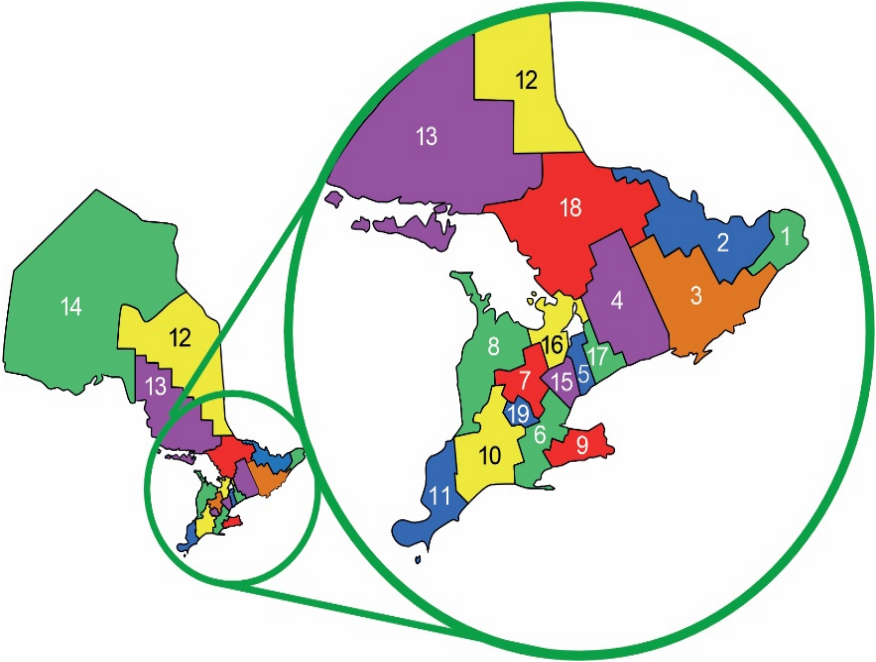


2022
Historical Record of the



Horticultural Societies/Clubs
of Ontario

Colour map of OHA Districts



**Text prepared and edited by the
2022 Historical Report Committee:**

Susan Ramsay, OHA District 1, Director, Chair
Society Highlights submitted by District Directors, along with
their District Highlights

Format Edits done by Jantje Helmer, Williamstown Green
Thumb Horticultural Society, and Kelly Taylor, OHA Secretary

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T: 613 933-0444

F: 613 937-0929

Wendy Grant, Owner / President

wendy@cornwallcitypress.com

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Head Office: 448 Paterson Avenue, London, Ontario N5W 5C7

Email:ohasecretary@gmail.com

Cover photo of ***Trillium erectum*** , our common red Trillium or
Stinkin' Benjamin, found in the Ottawa Valley courtesy of The
Trillium Guy, District 2



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2022 Historical Report of The Horticultural Societies/Clubs of Ontario

2022 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The year 2022 saw the challenges to the OHA related to the COVID pandemic lessen. Societies/Clubs and their members adapted to new technologies and the “new normal” with how they held their meetings and events.

In comparison to the year 2021, the OHA weathered the adverse effects well. I am pleased to report that:

1. membership numbers were up approximately 7%,
2. Societies/Clubs became more engaged with events and activities to beautify their respective communities,
3. the Societies/Clubs were much better financially,
4. the number of volunteer hours contributed by Society/Club members, the OHA Board and OHA Officers increased over last year's numbers by 35%.

These improvements, along with other advances, made the OHA as a whole a stronger organization.

As predicted for 2022, the OHA and the Societies/Clubs grew as organizations when they experienced more contact with the public, had more of an effect upon their communities and became as strong as or stronger than they were prior to the effects of the COVID pandemic.

The OHA increased the number of Grants and Grant funding available to Societies/Clubs for community improvement, supported by the new GardenOntario 50/50 draw, with all funds put back into Grants and other OHA initiatives.

Take care; Stay safe

Charles Freeman, President

Ontario Horticultural Association 2021-2023

Report extracted and edited from the 2022 Corporate Report

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OHA DISTRICT 1

District Director Report - Susan Ramsay

In February, the D1 Presidents met by Zoom to choose the winning design for our new D1 Logo, which was unveiled at our D1 AGM. We met again by Zoom in October. I attended the AGM of each of our 8 Societies and installed each new Board of Directors. We awarded our District 1 Service Award to Ginny Blair, who has been a great support to many in our District. All 8 societies continued with Community Work; most held Plant Sales, Garden Tours and Flower Shows.

Cornwall & District Horticultural Society

We continued our partnership with the Seaway International Bridge Corporation, arranging and planting bridge boxes on the Canal Bridge to greet travellers coming to and from Cornwall, Akwesasne and the United States. The corporation has been so pleased with the results that the partnership will continue for another two years. It also did its own bridge boxes for another bridge span, the Three Nations Bridge between Cornwall and Cornwall Island.

Gloucester Horticultural Society

In 2021 we established a native garden at a local seniors' residence. We were very happy with the lack of attention that the garden needed in this second year. It was thriving in its sunny spot, with no watering and only two work bees to weed and clean up. Five of our members volunteered to create roaming garden wheelbarrows for the Ottawa Garden Festival, which was held in conjunction with Canadensis.

Kemptville Horticultural Society

We held our first in-person meeting in March to welcome new members. Our Plant sale raised \$1,350, and six members

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manned a booth at the Kemptville Farmers Market to raise our profile. We held a Day trip to the Central Experimental Farm & Arboretum, and an Evening tour of Suntech Greenhouses in Manotick. In late September, many members volunteered at the 2022 International Plowing Match in Kemptville. In October we had a catered dinner at our Awards/Social Night. Members planted 150 tulips donated by the Rotary Club.

Martintown & District Horticultural Society

We produced a calendar instead of a Yearbook again this year as it is more affordable. A competition for a new logo for District 1 was held prior to the AGM. Our member, Gale Lemire, submitted 1 of 6 designs for the theme, *Rivers Run Through It*. Her design won! The finished design and banner were unveiled at our District 1 AGM, where our member, Ginny Blair, received the District Service Award. It was great to recognize everything that Ginny has done for the Societies in our District and beyond.

Maxville & District Horticultural Society

Our Society started 2022 by contacting the Township of North Glengarry, with the information from Year of the Garden 2022. A proclamation was presented and accepted. We then planned our year with this in mind. We planted mostly RED flowers throughout the villages and encouraged members to do the same. We revised our competition categories to include RED, held a special project at Maxville Manor for the residents and chose one of our members as our Garden Hero. Our beautiful yearbook was shared with our 97 members.

Russell and District Horticultural Society

While there were no outstanding events this year, we were thrilled to be active and out in person to most of our activities. Although some community work was still closed to us, most other society events went well and we began to carpool again for

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our day trips (bus tours). We enjoyed our AGM in person but missed the potluck or treats. Masks were optional. We held the board planning meeting in person and nearly all attended. Members returned to our general meetings, happy to do so, and membership numbers increased substantially.

Vankleek Hill and District Horticultural Society

The return to an in-person monthly meeting had a positive impact on our society, as it seemed to reconnect us. Once this happened, we saw a renewed enthusiasm in our members. In May, we introduced a well-received monthly newsletter with gardening information and tips, information about both local events and those within our society, as well as photos submitted by our members. The annual plant sale was a very successful event, with sales doubled from previous years. We saw a good increase in new memberships.

Williamstown Green Thumb Horticultural Society

Speaker topics were Cold Weather Crops, Colour Your Garden World with Perennials, Dehydrating Foods, Waters of Glengarry, Day Lilies and Transitions+ Cornwall info. We had a walking tour at Cooper's Marsh, visited a U-Pick tulip farm, featured red in this year's plantings, held a curbside garden contest, planted a Sugar Maple with an OHA Tree Grant and toured 3 gardens. We also hosted 3 morning programs for Youth, gave a bursary to a graduating student and set up a Garden Shed display at the Williamstown Fair, where 2 members gave 3 talks.

OHA DISTRICT 2

District Director Report – Anne Harbord

Normality returned with COVID restrictions lifted. Societies had outdoor events. ZOOM meetings became the norm. Almonte celebrated its centennial year. D2 Board members attended 17

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of the 19 Society AGMs. The Year of the Garden 2022 was quite exciting. Our D2 Summer Flower and Edibles Show, held at Ottawa City Hall, had its space donated by Councillor King and \$2500 from Gardens Ottawa. Mayor Watson recognized 23 Garden Heroes from D2 and six from Ottawa at the closing event for the Ottawa Garden Festival with over 400 visitors. Extensive work continued on the 2023 Convention.

Almonte & District Horticultural Society

Members volunteered many hours doing Community gardening. We took over the care of an additional garden and continued to maintain the other plantings around town. We held our Plant Sales and the garden tour. *Yard of the Week* started again, with gardens nominated by neighbors. Society volunteers judged the gardens and declared a winner for 10 weeks over the summer. Some winners decided to join the society.

Beachburg Horticultural Society (Whitewater Gardeners)

Due to COVID restrictions, we held in fewer meetings, usually outdoors and at a social distance. We did not hold any garden shows or bus tours, but did organize a couple of garden tours and held two plant sales. We tend to attract between 8 and 10 members to our meetings, depending on location, time of year and day. The last couple of meetings welcomed Anne Harbord, our District 2 Director.

Carleton Place & District Horticultural Society

We had a huge success with our first plant sale since 2019, a garden tour of the Carleton Place Community Vegetable Gardens, a Floral Fascinator workshop and then a display at the Carleton Place Victoria Museum Jubilee Tea. We also created all of the bouquets for the tables at this event. We had an in-person flower show which was a huge success. We started a monthly newsletter for our members to keep them informed. Our

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membership remained the same and most of our meetings were in-person, with a great line-up of speakers.

Deep River Horticultural Society

We celebrated our 75th Anniversary by producing a wonderful Yearbook that members received when they purchased their membership. We revised our Constitution, a task that took many hour and filled our Executive positions at the AGM. We continue to enhance our two community gardens where area residents may gently harvest the produce, hosted many competitions, along with a Spring Flower Show and a Summer Flower and Vegetable Show and hosted the D2 2022 Fall Advisory Council Meeting in October.

Eganville and Area Horticultural Society

Gardens on Welcome Hill bloomed over the different seasons. Village Planters were full for both spring/summer and fall/winter with extras for holidays and Remembrance Day. Our float in the Santa Claus Parade won first place. Seniors from the Echo Center enjoyed working with volunteers to plant container gardens and Junior Work continued with gardens at the library. A team from EAHS raised money and participated in Hike for Hospice Renfrew. New door knockers added visibility to Garden of the Month and the Open Garden tours were very successful.

Greater Ottawa Water Garden Horticultural Society

We organized a successful, outdoor Tulip Festival Tour in May and a wheel-barrow water garden display for Gardens Ontario. The Annual Water Garden Tour, our main fundraiser, and a Pond Social were both cancelled, which made it difficult to both keep members and attract new members. Our board meetings and the general meetings were completely virtual for both 2021 and 2022.

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Kanata-March Horticultural Society

Our community work continued with maintenance and planning of the Molly Wilson Memorial Garden, that we have maintained since it was created in 1985. The plant sale held in May was well attended. Our Board meetings were held virtually. Partly due to ageism, our members have no appetite to volunteer on the Board. The present Board struggled to maintain a program and keep the Society going. General meetings were well attended during the better weather months, so we decided to have the meetings virtually in February and March.

Madawaska Valley Horticultural Society

Our numbers are gradually increasing back to normal and our meetings are back to in-person with the alternative of joining in on Zoom. We maintained our community responsibility for the gardens in the Madawaska Valley. There has been no impact on finances and this year we are going to have a bus tour.

Manotick Horticultural Society

We celebrated Year of the Garden with a garden walk for the community on National Garden Day highlighting our 5 Community Gardens maintained by MHS volunteers. We viewed 15 gardens on 4 Members' Garden Tours, held 6 Virtual Flower Shows and 1 live Public Flower Show. We supported local community groups and events like a youth workshop and Dickinson Days, held virtual Seed/Plant Sales, a live Plant Sale and a Silent Auction with donations to Manotick Outreach. Our new interactive website allowed us to hold hybrid meetings.

Nepean Horticultural Society

We held six hybrid meetings throughout the year and held two plant sales, as well as three flower shows. We continue to maintain the Nepean Museum Gardens and provide a monetary award to a student from Sir Guy Carleton High School. We

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resumed our garden tours with eight members opening up their gardens between June and August.

Ottawa Horticultural Society

Regular monthly meetings continued and speakers presented by Zoom, with the talks also available on YouTube to members. Zoom has allowed access to speakers from different provinces and countries. Construction of a pollinator garden at an inner city Church community vegetable garden was a joint initiative with Just Foods and restarted our Civic program. Four editions of our illustrated newsletter received much acclaim.

Ottawa Valley Rock Garden and Horticultural Society

It was another quiet year due to COVID. Although we held no in-person meetings, we were lucky enough to be able to host our speakers via Zoom. We held our annual Seed Exchange. Each donor packaged their seeds, dropped them off at Dorothy Tol's, who matched them to the requestor's wants and arranged for mailing or delivery. Successful, but without the comradery of our usual seed sorting event. The Friends of the Farm Plant Sale in May was also a success and it was great to see everyone in-person, instead of on Zoom, as in the previous two years.

Pakenham Horticultural Society

As the pandemic restrictions lessened, we returned to our usual activities. We held a picnic at a member's home to celebrate the Year of the Garden and presented our Garden Hero Certificate to Toby Barrett. In August, five members entered the OHA District 2 Flower and Edibles Show held at the Ottawa Garden Festival. We held our usual flower shows, our plant sale was a huge success and our beautification committee was very busy in the community. We did a field trip to the farm of one of our members, who had spoken to us about his no-till gardening.

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Pembroke Horticultural Society

Our society donated \$25,000 towards the Arboretum Project at the Pembroke Waterfront. We were pleased to obtain approval for 2 students through the Canada Summer Jobs program. Over 100 trees and shrubs were planted. The project included two gazebos with picnic tables and benches, a book tree and bird habitat. As an extra contribution to the community this spring, we cleaned up and planted flower and shrub beds at Royal LePage, Greenwood Paving and Giant Tiger. These businesses made generous donations to the Society for our efforts.

Perth and District Horticultural Society

Our members did a great job on the community gardens. We did a joint visit for the community gardens and Inge Va with the Ontario Historical Society. Members were very happy to meet in-person. All of our meetings had very good attendance, but we didn't have our plant sale or our regular Junior Gardener program in the schools in early spring due to the restrictions in place then at the schools. We did have three in-person flower shows and some members did Christmas arrangements with Grade 3 students at one of our public schools.

Petawawa Horticultural Society

We celebrated our 25th anniversary with a new website and logo. We recognised our long-standing, devoted committee member, Lois O'Brien, with a Garden Heroes award, designed and planted an area in front of the Legion and gave the Town of Petawawa a Community Improvement Award for its diligence in creating parks, which help protect the community's butterflies, bees and other sensitive wildlife. New members are typically new gardeners who started growing during the pandemic, so we approached activities with a focus on "Back to Basics".

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Smiths Falls Horticultural Society

We had noteworthy speakers attend our meetings in person and via zoom. We significantly reduced the social portion of the meetings. The new food bank garden was a huge success with many organized volunteers and 286 pounds of produce donated directly to the local Food Bank. There were zero bus tours, low participation for garden tours and our annual plant sale had low attendance, with leftover product. Members sent their annual fees through e-transfer, mail and drop off. At our AGM, we auctioned off homemade centerpieces and held a silent auction

Stittsville-Coulbourn Horticultural Society

Lee Boltwood Park was a major focus. Planting started in the fall of 2021 and 2022 was the year of fresh gardens with over 700 plants in the Pollinator Garden and large berm of sun-loving, drought tolerant, non-toxic native plants with preference for Ontario native plants first, then Canadian, then North American with no harvesting of plants from the wild. We continued to support our local Stittsville Community garden, held the Plant Sale in-person, but the Bus tour was dropped due to fuel surcharges and all meetings were held in-person with masking.

West Carleton Garden Club and Horticultural Society

Monthly meetings continued via Zoom in 2021 until June 2022 due to continued pandemic restrictions. We had interesting speakers teaching us many new gardening practices. Our Board members met monthly on Zoom to plan and honour our commitments. In late August, we met at a local floral farm, Roam Flora and had a tour. This was very enjoyable. We continue maintaining our two community gardens. Our annual plant sale was the first one to be held in person in three years and was most successful and well received.

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OHA DISTRICT 03

District Director Report – Brad King

We passed on congratulations to Stirling on its 175 Anniversary and Ameliasburgh on their 40th. Mary Ann Van Berlo of Brockville received the D3 Service Award. The D3 Fall Meeting hosted by Land-O -Lakes included a team building exercise making bird feeders and planters from recycled teacups. We also toured the Cloyne Medicine Wheel Garden. It is a significant project created in conjunction with local Indigenous groups and the community. It is to commemorate Indigenous children lost to residential schools and is a healing place.

Ameliasburg Horticultural Society

We celebrated our 40th Anniversary and held our usual plant sale outdoors at the Ameliasburgh Museum because the town hall was unavailable. This turned out well as we were more visible and many new members joined. We donated a picnic table for the museum grounds, held two successful garden tours in the summer and had a plant auction in September.

Bancroft Horticultural Society

Considering that our society had no presentations or workshops in place, our executive did an amazing job with presentations and kept members engaged. As of 2022, Wi-Fi was available at our meeting location, which was certainly appreciated. After several hours previewing webinars and YouTube videos, a few were selected to present to members. Also, after decades of the same members repeatedly sitting in various executive positions, we had a significant number of members take on new executive roles for 2023.

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Bath Horticultural Society

With the lifting of COVID restrictions, our members enjoyed returning to in-person meetings. Our year-round beautification of Bath continued with the help of our hard-working volunteers. We worked to develop a more formal partnership with Loyalist Township to identify roles and how we can support each other. During the summer, we enjoyed a club social at one of our members' homes by the lake. It certainly was nice to be able to resume 'normal' activities again!

Belleville Horticulture Society

Getting back to in-person meetings was a big lift to the membership. We had a great line-up of speakers for the remaining months. We had an amazing Planting Party in honour of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, with dainty sandwiches, tea, scones with cream and jam, and assorted goodies. We all planted a red themed planter to pay tribute to The Year of the Garden and Plant the Town Red.

Brockville Horticulture Society

It was a very busy and successful year: four fundraising events, including an in-person silent auction, plant & bulb sales; three floral design competitions; a photo competition; and an art competition. Member volunteer hours were up for their time worked at community outreach programs and public gardens. Two summer events and a tour of members' gardens were well attended. Our 'Garden of the Month' program yielded good results.

Collins Bay Horticulture Society

Our Society had a very exciting year. We resumed in-person meetings in April, had a very successful plant sale in May and hosted our Flower Show with many beautiful entries at our June meeting. We took a break during July and August. At our

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September meeting we had many entries in our Flower and Vegetable show. In November we had a workshop to create Christmas gnomes. At our December meeting, our District Director, Brad King conducted our elections, installed our officers and we all enjoyed our Christmas Pot Luck.

Gananoque Horticulture Society

We produced gardening videos on You-Tube. Our community beautification projects included working with Town Hall and Parks Staff to design drought tolerant gardens. Our Seed and Book Library was a huge success. We held the June meeting in our Hort Park, gave out certificates/awards to deserving members and held our anniversary in August. We awarded a bursary of \$500, ran two full-scale in-person Flower Shows and gave Year of the Garden awards to local residents. Our Garden Hero for “2022 Year of the Garden” was Joan MacKinnon.

Kingston Horticulture Society

The pandemic gave us an opportunity to break from tradition and re-evaluate almost everything we do. Change was long overdue. We transitioned to Zoom and expect to continue with a mixture of in-person, Zoom-only and hybrid meetings. We issued twice as many newsletters, maintained our two public gardens, held both in-person and on-line fundraising events and conducted three Year of the Garden promotional events.

Land O'Lakes Horticulture Society

Our outstanding contribution to our community was the creation of an Indigenous Commemorative and Healing Garden, a Medicine Wheel, in commemoration of Indigenous children lost to residential schools. It is also a place of healing. At thirty feet in diameter, each quadrant represents a direction, a colour and has the appropriate sacred plant, as well as other colour coordinated native medicinal flowers. There is natural signage,

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flagstone footpaths and the outer circle is enclosed by special stones brought by community members.

Lennox and Addington Horticulture Society

In 2022, our members had 858 community volunteer hours. We continued to look after the gardens at the Napanee Library and St. Patrick's Church. We extended congratulations and thanked everyone who contributed. We had 53 more paid members than the previous year. In August we had a car tour to the Frankford area to visit two very interesting, but different, nurseries. After the tour, we enjoyed lunch in downtown Frankford. We continued to look for high quality speakers for our meetings.

Prince Edward Horticulture Society

In 2022, the Society actively participated in the preparation and planting of several public gardens in The County. Some were located along the Millennium Trail and others were in two of the local parks. Members also participated in the planting of several community trees and the grooming of several public gardens. These efforts were well received by the public and several other like-minded groups assisted us in our efforts. It was a win/win situation for all!

Rideau Lakes Horticulture Society

As a society, we donated money to community programs, such as the Children's Library Program, which encouraged gardening for Earth day; our Beginners in Gardening Bags that can be checked out for children at the library branches; and seed exchanges at the libraries. We got back in touch with our community roots and volunteered with the high school students to grow plants for our collaborative plant sale. Our society did a couple of in-person meetings and increased our membership, which was low during the pandemic.

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Stirling & District Horticulture Society

To celebrate our 125th anniversary as a Society, we included something special at each regular monthly meeting. Marigold seeds were given to members, along with our yearbooks. We planted a memorial tree, rejuvenated the cenotaph gardens and researched, then shared our history. We held three Plant Sales instead of just our spring sale; one to sell plants we removed from the cenotaph gardens. Our two Flower shows were well attended and we had two road trips to gardens within our community and further afield.

Trenton Horticulture Society

We held more in-person meetings, had fun doing great fundraisers and enjoyed a mystery bus trip west. We had a park bench installed in a Trenton Park commemorating our 40th anniversary in 2020 and our dear member Mary Hansen who passed away and left money to the society. The Plant Sale raised \$1,233. We participated in the local Home Show, where we raised awareness about our group and signed up new members. We also conducted a Pie, Plant and Preserve Auction in September and raised over \$600.

Tweed Horticulture Society

In 2022, we started to resume our annual events. Our Plant Sale returned, larger than ever. We put the Butterfly Kits back into the kindergarten classes and added one to the library. Meetings started up in the fall with a pumpkin arrangement workshop, November was a slide show "Making Friends with Nature" and at a December Social, Elizabeth Churcher received a Community Involvement Award from the town. The community garden received many seeds from Mackenzie's, which we distributed to the community. We recognized two members for their 35 years.

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OHA DISTRICT 4

District Director Report – Patty Carlson

We had a very successful June Celebration event. It was held in the Peterborough Curling Club and we celebrated our garden heroes, our Society anniversaries, gave out our 2 District awards and many service pins. We had a great speaker and enjoyed our first in-person get together. Bobcaygeon hosted our Fall Seminar to celebrate their 100th anniversary. D4 Societies shared highlights of the year and there was a speaker who was a beekeeper and most found it very interesting. There was a flower show with lunch and a silent auction.

Bobcaygeon and District Horticultural Society

It was our 100th Anniversary! We had a plant sale fundraiser in May. Our very successful garden tour in July and a member BBQ in Sept. at a local farm owned by one of our members.

We had a variety of speakers at our general meetings. As well, we hosted the D4 Fall Seminar. We have had all board meetings and general meetings in person. Membership has grown. Finances are in good order due to a successful plant sale and a garden tour. November was our AGM and a potluck lunch.

Brighton Horticultural Society

The spring Plant Auction with a live auctioneer and a fall Plant Sale generated greater funds than past years, even before COVID. At both District and Branch level, we celebrated Liz Chatten's 50 years as a member. The mayor, past presidents, family, friends and members celebrated at our Sept. meeting the achievements of this life member. BGC received the OHA District 4 Trophy for highest membership increase in 2021.

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Campbellford & District Horticultural Society

The variety of activities we undertook under the auspices of Lois and Glenn Bennett at meetings, indicated to us that hands-on activities shall be a future component of our society. Lois and Glenn Bennett have been Board members for 40 years. That speaks to the dedication of our members and their passion for horticulture. We did not have the Garden Tours for 3 years and are exploring small "popup" visits to members' gardens. Over the period we spent more time getting access to social media and improving our website, Facebook, etc.

Coboconk Horticulture Society

The community garden under the town sign was refurbished this year just before the winter. Members created a plant plan, purchased and planted them. We are all awaiting the spring showing! Board meetings have returned to attending in person where possible. General meetings have seen an increase in attendance. Membership has increased as we were able to interact more with the public and get word out about our club.

Cobourg Horticultural Society

While we returned to our community work, flower shows, plant sales, garden tours, and in person meetings, we did have a decrease in our funds and volunteers. We set up a new website and managed to break even financially.

Cramahe Horticultural Society

We accomplished the downtown community work of hanging baskets in the park and on the south side of the main street, as well as our Chair and Plant project throughout the main streets. We carried on our work in Colborne at the Ecology Garden, Art Gallery Garden, and Victoria Square Gazebo, along with the Town Hall Garden in Castleton, but had to put on hold a few projects due to increased costs, unavailable material and or volunteers,

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such as building additional raised vegetable beds and replacing a water barrel in the Ecology Garden.

Ennismore and District Horticultural Society

We had reduced attendance with inside meetings and some fund raisers. Board meetings were a mixture of in-person and Zoom. Due to local support, memberships were the same, but finances were a bit down due to higher costs. We did a *Plant Give and Take with a Donation*, where we make more funds than if we had a plant sale. Usually, Winter Baskets are a big fund raiser, but they were down by about 1/3. We held a Grand Opening at our new Veterans Memorial on Remembrance Day, which was outside with about 250 attending.

Fenelon Falls Horticultural Society

We were very happy to bring back both in-person and off-site general meetings and exciting speakers. After a 2-year hiatus, we were able to host an extremely successful plant sale, which included outside vendors. Our biggest highlight was certainly hosting a full, free day of activities and tours celebrating The Year of the Garden.

Grafton Horticultural Society

For the Year of the Garden, we had a harvest food bank drive, seed planting workshop and demo at the public school and free native plant give away with literature on both native plants and invasive species at Barnum House. We shared zoom speakers, and held plant sale and sunflower contest. The Outstanding Front Garden competition increased membership. We had twelve planters with a red theme along the main street, a new resin bench at the post office, planted a memorial tree and received the township's Outstanding Community Service award.

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Lakefield & District Horticultural Society

We held a very successful 60th anniversary garden tour and an anniversary celebration at the November AGM. Our annual plant sale was, as usual, an excellent fund-raiser. In-person meetings, with guest speakers, resumed in May as restrictions lifted. In addition to our usual plant purchases, we added new plant containers for the village, a pollinator garden fence, new bee hotel, cenotaph garden border wall and the new installation of main street winter hanging baskets, decorated with greens.

Lindsay & District Horticultural Society

Our Garden Tour, on Saturday, July 2, was great. The visitors ordered lunch at a local Cafe' and enjoyed it on the furthest property. Tables with umbrellas and chairs were out on the 1-acre property and there was a deck with a gazebo. A musician entertained during the lunch hour. The weather was perfect. Other interests were available on properties such as music or a popcorn machine. On Sunday, Tour Hosts viewed the properties and enjoyed wine and cheese. Finances are in good shape with fewer expenses during the pandemic and plant sales excelled.

Minden and District Horticultural Society

With poor internet service and no leadership, the pandemic hit our society hard. Deciding not to fold, we were board directed until May, when a new President stepped up to lead the club. We all had little experience at managing a society. By the end of 2022, our Community Gardens were lovely again, our plant sale brought out lots of people and we partnered Seed Saving with the local library. We held our 45th Anniversary Celebration with our initial President among our guest speakers, 45 Year Pins, display boards with pictures, cake, flowers and balloons.

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Norland Horticultural Society

We started the spring planting many flowers in several gardens throughout Norland. Each year we seem to add a new garden to the community. One of our main fundraisers was the plant sale the last week of May. We participated in the Norland Summer Festival held at Ward Park in July with a draw for over 30 flower arrangements. In November we ran the Remembrance Day service in our community as we do not have a Legion to take this task on. We had several speakers throughout the year and visited local establishments.

Norwood and District Horticultural Society

We took our first bus tour in many years to the Royal Botanical Gardens in Burlington. Our plant sale was a resounding success, we toured eight local gardens and our flower shows were better than expected. We started in-person meetings in May, but had to conduct our AGM virtually due to a COVID wave. We marked our 30th Anniversary with special events, published a book highlighting memories and created a new logo for our t-shirts and gardening aprons. Membership has held steady and our finances are in good shape thanks to the OMAFRA grant.

Omeme and District Horticultural Society

Omeme Blooms returned to in-person meetings, held our plant sale and welcomed the opportunity to visit member gardens. We encouraged participation in many outdoor activities and hosted the 3rd annual Scarecrow Festival, which has increased in popularity every year. The society collaborated with the local Lions Club, along with other organizations, to provide a variety of new community activities, such as tree lighting, Canada Day events and a craft fair.

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Peterborough Horticultural Society

We proceeded slowly to emerge from pandemic levels of activity. We hosted our first seven meetings of our 2021-2022 year on Zoom, reopening in person in May 2022. Zoom did allow us to have access to speakers from farther afield. However, when we were able to meet again in May, smiles and relief were evident at returning to a new normal. Community gardens were maintained as usual. Our favourite activity was our "Garden Hero" lawn signs that made their way around the city to each gardener's delight

Port Hope & District Horticultural Society

The Port Hope Club held regular meetings starting in February. Our plant sale, a great success, was again open to the public. Frequent members' garden tours were well attended, along with a members' picnic. A Bur Oak and a Ginkgo tree were planted in Rapley Park. Seven planters were decorated for the winter, three in Lent's Lane and four in Rotary Park.

OHA DISTRICT 5

District Director Report – Catherine McGill

As the D5 director for only a few months, I couldn't find support to function as needed and was unable to travel the distance required to work with societies. I reviewed the constitutions that I received upon request. Most were current and up to date. I gave suggestions to bring some up to date and helped societies get their OMAFRA reports in on time. Only 1 missed the deadline. I took orders for and delivered the OHA calendars to district but unfortunately was unable to stay on to help more.

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Agincourt Garden Club

The highlight of 2022 was being able to hold the May Plant Sale outdoors. This enabled more people to participate comfortably. General meetings were now held in person, which helped both membership and morale. In September, the Annual Flower and Vegetable Show had many entries and many visitors. The September regular meeting was an excellent presentation of the Group of Seven by the Waddingtons.

Aurora Garden & Horticultural Society

We maintained gardens at CHATS and the Alzheimer's Society, and looked after indoor plants at Hillary House, plus decorating the interior and exterior plus a Wreath Workshop. Nominated Donna Lewis, as a Garden Hero. Recognized 32 gardens in a new front yard recognition program that we named Aurora Gardens of Distinction. We won the OHA District 5 Most Points in Design trophy at the AGM show, for the 11th time. OHA District 5 was part of a pilot project with Trees for Life with pick up organized by our volunteers. Awarded a scholarship.

East Gwillimbury Garden & Horticultural Society

While it was extremely exciting to have our regular activities resume, the highlight was the reactivation of our youth program. The program was completely re-vamped and we had 21 youth members join and attend meetings throughout the year. During the pandemic, we had new members join that did not live locally, so we now stream our live meetings to allow our long-distance members to continue to participate.

East York Garden Club

Over 2022, East York Garden Club continued to meet regularly and mainly online. In-person meetings resumed in the fall, in a hybrid format, with mixed success. The executive worked hard to make in-person meeting more fun and interactive, including

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team activities and live demos. Members' meetings were also disrupted because, after years of hosting meetings on the third Thursday of the month, room availability shifted. Membership is still strong but not as large as pre-pandemic times.

Greater Toronto Bulb & Horticultural Society

The 12th full year of our Society saw a partial return to normalcy. We had a total of seven meetings in the fiscal year via Zoom for 4 meetings from October 2021 to March 2022, then in person at the TBG for April, May and September, 2022. We resumed flower shows in April. On July 10, we visited Irene and Barry Stokes' beautiful North Toronto garden. As outreach, we provided spring bulbs for the two Toronto Library branches in the Beaches area, as well as Withrow Park in Riverdale, a project of Riverdale Horticultural Society.

Lake Simcoe South Shore Horticultural Society

Executive and general meetings, as well as some of our guest speakers, were done via Zoom until October, when regular face-to-face meetings resumed. Plant sales had precautions in place due to the threat posed by "jumping worms". Our newsletter was published regularly and the President sent out monthly emails to the membership. Past President, Kathy Bruce, continued to host the weekly TV show, "Georgina Blooms", and a number of our members appeared as guests on the show throughout the year. Great to have normality returning!

Leaside Garden Society

We revived our Scholarship initiative and awarded a worthy recipient \$1000 for his continuing studies. Our Garden Tour was one of the best ever, with eleven hosts and a stunning variety of gardens. We continued to recognize neighbourhood front gardens. Homeowners received a letter of appreciation and a lawn sign for their efforts. Local businesses were also recognized

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for their efforts to enhance their front-scapes and were given letters of appreciation. Our in-person Children's event, open to the public, was a popular success.

Markham Garden and Horticultural Society

Our general meetings were in-person from April and we began flower shows with a full show schedule in June. The May Plant Sale reverted to its traditional format of a public in-person event with the sale held in the Community Centre carpark. Plants were donated to St Joseph and Black Walnut Public Schools for their gardens. Yellow Brick House asked for help planting raised vegetable beds. We donated the money to buy plants and members helped the residents to plant the beds.

Newmarket Horticultural Society

Bi-monthly Club newsletters kept members informed and engaged, resulting in a loyal and steady membership. The resumption of in-person flower shows and a photo competition was well received. We continued to maintain the Millard Community Garden, but we couldn't tend the Stickwood Garden as the surrounding area was under construction. The Board spent considerable time planning the District 5 AGM scheduled for April 2023. Late in 2022, the decision was made to move to a virtual meeting because of too many unknown factors.

North Toronto Horticultural Society

Unfortunately, North Toronto Hort Society disbanded this year.

North York Horticultural Society

The club promoted our club at a church market and sold garden resources. On June 6 our member and Master Gardener, Gail Bebee, was a guest on North York NeighbourLink Podcast and answered gardening questions and promoted our club. In May we received the OHA Community Planting Garden Grant for

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planting a garden at Willowdale Presbyterian Church in red as requested by GardenOntario. Our member, Joan Andrechuk, along with photographer June D'Souza published a book, Four Seasons of Urban Wildlife and Botanicals.

Riverdale Horticultural Society

We continued to entertain and educate our members and many visitors on Zoom with an eclectic mix of ten interesting and dynamic speakers. We introduced hybrid meetings when some members indicated a willingness to return to in-person meetings while others did not. We held our Annual Flower Show in a public park to raise our profile in the community. We received a donation of spring flowering bulbs from three sources. Those we did not use in public plantings were offered to the many volunteers who keep our club running.

Scarborough Garden & Horticultural Society

We accomplished our aim to not cancel any board or general meetings. Excellent speakers were attracted via zoom and in person. Two photo contests took place. Our May plant sale was well attended. Flower Shows were successful with 290 entries at the Annual September Show, exceeding all expectations. We again enjoyed having our Potluck Dinner/Awards Night and had a table for two days at Guild Arts Alive with Culture Festival. Birkdale CC invited us back for their busy Seniors Spring Sale and Christmas Bazaar. All events resulted in new members.

Stouffville Horticultural Society

Many members are elderly and do not want to come to meetings unless they are on Zoom, resulting in only three in-person meetings. Many speakers will only do Zoom meetings. We had a small plant sale but it was hard to organize with very little enthusiasm for one. We reached out to a group who organized a David Suzuki Butterfly Garden and helped to buy, donate and

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plant three gardens in Stouffville. We had a booth at an Environmental Fair to get some publicity for our club.

The Greater Toronto Water Garden & Horticultural Society

Membership was reduced as members were reluctant to attend meetings in person. Most Board Meetings were on Zoom, with some in-person. The Plant Sale was not very well attended and income was reduced. We could not hold a Garden Tour or Bus Trip Excursions. There were no Seedy Saturdays, which we normally attend. The OMAFRA Base support funding tied us over. As food was permitted at Banbury, we had in-person meetings from September to November.

OHA DISTRICT 6

District Director Report – Lianne Krane

Most Societies opened up by mid-year in person, but Zoom is still in use. We held our District meetings and AGM in person with great attendance. This *Year of the Garden*, red was planted in most community gardens and ours were on the front cover of the OHA calendar. Most societies picked a worthy Garden Hero. We had good membership increases. Once again D6 had the most growth within the OHA. We have a great District family as societies partner with others to host events, share speaker costs and help one another. Lots of new board members stepped up.

Acton Horticultural Society

In May 2022 we had our first plant sale and resumed regular meetings. Zoom meetings were not possible with an aging Society who are not good with Tech. Our Annual Plant sale came to an abrupt end due to a big storm and tornado. We cleaned and maintained existing Gardens. July saw our Spring Potluck in the beautiful yard and gardens of a member. While we were in the pandemic, we had to move plants out of a holding bed. We sold

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these plants online through Facebook so we did get to raise some money. We awarded two scholarships.

Ancaster Horticultural Society

We enjoyed excellent speakers via Zoom, then resumed in-person meetings in April. Our signature event was our huge Plant Sale in May, preceded by popular on-line pre-ordering of Heirloom Tomato seedlings. Well supported by the community, it was one of our most successful fundraisers. We aim to “Beautify Ancaster”. Each summer we run, judge and award the Ancaster Trillium Awards to the owners of 125 beautiful front gardens. We also plant and maintain three municipal gardens and the gardens at Fieldcote Museum. It’s been a busy year!

Brantford Garden Club

Due to pandemic restrictions most of the year, we couldn’t have some activities, such as the summer flower show. We held our Spring plant sale and planted a garden at our local Hospice with vegetables for their kitchen and flowers for arrangements. The City of Brantford recognized our 170-year Anniversary with our logo in Lorne Park and we recognized long-standing members, like Bev Hutton, our Year of the Garden “Garden Hero” for 40 years of service. Most speakers were virtual, with Paul Zammit in-person.

Bronte Horticultural Society

Founded in 1925, we 2022 began with virtual meetings, then went back to in-person meetings in September. Many were pleased to regain the social aspect of meetings, although some remained uncomfortable in-person. Membership was steady. We held our Plant Sale, Garden Tour and an outdoor picnic. The Bus trip took place in September and the AGM was held in person in December. Pins were awarded in recognition of membership milestones for 5 years, 10 years, etc.

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Burlington Horticultural Society (BHS)

The Burlington Horticultural Society, established in 1919, celebrated 103 years of operation this year. During the year ended October 2022, the BHS held their monthly meetings via Zoom until October when we had our first hybrid meeting. A variety of speakers were interesting, entertaining and informative. We held our first fall plant sale in October. It was not a success but we learned some valuable lessons. We look forward to a more active and engaged year in 2023.

Delhi & District Horticultural Society

To celebrate our 40th Anniversary, we planted a native dogwood at the local cemetery and hosted a special dinner. We completed a new Pollinator Garden and planted and maintained four gardens at the Delhi Tobacco Museum. During the Delhi Strawberry Festival, we helped children pot a strawberry plant to take home. We donated a Junior Most Points trophy at the Norfolk County Fair, a wreath for Remembrance Day, a grant to a graduating student and to the Red Cross for the Ukraine crisis.

Flamborough Horticultural Society

We had a phenomenal plant sale, provided perennials to Alexander Place, had an Open Garden Walk and judged the Hamilton Trillium Awards. Our gardens looked good despite the drought. We had an August pot-luck, a Christmas pot-luck and our Fall AGM had a workshop on a festive floral display. Trudy Bliedung, our Garden Hero, won the District 6 Service Award. The OHA Judging and Exhibiting Award went to Ann Cochren and the OHA Horticultural Service Certificate to Rosanne Waugh.

Georgetown Horticultural Society

We resumed in-person meetings in April 2022, followed by a modified in-person May Plant Sale and June Flower Show in the Georgetown Marketplace. The June Garden Tour was for

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members only at member gardens. It was great to see what everyone had been doing during the COVID restrictions. We also held the Fall Flower Show and the October Pumpkin contests, but the most successful event for our members was the “Make It and Take It” workshop held in November, led by Catherine McGill.

Glen Morris Horticultural Society

For our 2022 theme, *Life is a Garden*. *Plant it Red*, we received pictures of Red Birds, Red Spring Flowers, Spot the Red Garden Art, Red Summer Flowers, and Red Vegetables. Marion Morton was our Garden Hero. Glen Morris Public School Students received Red Zinnia seeds. Meetings included Succulent Gardening, Turtles at Risk, the Hobbitstee Wildlife Refuge, and a Spring Planter Work-shop. We had a Plant Sale and Silent Auction, Coffee Party, Flower Show and monthly Garden Newsletter.

Haldimand Horticultural Society

We are a busy, active group, with a Plant & Bake Sale, Seedy Saturday, Yard of the Month, several workshops, a Garden Tour, a member BBQ, a new pollinator garden and six large planters in the communities of Caledonia, Cayuga & Hagersville. Our “Green Guardians” youth group share their vegetable produce with the community. Our Poppy Campaign produced over 2000 poppies for Remembrance Day in Caledonia. Sharon Slack was our Garden Hero and Catherine McGill the OHA’s Garden Hero.

Lynden Horticultural Society

We returned to our regular events with a contingency plan of outdoor meetings and tours. We had four tours and two local greenhouse tours, William Dam Seeds test garden and Winklemolen Tree Nursery with a hay wagon ride through the tree fields. Our Annual Plant Sale surpassed all previous sales thanks to the generous donation of trees from our local grower. This year we started cleaning up and redoing the gardens at the

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Lion's Den Park and had a Little Seed Library built to be placed in the community.

Milton Horticultural Society

We held our Great Seed Giveaway with the Milton Mall and a Spring Planter workshop appropriately masked and distanced in March. We held a driveway Hellebore Sale at the end of April. Our Plant Sale brought many people into the community, with excess plants donated to the fund-raiser for hospital equipment. A small group worked the Hospital, Allendale and Library gardens. Our Garden Tour had eight gardens with close to 250 people attending. Our Community Garden donated produce to a local food bank.

Mount Hamilton Horticultural Society

We postponed events for our 95th anniversary and held our first in-person meeting on February 1. In April, we adopted the nickname *Garden Hamilton*. The next day, we hosted the District 6 AGM with Stoney Creek. Our annual plant sale in May was affected by bad weather, but we had a small profit. In August, we held field trips to William Dam Seeds and Dundurn Castle Kitchen Garden. In September, we hosted the D6 Fall Breakfast. Our first Annual Awards Banquet since 2019 honoured several Society Members.

Oakville Horticultural Society

Oakville Horticultural Society OHS is 65 years young. General and Executive meetings, Design, Horticultural, Photography shows were held via Zoom or as a hybrid in-person with Zoom. Membership dropped but finances are in good order. We had a Plant Sale, Junior Garden Program, Volunteer Appreciation Awards and strawberry social, but no Garden Tour. We restarted our annual Plant Sale and Junior Gardener program. We held our AGM on December 12 and sponsored an annual OHS scholarship.

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Paris Horticultural Society

As COVID restrictions lessened, both Monthly and Board meetings were held in person. We held a Flower Show, Plant Sale and Garden Tour. We maintained gardens throughout Paris and increased membership slightly. The Adopt a Road program continued. We toured Losta Hosta, held a cement art mushroom workshop and a mystery tour of Sawaya Gardens. We presented a bursary to a Paris High School student, a Horticultural Service Certificate, an Ontario Volunteer Award and chose our Garden Hero.

Port Dover & Woodhouse

We resumed events: in-person monthly meetings from May onwards, July Picnic, August Flower Show, Garden Tour and Plant Sales in May and September. A dedicated group maintain our Community Gardens. We challenged residents to plant at least one more native plant, shrub or tree in Port Dover -The Year of the Native Garden. Plans for our Native Medicine Healing Garden continue at Silver Lake Park. We ended the year with 300 Society members and 500 plus Facebook Group members.

Simcoe and District Horticultural Society

At 101 members, our meetings had decent attendance. Our executive met regularly. We held a successful plant and yard sale. In May, members enjoyed 10% savings at 8 local nurseries. Our summer Garden Tour was well attended. The flower show in August had many entries. We made a small profit and our finances remained stable. The highlight was the Bus Trip in September to visit the Royal Botanical Gardens and Dundurn Castle, finishing with a meal at the Mandarin Restaurant.

St. George Horticultural Society

St. George Garden Club started the year still using ZOOM for membership meetings and transitioned to in person meetings in

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the fall. We enjoyed 2 outstanding field trips: Whistling Gardens and Winkelmolen Nurseries. Our Plant Sale was back as an in-person sale and we had an amazing turn out! Our membership remained steady at just over 100 members, including 9 life members. The club took part in the County of Brant's Year of the Garden event and our local festival AppleFest. We look forward to 2023!

Stoney Creek Garden Club & Horticultural Society

We held in-person membership meetings, but Board meetings continued via Zoom. Volunteers created a Pollinator Garden of 200 plants and 400 bulbs at Erland Lee Museum. We hosted the District 6 AGM, the first in-person District meeting since the pandemic and held two fund raisers: a silent auction at the District AGM and a Plant Sale during May. Gwen Allan was our Garden Hero. We donated to *Hamilton in Bloom* and a scholarship to a local High School Student entering studies in Horticulture.

Waterford & District Horticultural Society

We opened up again with completely revamped town gardens and the Ponds Park Garden, which is now a great pollinator attraction. The Plant sale was in the spring. In September, we had an in person meeting and resumed Board meetings. Because of COVID, we had to find a new meeting space, which has better accessibility. We had a pie/gift auction in December to raise some funds at our Christmas meeting. From a financial perspective we lost money and the bus tour had to be cancelled.

Winona Horticultural Society

We met virtually to start 2022 and got together at Winona Park for our Holiday Décor Kit Assembly and Spring Seed Sharing Meet-up. The weather was very good for our Plant Sale and we did very well. Master Gardener Claudette Sims taught us about

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native plants and jumping worms. Award winning photographer Art Ward entertained us with bird photos and we visited the Linwell Gardens' greenhouse to view poinsettia propagation. Joy Brunel issued 9 beautiful newsletters. We saw the happy return of the Winona Peach Festival, our main fundraiser.

OHA DISTRICT 7

District Director Report – Kathy Bouma

Societies slowly returned to in-person meetings, with pot-lucks for the AGMs. Guelph Township HS and Erin HS celebrated their 100th anniversary with special events. All Societies continued their gardening work beautifying their communities. Virtual meetings were still popular during the winter months. The District held their first in-person event again with a Fall Meeting in October in a new format of a half day with coffee and snacks, but no lunch. It was well received and it will be repeated for the AGM in April.

Arthur and Area Horticultural Society

The Society was happy to return to almost normal meetings and events including a plant sale, workshops and working in the community gardens. A renovation of the main town entrance garden included the addition of large stones added to surround the former timber area. The Society participated in the Town of Arthur's three day 150th celebration event.

Clifford & District Horticultural Society

It was a slow return to normal Society activities but we held a plant sale and returned to flowers shows and meetings. We handed out free strawberry plants at a town event. The Society planted two memorial trees in memory of members that had passed away. Our dedicated members created and sold

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Christmas Wreaths as a fundraiser which were very well received and coincided with the return of the Santa Claus parade.

Elora and Salem Horticultural Society

A return to our Spring Plant Sale was one of the highlights of the year and thoroughly enjoyed by purchasers and organizing members alike. Two garden consultations were requested. One of these has led to a new project with our assistance in the renovation of the flower beds at the Wellington County Museum and Archives. This will be a joint effort with the Fergus Horticultural Society. The Society was also awarded a plaque by the local hospital for caring for the hospital's Healing Garden.

Erin Horticultural Society

The biggest highlight of the year was the celebration of the Erin Garden Club's 100th anniversary which was held at McMillan Park. The gardens at the park were completely redone to create a "Celebration of Colour" garden. There were several great speakers at meetings, interesting and fun workshops, three flower shows, a garden tour, Seedy Saturday and a members' BBQ.

Fergus & District Horticultural Society

The Diggin' in the Dirt crew of approximately 35 volunteers met weekly for 2 hours of community gardening and stayed on for a social time afterwards. We had three summer events where all of the members were invited to "Coffee in the Park". June was at Terry Fox Park to view hundreds of peonies in full bloom. July was at Templin Gardens and the unveiling of an Allium sculpture, commissioned to honour the memory of past members. September was at a member's riverside home. Flower shows and meetings resumed in person.

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Grand Valley & District Horticultural Society

A Whistling Garden tour with a beautiful display of peonies was enjoyed by several of our members who made the trip by car-pooling. Our Community Gardens & Main Street barrels maintained by our dedicated volunteers were enjoyed and complemented on by many people visiting our town. A return to flower shows and our monthly meetings in-person with inspiring speakers brought us new faces from the community.

Guelph Horticultural Society

The Society had a very successful spring plant sale at the Guelph Farmers' Market. The summer Garden Tour saw 450 visitors with over 70 society volunteers participating. Work continues on the pollinator gardens in Riverside Park. We had a grand opening of this garden in June. Plants are labelled with QR codes with information re: plant name, pollinators it attracts, growing conditions and we hope to add a picture of the bloom in 2023. A return to a Society Bus trip was organized for July.

Guelph Township Horticultural Society

2022 was the 100th Anniversary of our Society. At our 'Music in the Garden' in June, we celebrated with cake, ice-cream and strawberries. In September, approximately 40 members, life members and past presidents attended a catered dinner. President, Sylvia Grant, gave an entertaining and informative history of our society. In November at our AGM, members exhibited plaques, pictures, newspaper articles and other historical items. We planted a commemorative tulip tree behind the Community Centre and a plaque will be installed in 2023.

Harriston and District Horticultural Society

The Society partnered with the Town of Minto Landscaping Coordinator plus the Clifford Society to organize a 2022 Year of the Garden Contest. All entrants received an engraved stone as

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recognition of being a participant. Members partnered with the Harriston Carnegie Library to hold a free Christmas Greens DIY afternoon for adults. This was in addition to the planting activities for the Juniors in May, pumpkin painting in October, and Christmas planter filling in late November. Meetings were a combination of Virtual and in-person.

Hillsburgh Garden Club

The Society had an amazing year of events for 2022 which included Seedy Saturday with our first "youth" member joining our club, followed by Earth Day where we were demonstrating other uses for plastic pop bottles and made cute planters. We participated in events such as Environment Day, Library Writer's Festival and Hillsburgh Hey Day which brought awareness to the community of the Society. We offered our FREE Succulent Bar to all visitors. The Society toured four-member gardens which was very rewarding.

Moorefield & District Horticultural Society

Our society had many enjoyable meeting speakers in 2022 and held 3 flowers shows. Exhibit numbers were down due to the extremely dry weather. We took part in a car tour and enjoyed a pre ordered box lunch at one garden. Our community gardens thrived. We designed and added one new garden in 2022. Tulips and daffodils bulbs were added to our community gardens. We had a terrific plant sale in June. We aided the local public library with a zucchini race at our Drayton fair.

Mount Forest Horticultural Society

We had a work bee to plant a new garden at the hospital with support from Robertson Landscaping. We donated \$2,000 to the project. We are working on a pollinator garden at Murphy Park and supported the most AWESOME TREE project. Rose Odell spoke concerning judging and demonstrated a design using Agra-

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Wool. Shirley Koch from Riverbend Gardens was very entertaining and informative about peonies, hellebores and hostas. Paul Judge, Minto Landscape Coordinator, gave great information about creating successful planters.

Orangeville & District Horticultural Society

During 2022, our society has done many things that have made us proud. We continue to maintain the 11 gardens in Town, which our community appreciates. We have been able to have in-person meetings and flower shows. We had workshops and members' garden tours. Our plant sale hit a record of \$3,000. Our popular "From the Archives" articles got a lot of praise from the membership. We were also happy to participate in the poppy project for Remembrance Day by contributing hundreds of knitted or crocheted poppies to honour our veterans.

Shelburne & District Horticultural Society

The Society celebrated its 60th anniversary on a lovely warm evening in June with a tour of Julia Dimakos's garden. The celebration was topped off with customized cupcakes made by one of our members. Throughout the year we offered a wonderful speaker line up with a great variety of topics both in person and through Zoom. Although the couple of years of being shut down has impacted our member numbers, we hope to continue to grow and return to our previous membership.

OHA DISTRICT 8

District Director Report – Karen Redmond

District 8 Societies moved forward to recovery post COVID. Many held virtual or in-person or hybrid meetings. Seaforth and District, along with Brussels and District, co-hosted our AGM. Teeswater Culross Hort Society celebrated 100 years and Ripley and District Horticultural Society celebrated 95 years. District 8

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continues to plan and prepare with District 7 to co-host the OHA 2024 AGM in Guelph. Societies continued to keep their *Communities in Bloom* promoting horticulture in our District. Ripley and District Hort Society Youth Group continues to thrive.

Auburn Horticultural Society

Auburn Horticultural Society ended 2022 with 50 members, including 3 Life members. Celebrating Year of the Garden 2022, Shirley Andrews named Garden Hero. A successful Plant Auction was held. We enjoyed group work parties with watering, weeding and maintaining our various gardens to keep our village in bloom, with *Plant Red* theme. We enjoyed a *Trees of Auburn* walking tour in September, Pumpkin Party and Make n' Take to end our year. We have a new sign for our Society at the Auburn Weather Station, purchased by Auburn Lions.

Brussels & District Horticultural Society

We won first prize for our beautiful float advertising Brussels & Dist. Horticulture in the Brussels Fall Fair Parade. Seaforth and Brussels Hort Societies co-hosted the District AGM in April and actually made money for both societies. We ran a Residential Horticulture based decorating contest for the Brussels Homecoming celebration, which was very well received by Brussels citizens. A very successful MYSTERY garden car tour saw 6 sites within a 30-minute drive from Brussels. Our Fairy Door Trail was featured on CTV news in the summertime.

Chesley Horticultural Society

This year we had a summer potluck picnic and Christmas Turkey/Potluck dinner with live musical entertainment. Master Gardeners and Saugeen Conservation Authority presented at general meetings. Besides our regular flower beds, a canoe and boat were added and planted with native plants. Plant sale and flower show were very successful. Solar lights were added to

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town entrance markers. Our Garden Gnomes presented "You have a Garden Ontario Gorgeous Garden" door hanger to residents with exceptional garden displays.

Clinton Horticultural Society

In 2022, Clinton Horticultural Society had 5 speakers, a plant auction in May (\$2104), a garden tour in July with 5 personal gardens and the Clinton Artist Alley, and a flower show in August, where the District Service Award and 2022 Garden Hero Award were presented. In November we held our AGM and gave out 4 Life Memberships. We continue to maintain the Sloman Park flower beds. We had 96 members this year.

Durham and District Horticultural Society

We celebrated the Year of the Garden with the purchase of a Year of the Garden Flag and T shirts. We honored our garden hero and ran a community gardening day. Our municipality raised the Year of the Garden Flag and proclaimed 2022 the Year of the Garden. We once again held the Durham Herb Fair, Plant Sale and Flower Show, and held a second Tree Draw for new residents of our area.

Goderich and District Horticultural Society

We held a Seedy Saturday in Partnership with the county Museum. It was well participated in by adults and children. We returned to holding our Garden Tour on the special Day of the Garden. The flower Show was well participated in and attended.

Hanover Horticulture Society

We celebrated our 60th Anniversary, held the presentation of a 60-year pin and received a Recognition Certificate from the Town of Hanover to Life Member Betty Fleming at our Annual Flower Show July 9. We hosted successful Craft Show in Oct.

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Hensall and Community Horticultural Society

Our favorite event is to create interesting and beautiful planters. For the past few years, we have gone to Huron Ridge Acres, have an update on what's new at their greenhouses and then a short tour. After we create our masterpieces, we have a short meeting. This year both our member, Vicky Culbert, and Karen Redmond joined us to update the members on what was happening at OHA and District 8. Of course, our most spectacular guest is one of our member's daughters, Laura, who has joined us for the past few years. She is now 7 years old.

Kincardine & District Horticulture Society

One of the highlights of the year was a meeting we had at Folmers on pruning which was outside and well attended.

Lucknow & District Horticultural Society

We enjoyed joining Ripley Hort on their local garden tour. We had 2 meetings doing a make and take and looked after the town gardens and main street barrels and bridges. To promote the Year of the Garden, we produced a sign, which we moved from garden to garden, to highlight the beautiful gardens maintained by residents of Lucknow.

Markdale & District Horticultural Society

Markdale & District Horticultural Society was able to get back to regular in-house meetings, hold our flower show, Green Thumb Plant Sale and added the Grey Highlands Home and Garden Show to our year's events. For the beautification of Markdale, we added 6 more containers in the temporary town square to our list of plantings. We obtained a grant to help cover the cost of plant material and purchase of two new containers to replace the old, damaged ones for the Police Woman's bench / boxes.

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Neustadt & District Horticultural Society

We started a new project of picking a Garden of the Month for each month of the summer into fall. This gave the club some exposure in the village. We went on a couple of successful garden tours to see exceptional gardens. We were once again able to have a table at the local fall fair, as it was back for the first time in three years.

Ripley and District Horticultural Society

The Ripley & District Horticultural Society enjoyed a good return to "normal" despite a delayed AGM due to COVID. Most traditional events took place with some adjustments for safety. We created a new logo, made signs for advertising and planted a new public garden. RDHS celebrated its 95th anniversary with a garden party where pins were awarded representing 730 years of service. A summer tour of members' gardens and dinner shared with the Lucknow Society was well attended. A successful Christmas fundraiser and luncheon was held.

Seaforth & District Horticultural Society

Seaforth & District Horticultural Society celebrated 50 Years in 2022. To celebrate, we held special workshops throughout the year, as well as an Anniversary Celebration with both Past and Present Members and Executive. We updated our garden signs used to recognize the town flower beds that our Society maintains. Seaforth & Brussels Societies co-hosted the District 8 AGM in April 2022.

Southport Horticultural Society

We significantly improved the condition of the County Museum gardens in Southampton. This is a large job, which should be completed in 2023.

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Tara Horticultural Society

We had two youth initiatives this year: a Peace Garden and a poster contest with a grade 8 class, and pottery painting/flower planting initiative with a grade 2 class. We hosted a very successful plant sale in conjunction with a bake sale for our local "Splash Pad Fundraising" committee. Our ladies' night was a sold-out event and engaged a lot of new and potential members. We had two educational speaking engagements this year, with door prizes and refreshments.

Teeswater-Culross Horticultural Society

Our Society "painted the town Red" as part of the Year of the Garden celebrations. We planted and maintained flowers throughout downtown Teeswater. Formosa celebrated its Homecoming so they planted and maintained multiple pots and gardens throughout the community in blue, white and gold. Our big celebration this year was our 100th Anniversary on Aug 6, 2022. We were able to hold it outside the Teeswater Town Hall, where we celebrated with members, past members, dignitaries and friends. We shared stories and snacks.

Wingham and District Horticultural Society

Our community gardens were spectacular this year; we had a lot of input from different members who designed the plantings in different beds and coordinated the look by using the same colours. We were able to go back to our Grade 3 Good Bugs, Bad Bugs and Plants on a morning in June; the children and the members working this event all enjoyed the interaction and each student planted an annual to take home. We also were able to return to our Travelling Mystery Tour where we were treated to the highlights of our own area.

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OHA DISTRICT 9

District Director Report – Leslie Daniels

This Year of the Garden brought us all out of isolation and instilled in us the need to create a world full of beauty to celebrate. As gardeners, we are blessed to be able to do this in our gardens and our communities. The year began a 100th Anniversary year for one of the District 9 societies the 30th year of Garden Tours for another and the return of the Garden Walks, picnics and, of course, the development of Native Pollinator Habitat oases.

Dunnville Horticulture Society

As well as undertaking their usual community activities their members have created a 'feature bed' for the 2023 Year of the Garden to be planted with native red perennials, annuals and shrubs. The society also co-purchased a YOTG Flag to be flown at City Hall during Garden Week in June.

Fort Erie Horticulture Society

Members also took part in the Town of Fort Erie's 600 FREE tree giveaway. And talk about your 'plant sales' Fort Erie's lasted 6 days and started off with over 2, 500 plants. Some of the funds raised will go to support Fort Erie area students who are studying horticulture at post-secondary institutions.

Grimsby Horticulture Society

2022 was Canada's Year of the Garden and Grimsby's 100th anniversary. Garden Tour July 16 2022 welcomed the gardening community to celebrate and enjoy 10 wonderful gardens. \$20.00 a ticket. This was, as always a Rain or Shine event. No refunds. Open to the public.

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Lincoln Horticulture Society

We partnered with the municipality to conduct a Garden Contest in June. Winners were announced during the July 1st celebration. Hopefully by 2023 we will be back to normal in-person meetings, tours and activities.

Niagara Falls Horticulture Society

COVID affected us all and a lot of members just were not confident enough to attempt the ZOOM technology which meant none of the annual events were put on hold. This year will see the return of their Annual Spring Plant Sale and the 26th Annual 'Garden Walk and the 67th Rose & Flower Show in.

Niagara-on-the-Lake Horticulture Society

Unfortunately, it was necessary to cancel the Garden Tour in Niagara-on-the-Lake Garden Tours. Due to COVID this event will require new gardens and a new structure for this well-attended community event. However, in-person meetings are now well attended and we look forward to the programs in 2023.

Pelham Horticulture Society

Pelham has been active through the pandemic developing new programs and getting ready to open their doors at the Meridian Community Centre. Tami Proctor, Horticultural Therapist will visit in June at their FREE event, pre-registration required). Also in June they have arranged a Garden Walk Garden Tour. In late summer on August 20th they held their annual Flower & Vegetable Show.

Port Colborne Horticulture Society

They are in the process of organizing their fall programs including a Fall Plant Sale at the Guild Hall, hosting a Christmas dinner prepared by the Port Colborne high school culinary students and look forward to gardening and in-person meetings.

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Ridgeway & District Horticulture Society

A Picnic & Garden Tour (July 21) at Niagara Falls Botanical Gardens was arranged and well attended as their community, like all of us, have been starved while in isolation during the COVID years. Also they are partnering with Bloom Canada to help run and participate in a Garden Tour for the area.

St. Catharines Horticulture Society

Newly re-branded as Garden City Gardeners, this society is in the process of organizing and developing and expanding a Native Pollinator Garden location to celebrate the YOTG 2022. As this group is restructuring their society and are well on the way to their 165-year rebirth with planned events and speaker program geared to all ages.

Smithville Horticulture Society

Working with the United Way and Township, the Smithville Garden Club are working to build accessible raised allotment garden beds at Hank McDonald Park. During 2022 they made excellent use of virtual workshops and their FB page to keep contact and interact with their members while awaiting COVID to lessen and so in-person meetings could once again happen on a monthly basis.

Thorold Horticulture Society

We launched our 1st Annual Thorold Garden Contest (YOTG 2022) on June 18th, National Garden Day in Canada. Winners will be featured in September. Other activities include our 3rd Annual Garden Tea Party (July) while we make plans for an interesting and informative Fall season.

Welland Horticulture Society

We created a 'feature bed' to be planted with native red perennials, annuals and shrubs; held our popular Plant Sale (May)

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and will be planning for events in the fall of 2022. Getting back to our communities is a focus for all of our societies as we work hard to re-establish our ties that haven't allowed us to visit and talk gardening in so very long.

OHA DISTRICT 10

District Director Report – Dian Chute

In April, the D10 AGM was held virtually due to the ongoing pandemic and the D10 Fall Workshop was held in-person in November, hosted by London/Fanshawe. The District Director and Assistant Directors attended the in-person installations and celebratory events for our societies. We introduced a District Website to provide societies with access to District files, reports, Society events, District events, and area events. The need for virtual meetings impacted our AGM fundraising.

Aylmer & District Horticultural Society

We have had an interesting year. There are residual impacts from the pandemic such as no treats from home for our meetings and no Potluck dinner at Christmas. However, there have been fresh ideas brought in by the President including interesting games, a monkey survey online to allow for anonymous suggestions for improvements for the club and for the community gardens and parks. Also very encouraging attempts for new members to engage. A new member is on the committee that is planning the Butterfly Garden.

Belmont & Area Horticultural Society

The Society is in the process of dissolving.

Dorchester Horticultural Society

Our membership has grown by a 'few'... but remains pretty good. We had good attendance at our Garden Tour/Strawberry Social

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in June. We enjoyed a Christmas Dinner/Social with a very good speaker and demo. We usually have a 'Garden Quiz' that enlightens and informs the members.

Dutton Dunwich Horticultural Society

We celebrated our 25th anniversary in 2022. Our most significant event was the installation of a bubbling rock for Centennial Park in Dutton using fundraising proceeds from previous years. A video of highlights of the 25 years was made to play at several events and posted online. A flower photo collection and garden contest open to the community were also held. The Society had a presence at several community events including the local fair and craft shows.

Glencoe Horticultural Society

Our key highlight was holding Weeding Wednesdays each week in August at different locations, such as the train station, historical society and community centres around the municipality. We had some members and executive help, as well as council members and mayor.

Grand Bend & Area Horticultural Society

Our gardens, incorporating red and white flowers, were spectacular and added a welcoming flair at all the main highway entrances to Grand Bend, as well as various local park areas. High praise and positive feedback were received from locals and visitors alike. Holding our meetings in-person, enabling our members to reconnect with friends and just being social again was another highlight of the year. Also, our society awarded a \$500 scholarship to a second year Fanshawe student in the Landscape Design Advanced Diploma program.

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Ingersoll and District Horticultural Society

We had interesting speakers and the bus trip in June to the Butterfly Garden and to 2 garden centres was very successful.

Kirkton Horticultural Society

We were pleased to meet in person for the director's meetings. Virtual meetings via ZOOM have their advantages if the weather is unfavourable. Although the Open meeting attendance was down, those attending were enthusiastic and there were respectable entries in the accompanying flower shows. Two of our workshops proceeded with directors sharing their expertise on pruning and pave' design. All in all, it was a successful year.

Lambeth Horticultural Society

Since our focus for this year was centered on native plants, most speakers mentioned them in their presentations. We distributed native plant seedlings to our members as their premium and held our plant sale in May. To engage our members, we asked them to take photos of their native plants to be compiled in a special *Hortigram*. We made donations to the Rotary Club and the Lambeth Cemetery Board. Our bus trip in June took us to the Sarnia area. Poinsettias were given to the library and churches for their support.

London Horticultural Society

We participated in Seedy Saturday in March and resumed our annual plant sale at Gathering on the Green in June. The society continued to plant and maintain some gardens, including the flower beds at St. John's Ambulance, Rotholme House, the planters at CNIB and our peony bed located at the Tourist Information Office, as well as some guerrilla gardening. In September we exhibited at the Western Fair and won second place in the Bale Decorating contest. In October, we held our 170th Anniversary party at the London Civic.

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London Fanshawe Horticultural Society

Our top priorities to celebrate The Year of the Garden were to recognize members' gardens and garden walks, donate house plants to the food bank and nominate a Garden Hero. We were inventive with monthly meetings using Zoom, outdoor meetings and meeting at a local garden centre greenhouse. Our native pollinator garden matured and was added to this year. A stone marker with London Fanshawe's logo gives us recognition. We planted at Covent Garden Market and maintained gardens at the Salvation Army Village and McCormick Home.

Parkhill Horticultural Society

Although we had nothing to report that was outstanding in 2022, volunteers did plant several big planters in the Business Section of town, but there were no Hanging Baskets as the streets were to be under construction all summer. That ended up not happening until November. Delays, Delays, Delays!

Port Burwell – Bayham Horticultural Society

We planted all 45 of our community cement planters and were able to go back to having our annual plant sale. We rented a spot at the local festival, Edisonfest, in Vienna to sell remaining plants. We had garden tours throughout the summer and great, informative speakers at meetings.

St. Marys Horticultural Society

It was wonderful to again be able to meet in person for flower shows and meetings.

St. Thomas & District Horticultural Society

We started the year with a virtual meeting in January and then moved to in-person sessions in February. It was so nice to see our members in person. We have had some great speakers. We changed the format of our meetings to accommodate regular

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sections on reuse and recycle to become more environmentally conscious. We invite our members to share any advice or tips. One of our members very generously donates Canadale Gift Cards and donations to our local foodbank were promoted starting at our May meeting.

Stratford and District Horticultural Society

The Society started the Public Library Garden Rejuvenation in Feb 2021 and finished in November 2022. This project added communal meeting and teaching spaces and five gardens, with mostly native plants, to the library property.

Strathroy-Caradoc Horticultural Society

For our 150th Anniversary Celebration, the Lion's Hall was decorated to resemble a garden. Our guests had an opportunity to meet, visit and be delighted by displays of the society over the years. Many took advantage of the photo booth. The Strathroy mayor brought congratulations and a certificate from the town. Our District 10 and OHA President each brought their own congratulatory remarks. A Past President shared a presentation on the history of our society. Guest speaker Paul Zammit challenged us to see gardening in a different way.

Tavistock Horticultural Society

Unfortunately, Tavistock Hort Society disbanded this year.

Thorndale & Area Horticultural Society

Our society had a slow and steady return to normal, hosting interesting speakers while adjusting to new technology options in the new Thorndale Community Centre. Our society made huge efforts to restore gardens after summer construction on the main street. We held a highly successful Garden Tour, which had been on hold for two years, with increased support from our local businesses and attendees. We supported a bursary for the

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Fanshawe College Horticulture Technician Program. We also returned to full participation in the Thorndale Fall Fair.

Tillsonburg Horticultural Society

Given the enormous impact the pandemic had on our seniors' community, whether it was illness or simply fear or being cautious, we weathered the events pretty well. We continued with the maintenance and nurturing of all five of our public gardens. Starting with the March 2022 general meeting, we continued with our year the same as other years. Our two bus tours (May's Annual Spring Buying Tour & November's "Sparkles" Winter Tour) were virtually sold out.

West Lorne & Community Horticultural Society

We continued with our community work, yearly plant sale and were back to regular general meetings. We changed our meeting location which allowed for social distancing. Our plant sale and back sale was very successful this year. Best ever for revenue.

Woodstock Horticultural Society

The main accomplishment of 2022 was being able to return to in-person meetings in May and to regain a sense of normality. The social aspect of the Society seems to be one of the most important reasons to bring members out to meetings. With a late start and social distancing still the norm, we did not plan any extras such as road trips or a different fundraiser. For the first time, our Annual General Meeting, with potluck supper in December, was held at the Navy Club, which added a festive air to the event and was well attended.

DISTRICT 11

District Director Report – Sandra Rammelaere

After a long time of COVID restrictions, all 14 societies enjoyed in person meetings with guest speakers, and raised funds with their

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plant sales and workshops. Most societies did community work: planting and maintaining gardens, pots, hanging baskets, totes and raised beds. Many members enjoyed bus tours, garden tours, flower shows, parades, and workshops. Several societies celebrated winning awards from the OHA and special anniversaries. Societies kept their members and the public aware of their activities by email, newsletters and social media.

Ambassador Horticultural Society Lasalle

Fundraisers were more successful as the members started attending more meetings when COVID restrictions lifted and they were able to bid on silent auction items. Members continued with community work, plant sales and garden tours. The society gave out two \$500 bursaries.

Amherstburg Fort Malden Horticultural Society

2022 was a good year for the Society. The highlight of the year was their garden tour. They also featured the Trillium Awards. These two events helped them demonstrate their involvement and pride in Amherstburg. Regular meetings resumed with exceptional guest speakers and Monday night gardening of the community beds. The annual plant sale was a success and also demonstrated to the youth how much fun it is to plant. Members came out for "Deck the Planters" where they spruce up the town's planters.

Belle River & District Horticultural Society

The Society held their Plant Market in May and it was their best sale ever. They included outside vendors and sold bags of worm castings. In October, members celebrated their 30th anniversary at the General meeting and enjoyed a celebration cake. The Mayor of Lakeshore presented the Society with a plaque from the Town to honour their milestone and thank the society for its outstanding work.

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Blenheim – Harwich Horticultural Society

Unfortunately, Blenheim-Harwich Hort Society disbanded this year.

Chatham Horticultural Society

The Earth Week cleanup in April saw the Society collect a truck full of litter. They hosted several speakers: Ken Walton spoke about Companion Plants; Jan Dugale about Good, Bad and Ugly Bug; and Russ Talbot presented "Improve Your Shots". Gardens were toured in Blenheim and Chatham and members attended a tour hosted by the LTCVA. At the Chatham library, children learned "hands-on" how to plant a garden box. Door knockers were delivered to unsuspecting households in appreciation of their beautiful yards.

Essex and District Horticultural Society

The Society came back from the lockdown with a blast with their most successful May Plant Sale to date the day before Mother's Day. They had a Native Plant, Tree & Perennial Sale in September. Instead of a large Flower Show in July, the society held a Mini Flower Show in September, overflowing with entries and happy winners. November 23 was a fun filled Annual Election of Officers and Dinner, including prizes, games and a Live Auction. Members were very generous in donations and bidding for items.

Greater Windsor Horticultural Society

The Society had a booth at the Farmer's Market Plant Days where they sold and gave away plants and information. Members were asked by Humane Society and Hiatus House to weed and refresh planting beds and they stepped up to help and improve the curb appeal of their building. They gave an annual bursary for a St. Clair College Horticultural program student. For their 70th anniversary, a tree with a plaque and a GWHS logo garden

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bed were planted in Jackson Park. Members enjoyed a dinner and anniversary cake.

Kingsville Horticultural Society

The Society held a plant sale in May 2022, their first since 2019! It was smaller than usual but nonetheless successful. They ran a Front Yard Recognition program, with more nominations coming from local citizens and good publicity. Care and maintenance of the town's many flower beds continued.

Leamington Horticultural Society

The Society planted trees adjacent to the community baseball diamonds in coordination with the municipality. Members planted flowers in all of the Municipality's flower pots. They had a successful plant sale. The Best Garden Display Award Committee was once again active in the community to give out the monthly awards. They were also once again able to hold the annual year end picnic enjoyed by all. Members started a new fundraiser this past spring by selling native plants.

Ridgetown Horticultural Society

The Society has a small group of dedicated members to maintain flower beds and parks throughout town. Planters on Main Street were filled with flowers in summer and decorations in winter. Together with the Rotary Club and the local Scouts, they planted 102 trees in the Memorial Trees Forest. Trees were planted in Mickle Park in memory of three long serving members. Members hosted the District 11 Fall Advisory Meeting. They welcomed 5 guest speakers at their regular meetings and a local historian at the annual banquet.

Sarnia Horticultural Society

Members were pleased to resume in-person meetings, both Board and general monthly meetings with excellent speakers.

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Many members attended the annual BBQ/Pot Luck held in the Society owned garden. The annual Plant sale was held in May, and garden tours resumed in July and August. A donation was given to the City of Sarnia for three trees, and St Joseph's Hospice for landscaping the grounds, which was greatly appreciated. Three members attended the District 11 Advisory Meeting, and four members became life members.

Thamesville Horticultural Society

The Society prepared an area in a local municipal park to be planted as a pollinator garden in 2023. The society carried out the usual duties: members planted and maintained several town gardens, planters, hanging baskets and raised beds at the local Legion. A fundraising plant sale was held.

Tilbury & District Horticultural Society

The Society partnered with New Beginnings - a group of clients with brain injuries who wanted to plant trees and visit the naturalized area of Northside Park. They returned later and spent additional time there. The Society received the OHA Environmental Award and partnered with the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority at the annual Memorial tree planting ceremony. Sixty-five new trees were planted at Memorial and Northside Parks. Members continued to beautify the downtown area with 43 hanging baskets and 31 planters.

Watford/Warwick Horticultural Society

The Society donated \$5,000 towards landscaping at the new Community Complex and did a major upgrade of the downtown Bluebird Parkette. Members crocheted hearts and sunflowers to fundraise for Ukraine and donated a profit of \$2,085. They taught and propagated Cannas from seed for the first time. Members taught about succulents and then spent months propagating and growing them to sell at the combined plant and

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membership sale. Happy to be back in the public school to participate in the always successful junior arts project!

Wheatley Horticultural Society

After a recent gas explosion, the Society was very concerned about a closed downtown so they put up limited hanging baskets and planters. Members planted about 171 trees and plants in the new Wheatley Arboretum & Learning Trail. The Society held a flag raising and tree planting event to open the new Trail and display the OHA Community Improvement Award. For fundraising, members hosted a successful plant sale and Garden Tour, sold Memorial Fish Tote Planters, helped at the Golf Tournament and sold Christmas Centerpieces.

OHA DISTRICT 12

District Director Report – Rene Roy

Due to the fact that we did not have a District Director for the past 2 years, we did not have any activities. As Treasurer, I called for an Organizational Meeting on October 22, 2022 and was elected the District Director. I am now starting to learn the ins and outs of this position.

Cochrane Horticultural Society

No Society events were held this year.

Englehart & District Horticultural Society

We used our Facebook page more, included photos of our competitions and the numbers on our page rose by over 100. The numbers shopping at our Plant Sale was down and we took the leftovers to several members' homes. These were sold on a donation basis. We hosted an excellent Christmas Workshop where kits were sold and those attending were shown how to

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make/ decorate a Christmas lantern. We had our biggest crowd ever. We visited the farm of one member who grows cut flowers.

Iroquois Falls Horticultural Society

We met again as a group on our regular schedule and began to reach out to new members. We worked together, face to face, as a team. With restrictions lessened and school back in session, we involved local high school students in constructing our new planter boxes. Our post office and Anson Park gardens were planted, weeded and revitalized, while we continued tending our previously committed gardens.

Kapuskasing Horticultural Society

Community work involved fewer group work bees this year and more individual work bees to minimize close contact. We held our Bi-Annual Plant sale on the first Saturday of June and, as an educational tool, sold cotton underwear at \$2 each for the Soil Your Undies testing. Our Annual Flower & Vegetable Show had a fewer exhibitors and visitors. Along with the Centre de Sante's "Healthy Kid" committee, we held a "Kids in the Garden" vegetable container planting project. We increased membership and community interest in gardening with our Facebook page.

Kirkland Lake Horticultural Society

The only activity for volunteers was our Civic Planting in town. We held our AGM and eight general meetings, with Board meetings at the same time. Coming out of the Pandemic prevented the Society from collapsing and we could enlist younger members.

Porcupine Horticultural Society

We started to resume regular meetings, plant flowers and hold other social activities. We also assisted with planting and

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maintaining flower beds at the Maurice Landry Community Center in South Porcupine.

Timmins Horticultural Society

Starting in June, we participated in community events, held regular monthly meetings and participated in the Bee City Timmins Initiative to promote local gardening. We also led a project to restore a large community garden and provided a gardening workshop for recent immigrants. On our Facebook page, we posted gardening tips, local garden events, workshops, meetings, and answered gardening questions. We held a garden competition and awarded prizes at a potluck dinner in October.

OHA DISTRICT 13

District Director Report – Denise Berg

2022 found District 13 conducting its advisory council meetings and the AGM online. Outside of these meetings, the District did not hold any events. The Director did present the 100th Anniversary Certificate to the Thessalon Horticultural Society.

Assignack Horticultural Society

This year, we had more persons involved in helping with the flowers and upkeep at the community and museum planters. Although we still wore masks and kept our distance in enclosed spaces, we did hold more meetings. We held our Flower Show for the first time in 2 years and it was not a success as it was very small.

Blind River Horticultural Society

After extensive weeding, our Society reclaimed the Hudson St Bed. With an assortment of flowers throughout it, our community bed produced vegetables, which were distributed in the community. Flowers in the town planters, at the library and

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the Town's electric sign did well. In the fall, 250 bulbs were planted throughout these planters. Community events such as our Scarecrow and pumpkin carving contest were very successful. Our Facebook page had many ideas and information for our followers.

Bruce Station Horticultural Society

Four outdoor plant sales increased funds and memberships. We tended fewer flower beds, which had new signage and water sources, and completed the Memorial Garden creation. Our president, our Garden Hero, became a Butterfly Way Ranger. We supported the local invasive species project; held Invasive Plants presentations, did Winter Seeding of Natives and shared Creations from our Christmas Gnome Workshop on Facebook. Many don't attend but enjoy our emails and retail discounts. The change to our Fiscal Year End meant 2 AGMs this year!

Campbell Horticultural Society

Our meeting attendance improved, we gained new members, and our finances are in good shape because of reduced rent expenses. We continued to maintain the community garden at Burpee & Mills Community Centre. We had programs on Dahlias, Gladiolas, and Flower Show Designs. In August, we had a membership drive at the Kagawong Market. In September, members brought examples of Flower Show Specials and Specimens. In October, we had a Fall Luncheon and in December we had a Christmas Potluck Lunch.

Elliot Lake Horticultural Society

Enthusiastic volunteers planted a downtown circular bed to celebrate "The Year of the Garden" and helped to plant and maintain 3 gardens within the city. A well-attended, successful plant sale was held on June 4. Board and general meetings were held, with the general meeting attendance initially down, but

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gradually increasing. Presentations by our talented members were about: An Indoor Greenhouse, Seeds, Spring Wildflowers, Photo Journey of Flora and Fauna through the Seasons, and Flower Pounding on Fabric.

Espanola Horticultural Society

The society slowly woke up from pandemic restrictions. We held a spring plant sale, a limited summer garden tour and continued to care for several gardens. The community garden continued to expand, fully subscribed in 2022. A generous donation of fish compost made it an excellent growing season. Two plots produced vegetables to donate to the local food bank. One member led a program to create decorative tiles for the community garden fence and we installed a bench in memory of a former president in that garden.

French River Horticultural Society

Our first general meeting since 2020 was held in May, albeit outdoors, and indoor meetings resumed in the fall. In June, we held the plant sale, our main fundraising event. Membership rose from 36 to 51. We shared Information through publication, our newsletter and a local Facebook page. We set up a society email account and allocated funds to support community projects. Members volunteered to plant and maintain gardens. To celebrate 2022, Year of the Garden, we recognized four gardeners for their outstanding gardens.

Massey-Walford Horticultural Society

We concentrated mainly on the Year of the Garden and the mayor declared June 18th as Garden Day. With other artists, we had our Plant & Bulb Sale at the Mouth Park, where one member painted gnomes, while another painted rocks with the children. It was a great success. We slowly returned to our regular meetings, discussed plans for our 60th anniversary and

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presented a proposal to plant native plants at Tisdale Park. We planted and weeded at Heritage Park following safety protocols, but cancelled our annual flower show and membership drive.

Sault Ste. Marie Horticultural Society

In January, we held our Annual General Meeting via Zoom. Video garden tours were quite popular. In March, a seed swap was held at the church with a modest number of attendees. Next was the Plant Sale, with overcast and windy weather that raised a few thousand dollars. It was nice to interact with people who hadn't been seen in two years as work increased at the Community garden and the Rose Memorial Garden. In October, the membership attended a fall potluck supper.

Spanish Horticultural Society – Blue Violet Chapter

Our newsletter continued to keep members informed and a photo contest encouraged members to send in garden/nature photos to be included in it. As a meeting activity in May, we created Mother's Day arrangements. In June, we held garden work bees to prepare and plant the town's beds. We continued with 3 raised-bed community gardens at the Marina to share vegetables and herbs. We both created and prepared fresh arrangements and wreaths for sale at the Christmas Market. Meetings were face-to-face, but attendance remained low.

St. Joseph Island Horticultural Society

Our society not only survived the pandemic, we also thrived. With lots of new community members and many of them interested in participating in our society, we doubled our membership and the attendance at our events, such as our successful plant sale, was higher than ever.

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Sudbury Horticultural Society

Virtual speaker presentations were held in January, February, and March. In April, August, September, and October we returned to in-person meetings. A spring plant sale was held at Science North along with the Sudbury Farmers Market and our Open Garden Weekend was held in July. Floral competitions were held in August, October, and November. A six-part cable TV program was produced for Eastlink and we continued planting and maintaining John Street Park. We supported two schoolyard re-greening projects in conjunction with VETAC.

Thessalon Horticultural Society

The Society enjoyed a successful season. Beyond our normal activities in the community, we plant and maintain 8 flower beds, and plant and fertilize 21 planters along Main Street and Huron Street. Extras included the children's potted plant event, the yard tour, the float in the parade on Community Day and 16 Poinsettias delivered to the senior resident buildings, thanks for our meeting place at Zion United Church and two families who give us access to their water taps during the summer.

OHA DISTRICT 14

District Director Report – Sandra Mazur

I was happy to travel after losing most of my term to the COVID shutdown. I toured Community Gardens in Nipigon-Red Rock and travelled eight hours to Geraldton to help them to get back up and running. Our District is vast, approximately nine hours apart, therefore our AGM is a weekend event. It was hosted by Dryden Society with workshops, speakers, fellowship and learning. We enjoyed an excellent presentation on hydroponic growing, looking to create sustainable food prices in the North. Our Loonie Auction funded our expenses for the weekend.

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Dryden and District Horticultural Society

Due to COVID restrictions early in 2022, we held meetings on our Facebook chat page, then in-person with social distancing. Our mayor proclaimed 2022 “*The Year of the Garden*” in Dryden. We hosted the District 14 AGM in June with a number of workshops and a couple of speakers. OHA President Charles Freeman and his wife attended. We had an excellent turnout for our Plant Sale, making over \$1,000. In September, members brought plants or preserves or extra garden veggies. Everyone went home with something different.

Fort Frances Horticultural Society

While some members were hesitant to be out in the public, our outside plantings and events were well received. Two members attended the District AGM in Dryden. Our Plant Sale in June was very successful. Community planting continued and local greenhouses generously donated to them. We helped the library to prepare a garden for their children’s program to interest them in gardening. We will assist with that project in any way we can. We participated in Project Petunia, a beautification project for the main street in Fort Frances.

Geraldton Horticultural Society

Our society was closed down during COVID as our elderly members didn’t want to go out into the community, which hampered our membership numbers. Also, our meeting place was closed during COVID. In October 2022, our District Director, Sandra Mazur, worked with us to put together a Seminar and Membership Drive with speaker, Glenn Hart, the President of Nipigon. Those in attendance enjoyed the session and had many questions. We then held our AGM and elected a new Board, who quickly held a planning meeting, then a work party.

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Longlac Horticultural Society

This year was slower than usual with COVID still around, but our members did community clean ups and plantings. We had a few workshops at our Presidents property, where there is room to give everyone enough space. Members chose the theme and everyone enjoyed the workshop and the fellowship together. Unfortunately, many of the events that we normally participate in, and use for our fundraisers, were not yet being held due to COVID and people's nervousness with being out and about.

Nipigon-Red Rock Horticultural Society

We were slow to get back in the swing of things, with some people still nervous about COVID, as it keeps reappearing. Members appeared in small groups or at different times to maintain the community gardens. We helped the local library develop their Seed Bank and held our successful Plant Sale in the Legion parking lot. We had a number of presentations but it was difficult to get enough members out for an AGM. With no new board of Directors, we had no approved financial report to complete the AGM and no new bank account signing officers.

Thunder Bay Horticultural Society

We had a deputation to the City of Thunder Bay for Boulevard Planting and Naturalization and Proclaimed 2022 the Year of the Garden. In June, we held our first plant sale since 2019 with a great turnout for it, which was a big help for our finances. Our first in- person garden visits were in July. Our Board Meetings and General Meetings were also in-person this year. Because we could get out into the community again, we had a good number of new members. We held our Christmas Pot Luck dinner in conjunction with our AGM meeting in November.

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OHA DISTRICT 15

District Director Report – Barb O'Malley

The District Board held several meetings via Zoom and one meeting in person. Our AGM was held on April 30 via Zoom and we had 42 members attending, with all 15 societies represented. Several Award certificates were presented. Many societies began in person meetings and some held hybrid meetings. We held two District Advisory meetings and participated in a pilot project with Trees for Life, where members ordered trees in May and the trees were delivered and distributed in September.

Brampton Horticultural Society

We welcomed twenty-four new members and celebrated our 2020 125th Anniversary at our Strawberry Social in June. Our 10th Seedy Saturday, second virtual, launched March 10th with 10 presenters, vendor/exhibitor section, virtual seed swap, available for 3 months. We held virtual flower shows including a judged show and photo contest. The "In person" Plant Sale was well supported and financially a great success. We maintained a Community Garden and had a successful Quilts in the Garden Tour. Thanks to a dedicated group, 2022 was a success.

Caledon Horticultural Society

We made plans to get community work and plant sales back on track. Along with Regular board meetings, we held our Annual General Meeting. Our Youth Group through Mayfield Secondary School continued.

Chinguacousy Garden Club & Horticultural Society

Our in-person Monthly Flower Shows resumed for April and May. September's Annual Flower Show was a great success. Speakers returned to in-person presentations, offering Zoom for those unable to attend. Community activities expanded to include

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indoor sessions with youth and seniors' groups, including learning "tea cup" floral arrangements. In May 2022 we held a successful in-person plant sale with the public lined up waiting for us to open the doors! The 2022 Annual General Meeting was held with both in-person and virtual attendees.

Cloverleaf Garden Club of Mississauga

In 2022, Cloverleaf held 8 speaker presentations, four were virtual and four were hybrid meetings. Our plant sale resumed on May 14 and was a huge success, making over \$4000. Due to our strong financial situation, generous donations were made to the teen education program at the Riverwood Conservancy, The Compass and Ecosource. The Junior Program run by two members resumed at the Oakridge Public School, with a Red theme in the plantings to participate in the Year of the Garden. Our 2021 AGM was held once again via Zoom.

Credit Valley Horticultural Society

Members participated in the Riverwood clean-up day and regular garden maintenance at three hospital gardens, the community centre, historic schoolhouse, and women's shelter gardens. A plant sale, a bouquet competition, flower show and Litter Not walk took place. The donation to Riverwood was again \$500. We collected a large amount of fall produce for the Salvation Army and had a booth at Riverwood for National Garden Day. Members distributed new door hangars in their neighbourhoods. The plant sale results exceeded expectations.

Etobicoke Horticultural Society

Plant sales and garden tours resumed. In person meetings and flower shows resumed in June 2022. Board meetings were held by zoom. General meeting attendance was split 50/50 in person and virtual. Membership was up and finances were good. We had our annual plant sale, as well as EHS merchandise available

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on our website. We also have flash sales of hellebores, primula, and worm castings. We established our own website to handle memberships and we also use it to gather member input for speakers and suggestions.

Horticultural Societies of Parkdale & Toronto

We supported a total of twelve garden projects in our area, including four new ones. One of these gardens produces hundreds of pounds of food for local soup kitchens, one is a healing garden created with the guidance of indigenous elders and many gardens include native plants and pollinators. The Education and Outreach committee worked with a community group that supports adults with intellectual disabilities to reach their full potential. They created a new vegetable garden at a church and ran workshops with the group.

Nobleton & King City Garden Club

We participated in "The Year of the Garden 2022" and held a red geranium fundraiser. We had hybrid general meetings. We partnered with King Township in the Spring Clean-Up, held a Planter demonstration at King's Museum Seniors' Day, and partnered with ASK for the Plant Sale and Art Show. A special meeting was held to hear about Kings' Climate Action Plan. We held flower shows and had a Winery Tour. We laid a wreath at the Cenotaph on Remembrance Day. Coming out of the pandemic provided us with many opportunities.

Richmond Hill Garden & Horticultural Society

We were pleased to restart our in-person general meetings in May. The President served pre-packaged ice-cream treats during hot summer meetings which also increased attendance. We brought back both the photo contest with good participation and our annual Holiday Celebration with 59 attendees, musicians, food, a holiday wreath-making demo followed by most attendees

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making wreaths. We ran our first Photo Contest since 2018, our first Holiday Celebration since 2019, and our first Open Gates Garden Tour (public) since 2018.

Roselands Horticultural Society

We started on-line meetings and drew from a larger speaker pool, with very good speakers. Because most of our members are seniors, in-person meetings and flower shows did not take place. Plant sales were small ones by members. We made donations of bulbs only to local schools that requested them. All meetings were held on-line and because of that were not as well attended as previous years. We were not able to fundraise to the same degree, but our rent expense was minimal.

Schomberg Horticultural Society

Our members enjoyed virtual monthly newsletters, and virtual flower shows with additional meetings in January and February to combat the 'winter blues'. A gathering in August celebrated the District 15 Service Award given to Barb Niemeyer, a long-standing member. Seasonal plantings and decorations in a Community garden, a pollinator garden and an insect hotel were added to the most prominent garden in the Community. The by-laws and constitution were updated. The society participated in the Year of the Garden "plant red" initiative.

Streetsville Horticultural Society

We celebrated our 50th anniversary, first founded in 1904, then re-founded in 1972. We worked with the City of Mississauga to install an arbour in honour of our 50th anniversary. The 2022 plant sale was very successful, making almost as much profit as in 2019. We held only one Flower Show and no Open Houses. Our Christmas workshop was cancelled. We held Zoom board meetings and general meetings. When in person meetings

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began, fewer members attended. Some lapsed members have rejoined, but some have not.

Swansea Horticultural Society

Despite restriction to Zoom-only meetings, the Swansea Society grew in size, if only a little. This was a welcome relief from several consecutive years of declining membership numbers. The other highlight of 2022 was our Annual Plant and Bake Sale for two reasons - it was very successful financially and it was our only in-person event of the year. It was held outside, as usual on the front patio of the Swansea Town Hall and provided a safe setting for members to "meet, greet and catch up".

Thornhill Garden & Horticultural Society

2022 was a very eventful year in Thornhill as we were able to have some regular activities return. Outdoor events included a Garden Tour, Spring and Summer Plant Sales and our Members' Appreciation Tea. Regular contacts with our members through emails, newsletters, calls, and our Social Media were much appreciated. Our Civic Improvements sites were well maintained, and many community residents were happy to have their beautiful front gardens recognized. Our committed Board team worked hard to ensure another successful year.

Woodbridge Horticultural Society

In June we restarted our general meetings and flower shows in-person. The speaker series included topics like Backyard Birds through the Seasons, Perennials that Wow and a Four Seasons Garden. Construction on Woodbridge Ave. meant that we had to move our decorative planters to the bridge on Clarence St. The WHS participated in organizing and purchasing trees for the Trees for Life project. We were allowed to restart clean-ups at the historic Wallace House. We also organized an excursion to James Gardens at Scarlett and Eglinton.

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OHA DISTRICT 16

District Director Report – Barbara Collinson

It was a quiet year at the District level. We held the AGM, the Fall President's meeting and Fall Seminar by ZOOM. Most Clubs started up again with at least some in-person meetings or hybrid ZOOM and in-person meetings. I attended a number of in-person and ZOOM AGM's to install their Boards. We paid for a District wide ZOOM account for 2 years. Between 5 and 6 Societies used it and at least 2 others used their own ZOOM account. Clubs started to ramp up their programming and I was invited to a number of both in-person and Zoom meetings

Alliston and District Horticultural Society

We held our annual Plant Sale on May 28, for the first time in 3 years. Work in the community gardens continued with social distancing in the gardens. We held floral design workshops in-person that were well attended by novice designers. On August 13, we held our first annual August Luncheon and Flower Show in three years. It was well attended by members and non-members. We had a great number of beautiful exhibits in our flower shows, including awesome novice designs made at our workshops.

Angus Horticultural Society

Unfortunately, Angus Hort Society disbanded this year.

Barrie Horticultural Society – Barrie Garden Club

We were busy this year with our June plant sale, Gilda's Club seasonal urns, the Shear Park Community Garden, the Downtown Library Rooftop Garden, the Fort Willow Three Sisters Garden, a Camphill Garden Tour, a Photo contest, the Volunteer Recognition & Garden Hero awards and the MTO adopt-a-highway clean-up. We had eight guest speakers and revamped our website.

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Beeton Horticultural Society

We partnered with the New Tecumseth Public Library and the Beeton Tottenham Business Improvement Association. Through these relationships, we were able to share the cost of speakers with the NTPL and the cost of projects with the BTBIA. We created a community vegetable garden with grant money that we had received and are in the process of replacing 2 raised flower beds. The official opening of the vegetable garden took place the same day as our Seedy Saturday event. Growing kits were provided to young people before and during the event.

Bond Head and District Horticultural Society

The big news story is the return to in-person meetings, renewal of social contacts and the ability to garden together in the Community. We planned a Butterfly Garden and a Heritage Garden at the Auld Kirk, a Bradford West Gwillimbury historical site. Instead of formal flowers shows, the Club held a Peoples' Choice Flower and Vegetable Event, which was a great success. There were several in-person flower arranging demonstrations by local people. In addition, the Club returned to decorating the Bond Head Parkette with Christmas Decorations.

Brentwood Horticultural Society

Members maintained our community gardens, which are always appreciated. The Plant Sale was a great success. Once again, we held our Flower Show and, despite being a very dry year, there were a number of entries.

Collingwood Horticultural Society – Collingwood Garden Club

Collingwood celebrated its 50th Anniversary. And we returned to offering a full program, including a garden tour, community work, flower show, workshops and both a spring and a fall plant sale. Events were well attended, especially the plant sales. We sold plants from our nursery bed in the Collingwood Arboretum

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throughout the growing season. We kept in place some COVID protocols, as needed. All meetings and our AGM were held in a hybrid format, both ZOOM and in-person, with guest speakers. Our meetings were well attended in both formats.

Creemore Horticultural Society

The highlight for the Creemore Horticultural Society in 2022 was the grand opening of the Creemore Village Green – a project Creemore has been deeply invested in – along with associated celebrations of the Society. In-person meetings and Plant Sales resumed, as did community work, including the very successful Pumpkin Centerpiece Sale at Thanksgiving.

Elmvale and District Horticultural Society

Because we were coming out of the pandemic, no bus tours, no flower shows or plant sales were held. The Club did undertake Civic beautification in the village and held 2 off- site meetings outdoors. We held Board meetings at a distance in a garage. General meetings were limited but usually well attended. The AGM was held but without the usual potluck, so it was wrapped desserts and drink boxes instead. Membership was certainly down, as our group is mostly seniors. We donated to the Legion and Ladies Auxiliary as thanks for allowing us to meet there.

Gilford and District Horticultural Society

We held in person board meetings, general meetings and the Annual General Meeting in November had light refreshments catered, with our keynote speaker- Paul Zammit, who held forth on Planning and Planting for Four Seasons of Interest. This was the best AGM ever and we will repeat the format in 2023. We held the Annual Plant Sale in person at the South Innisfil Arboretum. Two large Saturday shows were held: the Lucy Valente Memorial Spring Flower Show and Tea, and the Fall Flower and Vegetable Show and Tea, held in September.

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Midland Horticultural Society

The Members only garden tour and the Workshop in August were both a success. We planted a shrub in memory of a long-term life member, along with shrubs at a local Hospice and continued planting flower beds in Midland. We also helped with the local OSPCA Memorial Flower Bed. We resumed our In-house meetings, but membership declined as many people were still not feeling very comfortable meeting in person.

Orillia Horticultural Society

The executive organization has changed to an “Executive Council”. After a few meeting room failures, we found a lovely church basement and the church executive have been very accommodating. We plan to assist the church with maintenance of their gardens when spring returns. We increased our membership and held our annual plant sale. We continued our gardening at the Orillia Public library and held two flower shows and visited two members’ gardens. Members were happy and engaged through an emailed monthly newsletter.

Oro-Medonte Horticultural Society

We were pleased to bring back most of our activities. While many meetings were still held by Zoom, we did have several in person. We had two flower shows and two workshops, normally we would have 3 each. Our plant sale, including potting up day, and the garden tour brought out many of our members as volunteers. Our care of the Township gardens had continued on a limited basis during the pandemic and was back to normal, as was our “Bloomin’ Good Garden Program”, which recognized beautiful gardens throughout the Township.

Painswick Horticultural Society

Painswick celebrated its 50th Anniversary in 2022. Board meetings continued by Zoom. In June, we began in-person

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general meetings. Members helped with community beautification in the Town of Innisfil. Our Plant and Bake Sale became a Plant Sale only held on a member's lawn across from Tim Hortons in Stroud. This increased our traffic and we attracted new and existing members with plants, garden art deco and lawn furniture. Flower Show judge and guest speaker, Edna Caldwell, explained what a judge is looking for.

Penetanguishene and District Horticultural Society

We were still surprised by how few members showed up at the meetings. We just couldn't tell. The weather had a big impact on us. We had a few good meetings but are technically challenged with projectors and hook ups to make the videos work. We had a fantastic Christmas Dinner catered by a local restaurant owner at a reduced price. We had a small intimate summer picnic at the Museum with a Strawberry Social. We have discontinued refreshments at the meetings.

Stayner Horticultural Society

Stayner celebrated its 100th Anniversary in 2022. We were thrilled with our plant sale results, as we are known to have a wonderful selection of healthy and hardy plants. It has been a long-standing desire to replace our town fountain and we finally purchased a lovely fixture that is perfect for its location. We installed it and will have its official dedication in May 2023. Even though numbers were smaller, it was a wonderful thing to meet as a group again and have speakers that shared their knowledge of various subjects. Visitor night was a great success.

Tottenham and District Horticultural Society

We were very excited to finally meet in person again in 2022! Our first member meeting since the start of the pandemic was held in September in a new venue. Our September speaker, Sean James, gave a presentation on grasses and sedges. In October,

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Dan Cooper shared his photos of exotic flowers from South-East Asia. In November, we had a demonstration on how to make a couple of Christmas decor items. We continued to plant, maintain and clean up the town gardens and look forward to resuming our plant sale and flower shows in 2023.

Wasaga Beach Horticultural Society

We rescheduled our annual Perennial Sale from May 2022 to June 2023. The community can purchase perennials contributed by our members at very reasonable prices. A 25th anniversary celebration of the Society was held in July 2022. We invited previous executive members and enjoyed a park picnic. A butterfly tagging event was held in conjunction with the Wasaga Beach Gardener in a community garden. A tour was planned and attended to visit a neighboring garden/nursery and a Christmas event was planned for December to unite membership.

OHA DISTRICT 17

District Director Report - Debi Foster

Positive attitudes prevailed despite continuing concerns about lower membership numbers, problems planning beyond the short term and increased costs. The OMAFRA funds made a substantial difference to the societies, but a significant number of our clubs still lost money. The April AGM was a lot of fun and a breath of fresh air after being unable to meet in person for 2 years. District 17 has agreed to host the 2025 OHA AGM.

Ajax Garden Club

There was reluctance to return to in person meetings but once able to, the in-person attendance was better than attendance by zoom. New members have joined. Virtual and in person flower shows were held and maintaining the gardens at the Legion Hall continued. The roles of Secretary and Treasurer have now been

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filled. The group was not able to hold plant sale and overall money was lost.

Beaverton Horticultural Society

This year was marked by 100th anniversary celebrations and being able to meet in person again. Seedy Saturday event hosted jointly with Cannington HS and Georgina Brock GC had 600 attendees. A new website was set up and work in the 7 community gardens continued with 150 pounds of produce donated to the Brock Community Food Bank. The very successful plant sale held at White Creek Flower Farm included 12 vendors and Lion's BBQ. Flower show participation was lower and the August Flower Show at the LTC was cancelled.

Bowmanville Horticultural Society

Despite older members not returning to in person meetings, an influx of new members helped maintain attendance at 30 – 35 people per meeting, similar to pre-pandemic levels. The first meeting was an introduction to plant-based eating with food samples and recipes. Partnering with the local Farmer's market made for a successful plant sale. Community gardening and flower shows continued. A self-drive Garden Visit allowed people to get out and socialize safely. Short term planning resulted in the cancellation of the yearbook for a 2nd year.

Brooklin Horticultural Society

The delayed 100th anniversary celebrations were held. The February meeting was online and all meetings thereafter were both in-person and on zoom. The virtual Rain Barrel Sale was successful. Removal of COVID restrictions resumed 2 activities at a local seniors' facility, flower shows, plant sales, garden tours, Whitby Historical Society Day activities and the Harvest Festival. A new community planting at The Station Gallery was added to

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our other two projects. We awarded the Durham College scholarship and the Club AGM was held in person.

Cannington Horticultural Society

Board meetings varied between zoom and in-person. The successfully co-hosted Seedy Saturday helped raise our profile. In-person meetings with flower shows, photography shows, garden tours and workshops returned with new members attending. The outdoor Plant Sale, Peony Daze Field Trip, Fruit Tree fundraiser and the Fall Bulb Sale all helped to improve finances. Civic gardens were maintained. We raised the student bursary from \$200 to \$700. Seventeen youth members participated in activities and challenges with \$400 in prizes. Proxys were used to gain quorum due to low AGM attendance.

Georgina-Brock Garden Club

A new meeting facility had to be found and the larger, more modern area has been a boon to the organization with increased attendance at all events, now averaging 50 people. The co-hosted Seedy Saturday was also of benefit in this regard. New audio-visual equipment was required to facilitate speakers and presentations in the larger hall. Community garden “Bees” were held as well as 4 flower shows. The group was able to tour a lavender farm. The only fundraiser was the plant sale.

Newcastle Horticultural Society

Illness within the executive group, COVID restrictions and concerns reduced the number of meetings to 2 executive meetings, 2 regular meetings and the AGM. The Society continued to maintain urns at Community Hall and the gardens at the local cemetery. There was no plant sale or Annual flower and vegetable show. The death of the President has had significant ripples throughout the Society which will continue to show its effect for the next year.

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Orono Horticultural Society

We hosted the “Sunshine and Raindrops” themed District AGM. COVID curtailed 100th anniversary celebrations, so activities continued into 2022 with a new civic garden and a 1920’s themed AGM dinner and dance. Meetings began virtually but moved to in person, where 6 speakers entertained and educated attendees. Membership declined slightly from the anniversary year boom. No flower shows were held, but a plant sale, garden tour and children’s Bug Walk were successful. We maintained containers, Civic and Museum gardens.

Oshawa Garden Club

The first Gardens Open Oshawa was held encouraging citizens to visit public gardens with volunteers on hand. Executive and some general meetings were held via zoom. We started a youth program with the public library and held a successful plant sale with community groups participating. Work continued on three garden projects. Theft reduced the food bank donation by half. We donated a trophy to the Canadian Peony Society Show held at the Oshawa Peony Festival. We didn’t publish a bookmark but Facebook and outreach brought in new members.

Pickering Horticultural Society

The Board and general membership were able to convene with a combination of virtual and in person meetings. There were no flower shows this year, but the group had a bus tour and visited members’ gardens. A plant sale and lucky draws helped raise funds and attract new members.

Pine Ridge Garden Club

The Club’s 45th anniversary year saw activities returning largely to normal with a slight increase in membership and income. There were no bus tours but there was a successful members-only Christmas centrepiece workshop and tour of members’

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gardens. The Plant, Bake and Yard Sale and the Dessert Night were successful fundraisers. The annual Scholarship was presented to a local high school student. The additional funds from OMAFRA made a great difference in financial outcome.

Uxbridge Horticultural Society

COVID concerns cancelled our first meeting and Executive meetings were online. Even with new members, both our attendance and membership were lower because older members did not return. Six flower shows were held. Securing volunteers was difficult so we planted fewer community gardens. After a destructive tornado, the group held a successful plant sale at the local Farmer's Market with plant donations from other Societies. We awarded the Vicki Taylor-Scott Memorial Bursary and continued to sponsor the Uxbridge Fair. A Silent Auction raised additional needed funds.

OHA DISTRICT 18

District Director Report – Nancy Thompson

No District Director report was submitted.

Argyle Horticultural Society

We tried ZOOM but we had poor internet service and no one would do it. We did continue gardening our pots around the community as usual but only a few at a time.

Baysville Horticultural Society

In the fall, we hosted 39 members at the District 18 Fall Workshop with a speaker and a card-making workshop. We resumed our regular meetings by offering a free workshop to get people out. Our Annual General Meeting was well attended and we gained several new members. Our main fund raiser was

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selling tickets at the gate for the Baysville Art in the Park. Our two in-person flower shows and planned tours were cancelled. We continued to care for public gardens and share information and plants with anyone interested.

Bracebridge Horticultural Society

We celebrated our 90th Anniversary with past members and friends. We planted a commemorative 'Barron Red' Crab-apple tree in our Millennium Garden, handed out 'Hort Info' on street corners at the Muskoka Earth Festival and the Library 'Picnic in the Park', and hosted a 'Plant a Pansy' workshop for children. We wrote and recorded over 30 radio 'Hort Shorts' which were aired locally, a dozen articles for the local newspaper and presented a skit about 'Hort' to two PROBUS Clubs.

Callander Horticultural Society

Although we had a decrease in membership and a lack of volunteers from the general membership, we managed to do some community work and hold a plant sale, a pumpkin decorating contest and a silent auction, plus we had three speakers. We also held a strawberry social, gave out door hangers for the best gardens and cared for community flower pots and the Memory Tree Park. But, sadly, no bus tours.

Gravenhurst Horticultural Society

We resumed our meetings, annual plant sale and members-only garden tour but no flower shows or bus tours. We did not issue a yearbook for 2022 as speakers were chosen as needed. We resurrected a functional Board of Directors and gained momentum with a workshop and more active members. We will have a 2023 Yearbook with speakers included. We lost money due to lack of a plant sale. We are still learning the processes with a mainly new Board.

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Huntsville Horticultural Society

The number of people who wish to come out and help are still down this year. We did hold a garden tour, visited a daffodil farm and helped the Town Parks Department plant their new planters and barrels. We did not hold a plant sale or a flower show but did hold our meetings via ZOOM. Our President spoke to a Rotary Club about Native Plant Gardening and we provided the Library with seed packages for Earth Day.

Magnetawan Horticultural Society

2022 was our 5th Anniversary. We hosted the District 18 Annual General Meeting and held our first ever Garden Tour. We purchased blue food-grade plastic barrels, cleaned and primed them, and had local artists creatively paint them. The barrels were auctioned off as unique rain barrels. Our Community Gardens yielded enough vegetables to deliver to 100 people. We held a Christmas craft workshop for all of the students in our school. We moved forward with all plans except our bus tour.

North Bay Horticultural Society

We held plant sales, a summer picnic and tended gardens at the waterfront lilac bed, the YMCA and the Nipissing Serenity Hospice. We helped design and plant beds at Canadore and Nipissing. We purchased a commemorative brick for the new Canada Place walkway at the waterfront as part of our 60th Anniversary celebration. Presentations included Sustainable Soil Practices; Colourful Eating; Native Wildflowers; Good Bugs-Bad Bugs; Cacti Care; and Women of Nepal in Agriculture.

Parry Sound and District Horticultural Society

Membership numbers gradually returned to pre COVID but Flower Show entries were still low. We offered in-person and Zoom meetings. We held a very successful Plant Sale at Tower Hill and a great garden tour at McDougall Gardens. Our calendars

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sold out and we had some good speakers. We sold ads for inside our Yearbook and continued maintaining our public garden.

Rosseau Horticultural Society

No report despite the best efforts of the District Director.

Sundridge Horticultural Society

We had difficulty finding a spot to meet as one community centre had been demolished and others had overbooked. Many members do not own a computer so no ZOOM meetings. We struggled to survive and could not hold a plant sale, white elephant tables or Share the Wealth draws. The Secretary and the Membership officer both quit and the President's husband died. Some members maintained our gardens and give out sunflower seeds both as our floral symbol and in support of the Ukraine.

Sprucedale and District Horticultural Society

Bus, car and garden tours were cancelled again this year. Fewer meetings were held due to fear of COVID. We held a very successful Plant Sale, a number of gnome and scare-crow workshops with the creations distributed throughout the Village in front of businesses. We planted and maintained the public gardens and planters.

OHA DISTRICT 19

District Director Report – Kathy Pearson

In 2022, many of the societies returned to in person events. Junior Gardener programs were relaunched. Societies had seen a financial downturn but received support from OMAFRA. Special initiatives were well supported by some municipalities. Some societies remained working with virtual or minimal contact

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events. Garden Tours and Plant Sales were popular as a way to maintain social distancing. In-person meetings were held by some of the societies. Rural societies held a complete junior gardener season with awards presented in person.

Ayr Horticultural Society

We celebrated the Year of the Garden in 2022, encouraged residents to "Plant Red" and held a week-long celebration in June. Twelve planters for our two main villages were purchased and changed each season. Membership signs, perpetual calendars and branded clothing were developed and sold increasing the visibility of the Society. We created a pollinator garden, held an open house to increase awareness of the merits of gardening, sponsored initiatives for youth with fall fair prizes and encouraged students to build a pollinator habitat.

Elmira and District Horticultural Society

We held a Plant Sale in May at our new location near Elmira's Farmers' Market and sold more than the previous year. Our Annual Garden Tour was successful. Ticket holders visited 8 area gardens. We had several outstanding speakers and donations from members were up at the moderately attended meetings. A highlight this year was the addition of a Junior Garden Coordinator. We had 12 Junior Gardeners plus 2 teen assistants. As a celebration follow-up, they had a pizza party and a "Make 'n Take" activity, a Grinch Christmas urn.

Galt Horticultural Society

Community involvement increased in our gardens and we made donations to the Food Bank. A student work event was held. An on-line auction on Facebook and a plant sale were fundraisers. We held Virtual meetings with speakers. We held in person gardens tours, Plant Exchange/Sale, Christmas workshops for adults and children and a Christmas Party. We participated in the

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Bee City event. A Bus tour was organized to Quebec City for the Mosaic Culture Garden Sculptures. Volunteers maintained gardens and decorated for the holidays at Ferguson Cottage.

Hespeler Horticultural Society

We began in person meetings and events in October with hybrid meetings for the members who were still reluctant to be in-person. We rejuvenated a naturalized daffodil patch in the Bergey Hill Garden by adding over 180 bulbs. We participated in the 1st Cambridge Bee City Festival. In an effort to raise our profile, we had a booth at the Hespeler Farmer's Market and we distributed door hangers to our neighbours with gardens. In December we held a highly successful Container Workshop.

Kitchener Horticultural Society

We conducted our seminars online, which were well attended. Fundraisers, bulb sale and concerts in the gardens continued to be very popular with membership and the public. Our in-person workshops were a major hit. To commemorate our 150th anniversary, we added permanent structures to Rockway Gardens. Seedy Saturday at the central Library was well attended despite fewer vendors. The seed exchange with Waterloo Region Master Gardeners was a huge success.

Preston Horticultural Society

We joined with Galt Horticultural Society to assist with garden tours. Our in-person meetings resumed. Our fundraising included a successful plant sale in the spring. We held a highly successful members outing to Langdon Hall for a garden tour and 13 new members joined for this event. We maintained a community garden and public Gore Park where we added pollinator plants. We expanded existing flower beds, planting vegetables that we donated to Cambridge Food Bank. In the fall, the beds were expanded again for more vegetable production.

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Waterloo Horticultural Society

From January to April, we held our meetings on Zoom. Our Plant Auction was in-person in May. A Day of the Garden celebration in June and a Garden Tour in July were held. We returned to in-person monthly meetings in September. They were recorded and sent to members. We held a Mulch Sale fundraiser in the spring. Through our social media and newsletters, we now have a mailing list of 500 people using Mailchimp. It has helped us to attract new members and we attracted two new board members through our website.

Wellesley Township Horticultural Society

Our society resumed in-person events, including presentations in March and our Bee City projects in the spring. Our Junior Program was a remarkable success. We held our annual plant sale in May, generated some money and donated left over plants to the gardens at the Community Centre. Our main projects were the revamp of a street-side pollinator garden from plants we grew ourselves, a native plant garden at a trail head and other community plantings, both in the town and around the community centre.

Wilmot Horticultural Society

WHS members maintained public gardens in 2022. We held one in-person event in November. The most active project for the Society was Let's Tree Wilmot, whose volunteers were able to have in-person events because they were planting trees. There has been an increase in memberships due to the incredible success of this project, which has received a large grant through the 2 Billion Trees initiative. We had 32 Junior Gardeners, with 11 first year gardeners. An Awards Night was held in September with 18 receiving awards for their gardens.

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Officers Ontario Horticultural Association

President	Charles Freeman
Vice President	Sharlene Desjardins
Second Vice President	Vicky Culbert
Secretary	Kelly Taylor
Treasurer	Marian Heil
Past President and Past Presidents' Council	Katharine Smyth
N/E OHA Representative	Sandra Mazur
S/W OHA Representative	Catherine McGill

2022 Secretary's Report

Membership Numbers:

The OHA membership numbers reported for 2022 were 264 Societies/Clubs with 24,851 members. The membership number has increased by 1,513 members from 2021, a 6.48% increase over the previous year. It's a wonderful improvement in membership for the Societies /Clubs, Districts and the OHA. It is nice to see that they are slowly bouncing back from the pandemic. A transition to more in-person meetings occurred this year but many Societies / Clubs, Districts and the OHA embraced technology by continuing virtual meetings of various types. The OHA held important virtual education sessions for the Districts and Societies/Clubs and held its first Earth Day Celebration with a wonderful speaker, Shawn James, as well as a floral display by Past President, Rose Odell.

2022 Awards and Grants:

Community Improvement Award – 2 awarded: one to the Town of Petawawa, Parks & Recreation Department in District 2 and the other to the Wheatley Horticultural Society in District 11. This award is a plaque provided by the OHA to an individual, organization or company that, in the estimation of the Awards

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Committee, has enhanced the beauty of the landscape and/or added a horticultural project to a community's quality of life.

Youth Leader Award: presented to Helen Stephenson, Oakville Horticultural Society in District 6. This plaque is presented to a person who has been a Youth Club leader for a minimum of 5 years.

Environmental Award – 1 awarded: to Tilbury & District Horticultural Society in District 11. This plaque is provided to an individual, organization, municipality, company, school or other educational establishment that, in the estimation of the Awards Committee, made a significant contribution to environmental preservation including habitat, restoration, and/or improvement.

Honour Roll – 3 awarded: presented to Elaine Metzger, Pembroke Horticultural Society in District 2, Marie Decker, Oakville Horticultural Society in District 6 and Joyce Schlegel, Strathroy-Caradoc Horticultural Society in District 10. Nominations should be for members of a horticultural Society/Club with at least five years of service to one or more Society/Club who have made a contribution of horticultural service to the community, District or Association and have given outstanding service at the Society/Club and District level.

Technical Advancement Recognition – 8 awarded: to Manotick Horticultural Society in District 2, Kingston Horticultural Society in District 3, Peterborough Horticultural Society in District 4, East Gwillimbury Garden Club and Horticultural Society in District 5, Markham Garden Club and Horticultural Society in District 5, Pelham Horticultural Society in District 9, Thorold Horticultural Society in District 9 and Galt Horticultural Society in District 19. This recognition is a framed special achievement certificate and

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is given to an affiliated Society/Club or District in recognition of their demonstrated drive and determination to fulfil their mandate by using a virtual platform to remain engaged with their Society/Club or District members.

Award of Merit – 2 awarded: one to Cindy Zorgel, Almonte & District Horticultural Society in District 2 and the other one to Elizabeth Schleicher, Burlington Horticultural Society in District 6. The certificate is given to an individual(s) for notable contributions to the programs of the Association or a Society/Club in special beautification, outstanding work in the science or art of horticulture, supporting individuals or organizations in the area of communication or any other worthy effort such as contribution towards advancement of sound horticultural, ecological and conservation practices.

Trillium/Silver Fir Award – 2 awarded: one to Kathryn Lindsay, Ottawa Horticultural Society in District 2 and the other to Catherine Kavassalis, Oakville Horticultural Society in District 6. This award as designated in 2009 is given to the two worthiest candidates who have given outstanding service to horticultural Societies/Clubs and to the OHA.

Silver Medal Award – 1 awarded: presented to Brian Carson, Manotick Horticultural Society in District 2. The OHA Silver Medal is the highest award of the Association. The award is given for outstanding work in the advancement of horticulture in accordance with the aims of the Association.

OHA Tree Grants: The following Societies/Clubs received tree grants, up to \$300, in 2022:

- Cornwall & District HS, District 1
- Williamstown HS, District 1
- Petawawa HS, District 2
- Land O'Lakes HS, District 3

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- Stirling & District HS, District 3
- Trenton HS, District 3
- Peterborough HS, District 3
- Markham Garden & HS, District 5
- Delhi & District HS, District 6
- Haldimand HS, District 6
- Kincardine and District HS, District 8
- Ambassador LaSalle HS, District 11
- Greater Windsor HS, District 11
- Wheatley HS, District 11
- St. Joseph Island, District 13
- Schomberg HS, District 15
- Bracebridge HS, District 18

OHA Special Project Grants: To assist Societies/Clubs in meeting the objectives of the Ontario Horticultural Association, the board will provide a Special Project Grant to a maximum of \$500 for each project.

- Deep River HS, District 2
- Pembroke HS, District 2
- Land O'Lakes HS, District 3
- Stratford HS, District 10
- Wilmot HS, District 19

Community Garden Grants:

The Ontario Horticultural Association (OHA) encourages its member Societies /Clubs 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.

- Petawawa HS, District 2
- Tweed & District HS, District 3
- Peterborough HS, District 4
- Beeton HS, District 16

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Seedy Saturday/Sunday Grants:

The Ontario Horticultural Association will provide a grant of \$250 annually to a member Society/Club to organize a first-time Seedy Saturday/Sunday event in their community.

- Goderich HS, District 8

Pollinator Project Grants:

The Ontario Horticultural Association will provide a grant of \$200 to affiliated Societies/Clubs to create habitat in the form of pollinator friendly gardens or nesting sites on public land.

- Eganville HS, District 2
- Petawawa HS, District 2
- Stoney Creek GC & HS, District 6
- Ambassador LaSalle HS, District 11
- Schomberg HS, District 15
- Collingwood GC & HS, District 16
- Ayr HS, District 19
- Galt HS, District 19

Youth Help Grant:

This program is to provide Youth Clubs/Groups with financial support. Any active Youth Club/Group in Good Standing with the Ontario Horticultural Association may apply for the grant.

- Tweed & District HS, District 3
- East Gwillimbury GC & HS, District 5
- Haldimand HS, District 6
- Grand Valley & District HS, District 7
- Stratford & District HS, District 10
- Caledon HS, District 15
- Chinguacousy HS, District 15
- Etobicoke HS, District 15
- Wilmot HS, District 19

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Technical Advancement Grants:

To assist Societies/Clubs in meeting the objectives of the Ontario Horticultural Association, the board will provide a Technical Advancement Grant to a maximum of \$250.00 to up to four Societies/Clubs.

- Martintown HS, District 1
- Pembroke HS, District 2
- Trenton HS, District 3
- Grafton Green Thumbs HS, District 4
- Thorold HS, District 9
- Hespeler HS, District 19

Youth Project Grant:

To assist Youth Programs for their work on a public beautification/native pollinator project.

- Ambassador LaSalle HS, District 11

Volunteer Hours:

In 2022, Societies/Clubs started to resume activities within their Society/Club and community. Societies/Clubs reported 378,207 volunteer hours, plus OHA Officers reported 11,046 hours, District Directors and District Executives reported 17,244 for a total of 406,497 volunteer hours. This is an increase of 106,819 volunteer hours or a 35.64% increase over 2021. Societies/Clubs, Districts and the OHA found their way back to volunteering and gave back to their communities in very meaningful ways. If the government had to pay minimum wage for all the beautification and betterment of the communities that was received by way of the OHA affiliated Societies / Clubs and Districts volunteering, it would cost \$6.3 million dollars. The OHA, Districts and Societies/Clubs are truly Keeping Ontario Beautiful®.

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2022 Treasurer's Report

2022 Financial Review

In 2022, the **Total Revenue** was \$219,506. This is an increase over last year. There are several reasons for this:

- Affiliation Fees were increased to \$4 per member.
- A 50/50 Raffle was begun as a major fundraiser which resulted in a gross income of \$22,100 during the year.
- The Calendar Fundraiser was very successful.
- A large donation was bequeathed to the Association.

In 2022, **Total Expenses** were \$223,706. This was also an increase from the previous year due to several factors:

- Many grants that were unable to be completed in 2021 were finished and grants were paid.
- The winners of the 50/50 Raffle were paid \$11,050
- Travel for in person meetings began again.

The result is a small loss of \$4199 for the year.

The OHA will continue to raise funds through the 50/50 Raffle in 2023. During 2022, funds raised through this lottery were used to pay \$7,215 in grants. Raffle proceeds are used to pay the advertising and administration costs for the raffle.