



2014

Ontario Horticultural Association

Keeping Ontario Beautifultm





THE ONTARIO HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION

OUR VISION: *The OHA will create a supportive environment for gardeners of all ages. We will foster the growth of our member societies and encourage the use of eco-friendly horticultural practices to promote the production of food, the beautification of our communities and the conservation of our environment.*

The Ontario Horticultural Association is a volunteer, charitable organization whose mission is to provide leadership and assist in the promotion of education and interest in all areas of horticulture and related environmental issues in Ontario, through an expanding network of horticultural societies dedicated to the beautification of their communities. The Ontario Horticultural Association pursues its mission by:

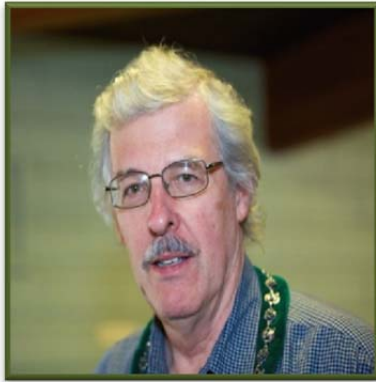
- Providing grants for trees and community beautification projects throughout Ontario.
- Developing programs in the areas of Conservation and the Environment, youth and horticulture.
- Providing support to its member horticultural societies in the form of shared insurance plans, promotion, speaker lists, procedure manuals, volunteer recognition, projects, events and web sites.
- Holding an annual convention and providing educational opportunities for members.
- Publishing items of a horticultural or environmental nature such as the Trillium newsletter, the Rain Barrel Booklet and the Ontario Judging Standards.

The Ontario Horticultural Association depends on the support of its members and charitable donations to carry out its work. You are encouraged to support the OHA as a volunteer with a horticultural society or with a charitable donation.

Societies Are *Keeping Ontario Beautiful*.

There are over 280 Horticultural Societies in Ontario working on projects to Keep Ontario Beautiful. The projects include a wide variety of activities like beautifying local parks, planting boxes in downtown areas, and creating and maintaining public gardens around government buildings, hospitals, health and hospice centres.

President's Message



It was my great pleasure to serve as President of the Ontario Horticultural Association for the 2013-14 term. Truly this was an honour which I could never have imagined when I began my gardening journey or throughout my long addiction to all things horticultural.

During the 2013-2014 term change for the good of the organization was a constant theme as was the development of ideas and methods for recruiting and retaining members as well as promoting the greater good done by all the member societies.

The value of being a member in a Horticultural Society has seemed so obvious. There is always something to be learned, a stage to answer questions and a chance to volunteer in one's community. Sharing one's talents and horticultural extras should be an integral part of every member's persona.

I have always chuckled at "The Black Market" that goes on at most meetings. One member quietly hands another a brown paper bag which contains a "treat" – and not an alcoholic beverage! Then there is the unfortunate gardener who missed out on the Rose of Sharon at the Plant Sale, only to be given two of them at the next meeting.

Friendships are established at meetings and as the members work cooperatively on various community projects from flower beds to arboretums, to pollinator patches, to environmental cleanups.

For the growing season of 2014, every society in Ontario was given a package of Ruby Red Swiss Chard seeds as an incentive to grow vegetables as ornamentals and edibles. The seeds were planted in containers, in parks, in gardens and the resulting crop was used in casseroles, soups and as a vegetable.

The Horticultural Societies of Ontario have provided millions of dollars of volunteer work for the betterment of their communities over the long years of their existence and it is hoped this will continue for many years to come.

Horticulturally yours
James Graham
OHA President 2013-14

EXECUTIVE AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2013/2014



The President, 1st VP, and 2nd VP are elected by the voting delegates at the Annual General Meeting. The Secretary and Treasurer are appointed by the Board. The Past President remains on the Board for one year.

Executive

NAME	POSITION
James Graham	President
Jeff Blackadar	1 st Vice-President
Suzanne Hanna	2 nd Vice President
Kelly Taylor	Secretary
Sharon Hill	Treasurer
John Sellers	Past President/Past President's Council

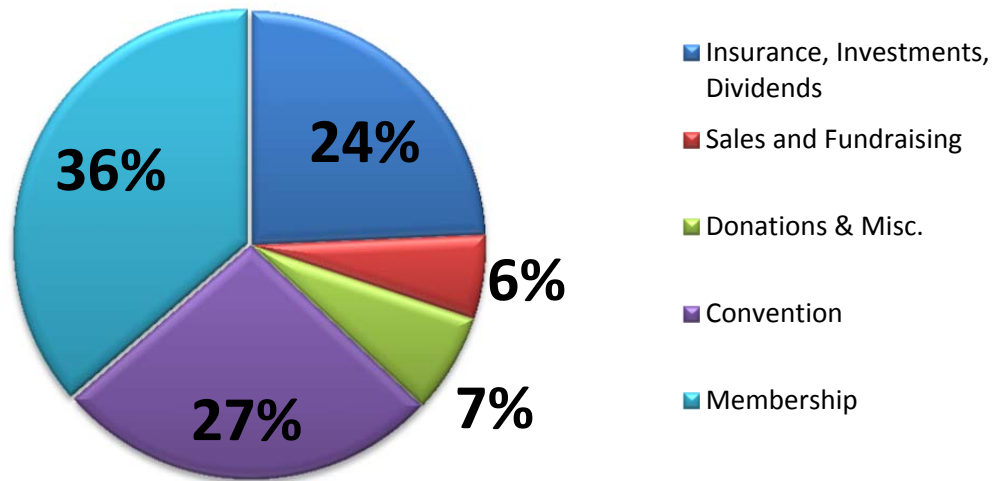
The Director of each District is elected by the Member Societies of that District at a District Annual Meeting.

District Directors

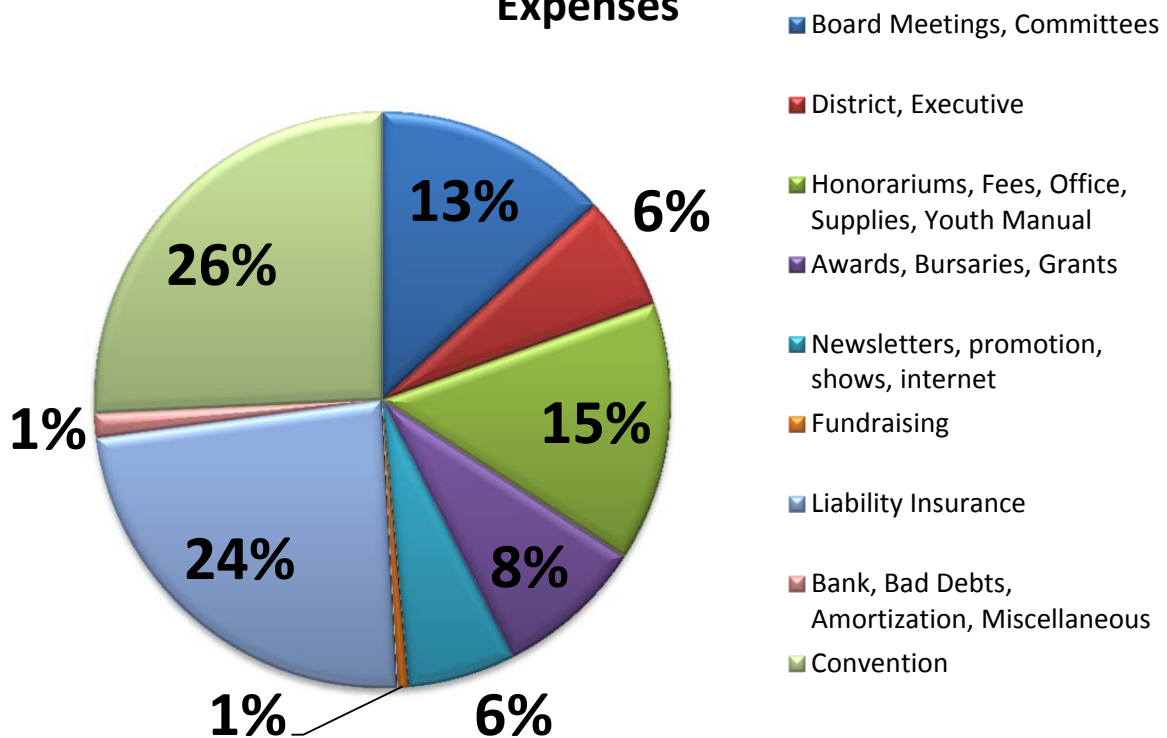
NAME	DISTRICT	NAME	DISTRICT
Pat Stachon	1	Katharine Smyth	11
Kathryn Lindsay	2	Kees Stryland	12
Penny Stewart	3	Suzanne Hanna	13
Rose Odell	4	Shirley Robson	14
Nancy Serrick	5	Carole Spraggett	15
Donna Hussey	6	Russ Talbot	16
Jane McDonald	7	Sandy Rakestrow	17
Sharon Nivins	8	Sandra Hartill	18
Susan Lusted	9	Gary Brenner	19
Roland Craig	10		

THE FINANCIAL PICTURE - 2014

Revenue



Expenses



OHA Committees

Active throughout the Province

The Ontario Horticultural Association is an ever-changing tapestry of local Societies. Some have been in existence since the nineteenth century. Others are brand new. Everyone is different. OHA's province-wide activities are guided by the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors. The Board includes Directors from each of OHA's 19 Districts. Directors are elected by Society members in that District.



Association policies and direction are set at the Annual Convention, held in late summer each year. Committees of the Board are established to carry out these directives. For further information on the committees visit our website at www.gardenontario.org

ADULT COMPETITION

Chair: Roland Craig

Art – Donna Hussey

Flower Show – Kathryn Lindsay
Penny Stewart

Photography – Russ Talbot

Creative Writing – Sandra Hartill

Publications – Shirley Robson

Web Shell – Jeff Blackadar/Sue Lusted

Youth Competition – Jane MacDonald

ANNUAL OHA YEARBOOK

Chair: Nancy Serrick

ARCHIVES

Chair: Malcolm Gest

COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

Chair: Suzanne Hanna

CONSERVATION AND ENVIRONMENT

Chair: Kees Stryland

CONSTITUTION, BYLAWS & RESOLUTIONS

John Sellers

Jeff Blackadar

Sandy Rakestrow

Russ Talbot

Penny Stewart

CONVENTION 2014

Chair: Pat Stachon

CONVENTION 2015

Chair: Donna Hussey

DIRECTORS QUICK START MANUAL

Chair: Sandy Rakestrow

FUNDRAISING

Chair: Rose Odell

IN MEMORIAM REGISTRY

Chair: Marilyn Cox

JUDGES' REGISTRY

Chair: Sharon Nivins

JUDGES SCHOOL COORDINATOR

Chair: Jim Mabee

NEWSLETTER – TRILLIUM

Chair: N/A

NOMINATIONS/ELECTIONS

Chair: John Sellers

PARTNERS & AFFILIATES

Chair: Carole Spraggett/Carole Dunk

PRESIDENT'S QUICK START MANUAL

Chair: N/A

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Chair: Grace Esposito/Awards Committee

TREE GRANTS

Chair: Grace Esposito/Awards Committee

PROMOTION & PUBLICITY

Chair: Gary Brenner

SPEAKER'S LIST

Chair: Don Matthews

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Chair: Jeff Blackadar

SUPPLIES

Chair: Don Matthews

VOLUNTEER HOURS

Chair: Katherine Smyth

WEBMASTER

Chair: Sue Lusted

WEBSITE

Chair: Sue Lusted

YOUTH NEWSLETTER

Chair: Harry Wyma/Kelly Taylor

OUTREACH

OHA through its directors and members maintains contact with organizations and events in Ontario. OHA representative attend events or serve on the boards of other organizations:

CNE ASSOCIATION, FLOWER/VEGETABLE

SHOW COORDINATOR: Carol Dunk/Dave Money

COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM: Carole Spraggett

DISTRICT 4: Rose Odell

Peterborough Garden Show

DISTRICT 5: Nancy Serrick/Malcom Geast

Canada Blooms, Toronto

Canadian National Exhibition, Toronto

Get the Jump on Spring, Toronto Botanical Gardens

DISTRICT 6: Donna Hussey

Royal Botanical Gardens

Hamilton Gage Park Mum Show

DISTRICT 10: Roland Craig

Statford Garden Festival, Stratford

Western Fair Home and Garden Show, London

International Plowing Match

ONTARIO INVASIVE PLANT COUNCIL:

Robert Simmons

SEEDS OF DIVERSITY CANADA:

Suzanne Hanna

SUCCESSFUL GARDENING SHOW:

Heinke Thiessen

SUCCESSFUL GARDENING SHOW, KIDS IN THE

GARDEN: Carole Spraggett

PARTNERSHIPS

The Ontario Horticultural Association is working with the following organizations to share Logos and links:

- Ontario Invasive Plant Council
- Seeds of Diversity
- Communities in Blooms
- The Compost Council of Canada
- Landscape Ontario

ANNUAL AWARDS TO INDIVIDUALS

Presented at the Banquet of the 2014 Convention

Each year Societies are encouraged to recognize horticultural and service excellence by submitting nominations for OHA Awards. A committee reviews all the nominations. The winners are presented with their awards at the Banquet of the Annual Convention. The winners of the OHA awards for 2014 were as follows:

Award	District	Winner
Community Improvement To an individual, organization or company that has enhanced the beauty of the landscape and/or added to the quality of life of a community with a horticultural project	18	Anne Bossart
Youth Leader To a person or persons who have been Youth Club leaders for a minimum of five years and have given leadership and encouragement to OHA youth.	17	Dorothy Shier
Environmental To an individual, organization, municipality, company, school or other educational establishment that, in the estimation of the Awards Committee, has made a significant contribution to environmental preservation including habitat, restoration, and/or improvement.	8	Goderich & District H.S.
Award of Merit To an individual for notable contributions to the programs of the Association or a Society	9	Lillie Haworth
Honour Roll To a person who has given extended service to a horticultural society and or district.	15	Anne Clark-Stewart
Trillium Awarded to a person for outstanding service to horticultural societies their District and or the OHA for an extended period.	14	Marie Hynna
Silver Fir Awarded to a person for outstanding service to horticultural societies their District and or the OHA for an extended period.	7	Peter Phillips
Silver Medal Highest award of the Association, given in recognition of meritorious service to beautification, conservation or ecological work and /or outstanding leadership in the promotion of horticultural societies across the province.	9	Eileen Hewitt



2014 Youth Grants

Youth Club Grants provide Youth Clubs/Groups with financial support. The grant may be applied for by any active Youth Club/Group in Good Standing with the Ontario Horticultural Association. Grants are used for such activities as the purchase of seeds, helping with special events, and general supplies for the Youth Club/Group applying for the grant.

DISTRICT	SOCIETY	PROJECT
2	Gloucester Horticultural Society	GHS Juniors
2	Perth & District Horticultural Society	Junior Gardeners
15	Roselands Horticultural Society	Stanchester Pirates Kids
8	Ripley & District Horticultural Society	Youth Club
1	Russell & District Horticultural Society	Russell Junior Gardener Society

2014 Community Garden Grants

The OHA encourages its member societies to create or contribute to community gardens whether urban or rural. OHA will award a grant of \$500 to assist in the funding of a new community garden or the upgrading of an existing community garden.

DISTRICT	SOCIETY	PROJECT
7	Guelph Horticultural Society	Priory Park Baptist Church Community Garden
7	Harriston & District Horticultural Society	Harriston Arena
13	Spanish Horticultural Society	Four Season Complex
13	St. Joseph Island Horticultural Society	Township of St. Joseph
15	Thornhill Garden & Horticultural Society	Add to existing Community Garden
15	Swansea Horticultural Society	The Garden Party



2014 Tree Grants

The following societies received tree grants, up to \$200, in 2014.

DISTRICT	SOCIETY
1	Russell & District Horticultural Society
2	Madawaska Valley Horticultural Society Kemptville Horticultural Society
3	Kingsville Horticultural Society
4	Bobcaygeon & District Horticultural Society Minden & District Horticultural Society
5	Mount Albert Garden & Horticultural Society Toronto Region Rhododendron Horticultural Society Lake Simcoe Shore Horticultural Society
8	Teeswater Culross Horticultural Society
10	Tavistock & Area Horticultural Society. Woodstock Horticultural Society
11	Belle River & District Horticultural Society Amherstburg Fort Malden Horticultural Society Sarnia Horticultural Society Leamington Horticultural Society
13	Assignack Horticultural Society St. Joseph Island Horticultural Society
15	Cloverleaf Garden Club of Mississauga
16	Elmvale & District Horticultural Society Barrie Garden Club
18	Parry Sound & District Horticultural Society

OHA Membership Challenge Trophy

This is a trophy to be awarded to a District with the highest percentage membership increase overall for the year. This year it was awarded to:

District 19, Waterloo.



Volunteer Hours

487,955.12 volunteer hours were recorded by Ontario Horticultural Association Society members in 2013 and recorded in 2014. An amazing achievement.

2014 Special Projects Grants

DISTRICT	SOCIETY	DISTRICT	SOCIETY
4	Minden & District Horticultural Society	1	Russell & District Horticultural Society
8	Wingham & District Horticultural Society	11	Sarnia Horticultural Society

Communications:

Several tools were used to communicate within the OHA to keep in touch with our Member societies and to increase our exposure within the general population. We continue to seek a way to reach all members of all societies.

- GardenOntario.org, our website, continues to be our major source of communications and transmission of information and news for Society members and all interested members of the community.
- The quarterly publication, the Trillium, was emailed to a majority of societies and donors, with a hard copy mailed to those requiring it. All issues of the Trillium are posted on the GardenOntario.org home page. Past issues are archived on the website.
- Many District Directors generate their own newsletters and communicate important information to the Societies and general membership . All societies have OHA material for distribution
- Publicity and Promotional pieces are developed and circulated to various locations and are available at our Outreach events.
- The Annual Convention of the Ontario Horticultural Association is the Annual General Meeting of the organization. At this meeting Member societies receive necessary financial and business reports. Election of the Executive for the coming year takes place. Networking, attending workshops, etc. foster social interaction.

OHA 108th Convention Cornwall - July 18, 2014 “A River Runs By It” Hosted by District 1



The OHA meets three times a year when decisions are made in the best interest of the members moving forward. These are some of the highlights from 2013/14 meetings.

Insurance Coverage:

Change for liability coverage to Co-Operators Insurance:

Seedy Saturday/Sunday events:

Two new grants of \$250 each were created for Societies organizing a first-time event

Website:

OHA waived fees and file size limits for Society websites

OHA University scholarship:

Scholarship to University of Guelph student was increased to \$1,000. Investigation to begin to find a suitable university in the north east at which time a further \$1,000 grant will be established.

OHA governance and Policy:

A Youth Program Standards Committee has been created to review requirements for the youth program, its leaders and participants.

A Judging Committee was formed

In-depth discussion on the development of a revised strategic plan

OHA vertical banners and a graphic table cloth were produced to be used as promotional tools at Outreach activities

Development of the OHA position on neonicotinoid insecticides, GMOs and the proposed Federal bill C-18.

Letter was sent to the Minister of AFFC and OMAF on the OHA perspective on GMOs and the Federal bill C-18

By letter the OHA supported the proposal by OMAF to remove Milkweed [*Asclepias* spp.] from the schedule of Noxious Weeds in the regulation and to add Dog Strangling Vine.

Welcome to the Garden Circle

The Ontario Horticultural Association welcomes the support of friends - from backyard gardeners to local landscapers to national retailers. Donating is rewarding. OHA's approx. 29,000 members and over 280 societies share a love of gardening but they do much more to keep Ontario beautiful. As a member of OHA's Garden Circle, you are helping us to:

- Make our communities beautiful, sustainable and liveable
- Preserve and restore Ontario's natural environment
- Promote the study and practice of horticulture
- Foster love and respect for community and the environment in Ontario's youth
- Share our knowledge with new and experienced gardeners alike

Your gift sends a clear message that horticulture and environmental stewardship are essential components of our quality of life. Support from you and other donors enables OHA to enhance the everyday life of Ontarians, wherever they may live.

All gifts to support the work of OHA are acknowledged through the Garden Circle, OHA's donor recognition program. Check the OHA website for a list of donor benefits. Follow the links to Supporters and The Garden Circle.

