bank!

What to do?

Presented with this dilemma, society members gave a resounding **NO!** to the idea of abandoning the project or even scaling back, and resolved to find ways to fund it for as many children and schools as wanted it.



Fundraising for the Society's many projects over the years has taken many forms - an annual plant sale, making and selling of our own rose mix, and new to us this year, a *Share the Wealth* program. One of our members, Barb Michie, painstakingly collected and packaged seeds from her own garden, took them to *Seedy Sunday*, and gave them to people in return for a donation to the Junior Gardener Program. She donated over \$175 to Junior Gardeners just this year alone. Individuals donated \$100 here and there and the Perth Lions Club sent a cheque for \$200. Our members even donated their Canadian Tire money to help defray the costs.

Not all of our funds raised go to the Junior Gardeners however. We also had other needs and started looking for sponsors for some of our more costly initiatives. We sold sponsorships for our yearbook for \$50 to community businesses and received enough to cover the cost of the yearbook for our 140 members. The business cards are printed throughout the yearbook in colour.

In spite of our fundraising efforts, more was required to cover the expense of the Junior Gardener Program. Last year alone over 200 children took part in the six week program. Each child received a Plant Log to record the weekly progress of the plants they took home from our Plant Library and a Workbook which gives lots of gardening information. The children planted seeds, planted seed potatoes, and learned about corms, tubers, and rhizomes. Week four of creating their own cactus gardens in pretty bowls with coloured gravel is always very popular and the piece de resistance, a Mother's Day flower arrangement in a tuna can, always brings the house down! The cost of all of this for the Society, which presents the program for free with its own volunteer teachers, is over \$1500 per year - a big load for a small society like Perth.

Then we discovered the **Perth and District Community Foundation**. There are more than 50 Community Foundations in Ontario alone operating under "Canada Community Foundations". Their missions are to build community vitality. They bring donors to the table as community builders, and help them formulate and realize their philanthropic goals, matching their interests and concerns with community needs and organizations, and finding innovative and responsible ways to give their investments lasting impact. Their idea is that vitality comes from all corners of a community and so they grant funds to the widest possible range of organizations and initiatives that meet their criteria.

We felt we fit the bill for their criteria and applied before their granting deadline. We were thrilled to receive a cheque for \$1500.00 dollars for our Junior Gardener program at a donor's lunch this past March 2013. What a boost it gave us. The Perth and District Community Foundation was also happy to partner with a program that helped with youth development in the community. The grant is intended to be a one time grant although our Society can apply again for a second year. Part of the intention of the grant is to attract a more permanent or ongoing donor who may not have heard of our program. That is phase two however and a future project for the Perth and District Horticultural Society.

If you have or want a similar program or a different program that might qualify for their grants, why not see if you have a local Community Foundation? You may be very happy to discover that you do, just like us.

We are now at the halfway point of the Junior Gardener program this year and it has been, once again, a stunning success. Now to dig those hens and chicks out of the garden for the cactus gardens tutorial next week!



Pam Pratt,
Perth and District Horticultural Society

Every Seed Tells a Story

About 100 society members from across the counties of Bruce, Grey, and Huron were treated to a memorable day held at the Westcast Complex in Wingham on April 27. Members of 18 horticultural societies which make up District 8 of the OHA were present at the meeting.

Messages of welcome were brought by Neil Vincent, Reeve of North Huron and Lisa Thompson, MPP for Huron-Bruce, along with Suzanne Hanna who represented the OHA. The dignitaries and society executives were piped into the hall by Archie Purdon.



After the morning's business was completed, members were treated to guest speaker Suzanne Hanna, Director of Seeds of Diversity Canada, who spoke on guerilla gardening and encouraged everyone to collect, save, and use their own seeds. *Seeds of Diversity* is a Canadian volunteer organization that aims to conserve the biodiversity and traditional knowledge of food crops and garden plants. The Seeds of Diversity group organizes *Seedy Saturdays*, where gardeners can exchange seeds and learn about collecting and saving seeds.

To complement the seed theme of the day, packages of seeds were distributed to members. Several seed companies had donated the seeds as gifts. In addition, Wingham Society's Laurence Ryman, who produces and collects his own specialized seeds, packaged his local seeds as gifts for members.

After lunch Master Gardeners Susan Beatty, Pat Rodney, and Ann Inglis opened the floor to gardening questions. Questions included the removal of goutweed, stopping the spread of weeds without aggressive herbicides, and growing healthy roses suitable for our climate. A great deal of laughter was generated when it was suggested a vacuum cleaner could be used to remove dandelion heads before they spread. Local businesses provided a bustling market area of garden products.

**Susan Watson, Treasurer,
Wingham & District H.S.**

Where Do You Fit?

Some members keep their organization strong

While others join, just to belong.

Some volunteer and do their share

While others sit back and just don't care.

On meeting days, some always show,

While there are those who never go.

Some always pay their dues ahead,

Some get behind for months instead.

Some do their best, some build, some make,

Some never do, just sit and take.

Some lag behind, some let things go,

And never help their organization grow.

Some drag, some pull,

Some don't, and some do.

Consider – which of these are you?

Anonymous

Paris Horticultural Society annual Garden Tour Saturday & Sunday, June 1 & 2 from 10 AM - 4 PM in conjunction with Springtime in Paris. Seven gorgeous gardens to visit, sit for a while and enjoy some music. Tickets are \$10.00 per person. Call Sandy 519-442-4630 or email sewgoodsandy@rogers.com for details.



Bolton & District Society Named Caledon's Environmentalist of the Year

Caledon's Environmental Advisory Committee (CEAC) has chosen the Bolton & District Horticultural Society as the *Environmentalist of the Year* for 2013 in recognition of its contribution to the stewardship of Caledon's natural environment over the last 18 years.

Since its inception in 1995, the Bolton & District Horticultural Society has partnered with other local volunteer groups, industries, clubs, associations, government bodies, and non-profit organizations in initiating, providing leadership, and financing 15 environmental projects in Caledon. During this time, the members have planted approximately 2,500 native trees and shrubs, and 2,000 wildflowers.

"Congratulations to the members of the Bolton & District Horticultural Society for their work in Caledon over the past 18 years," said Mayor Marolyn Morrison. "The Society's obvious commitment to Caledon and its success in revitalizing and protecting our natural areas while working to educate residents is most deserving of this *Environmentalist of the Year* recognition."

The Bolton & District Horticultural Society was presented with the award at the Town's Volunteer and Citizen Achievement Awards ceremony on April 22, 2013 and will be inducted into the CEAC Stewardship Grove on the Trans-Canada Trail in Caledon East on June 26, 2013. Additionally, the Bolton & District Horticultural Society is given the honour of directing a \$500 Annual Environmentalism Recognition Award to its favourite Caledon-based environmental stewardship project.

CEAC established the *Environmentalist of the Year* award in 1997 to recognize individuals or organizations that have made an outstanding contribution to environmental stewardship in the Town of Caledon.

Patti Foley, Regional Councillor, Bolton

Cambellford and District Seed Sharing

Inspired by the Seed Exchange last year in Peterborough, the Campbellford & District Horticultural Society decided to have a Seed Sharing Program at our March meeting. Glenn Bennett gave a brief outline of what seeds could be saved, how, and when to do it, etc. Then the seed packages, which had been attractively set out on tables, were presented by their owners. Seven members brought seeds, and everyone at the meeting had a wonderful time choosing which seeds they would take home that night. Pictured below Muriel Godden, Campbellford's President, is explaining one of the types of seeds she brought for the Seed Sharing. The meeting was a huge success!



Welcome Ennismore!

District 4 is very pleased to announce the addition of a new horticultural society to their team.



Ennismore & District Horticultural Society received its charter certificate from OMAFRA in early March and some of its members were able to join us at our Spring Get Together to show it to the members present. The society held their first meeting and invited Gary and Dianne Westlake as their first speakers. Pictured are OHA President John Sellers, Ennismore President Sarah Sullivan, District 4 Director Rose Odell, and Ennismore member Helen Young.

Rose Odell, District 4 Director

Thunder Bay D.E.S.I.G.N. Workshops

Home and Garden Show April 5th, 6th and 7th (held at CLE in Thunder Bay):

This year I chose a topic called DESIGN to showcase our upcoming provincial convention which we are hosting this July 19 to 21. The theme was spelled out in words:

D - Decorative

E - Education

S - Simple

I - Innovative

G - Green

N - Natural

To accomplish this I engaged seven horticultural society members to demonstrate flower arranging, planting, and care of plants, with a component of dried arrangements as well. It was well received and many stopped to listen, look, and learn.



Also the venue asked us to participate in holding mini workshops /seminars in one of the main buildings (for which they gave us free advertising and got the horticultural club known). We ran four of the talks there with the same presenters but a different look from our booth. It was well received.

The CLE organizers stated that our booth was a breath of fresh air and very well organized.

**Sandi Sissons, Co-coordinator - Home and Garden Show,
TBHS, District 14**

Thorndale & Area Green Thumb Garden Tour

Come to Thorndale to enjoy a leisurely self guided tour of private gardens in Thorndale and area. A wonderful opportunity to see the "green thumb" skills of fellow gardeners! Tickets available at Wye Creek, King Street (beside the hardware store), Thorndale.

Start Date: June 23, 2013

End Date: June 23, 2013

Time: 11:00am to 04:00pm

Location: The village of Thorndale and surrounding area. Tickets are available at Wye Creek, King Street (beside the hardware store), Thorndale, ON

Contact: **Shirley Hacon** Contact Phone: 519-461-0855

Contact Email: thornhort@yahoo.ca

URL: www.gardenontario.org/site.php/tahs/about/



Contest for residents and small businesses will open for entries as follows:

Residential Contest entry period: Monday May 13 to Sunday June 16, 2013.

Small Business Contest entry period: Friday May 31 to Sunday July 7, 2013.

You don't have to be an expert - all experience levels are welcome.

Prizes will be awarded at the Streetscape Awards Event on Monday September 9, 2013.

For contest information:

www.mississauga.ca/streetscape

Maureen Ricker



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RHS Images/Carol Sheppard

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Highlights... Venice, Murano Island, Doges Palace, Giardini Giusti, Como, Lugano (Switzerland), Bellagio, Stresa

THE BEAUTY OF BRITAIN 9 Days – 10 Meals • August 29, 2013 **\$2609***
Highlights... London, Windsor Castle, RHS Garden Wisley, Cambridge, Sherwood Forest, Yorkshire, Castle Howard, RHS Garden Harlow Carr, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, Scottish Night Farewell Dinner

THE BEAUTY OF JAPAN 13 Days – 19 Meals • September 5, 2013 **\$6549***
Highlights... Tokyo, Hakone, Mt. Fuji, Nagano, Omicho Market, Kenroku-en & Koraku-en Gardens, Kyoto, Okayama

PORTUGAL'S GARDENS *featuring the Azores and Lisbon* 10 Days – 15 Meals • September 6, 2013 **\$2349***
Highlights... St. Michael, Azores, Sete Cidades, Ponta Delgada, Furnas Valley, Terra Nostra Park, Tea Plantation Visit, Lisbon, Folkloric/Fado Dinner Show, Jeronimo's Monastery, Queluz Palace & Gardens, Sintra

NEW ZEALAND'S GARDEN ROUTE 19 Days – 27 Meals • November 3, 2013 **\$5219***
New Zealand's North & South Islands with optional 2-Night Fiji Tour Extension

Highlights... Auckland, Ayrles Garden, Bay of Islands, Palmco Garden, Rotorua, Napier, Art Deco Garden Tour, Gwavas Garden & Homestead, Wellington, Marlborough Winery, Tranz Alpine Train, Franz Josef Glacier Region, Queenstown, Private Gardens Tour

FLORAL WONDERS OF SOUTH AFRICA 15 Days – 23 Meals • November 8, 2013 **\$4239***
with optional 3-Night Victoria Falls Post Tour Extension

Highlights... Johannesburg, Soweto, Panorama Route, Kruger National Park, Safari Game Drive, Garden Route, Knysna, Featherbed Nature Reserve, Stellenbosch, Wine Pairing Dinner, Cape Town, Table Mountain

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