

# Oakville Horticultural Society

The society aims to further the knowledge of Horticulture, stimulating an interest in gardening in our community's youth and encouraging the beautification of both public and private properties since 1957

February 2015

NEWSLETTER

## President's Remarks for February 2015 – Join the Team!

It may be cold outside, but this month we will warm the hearts of our community with our wonderful “Fun with Flowers” project. This is our contribution to the Family Day events held around Oakville on February 16<sup>th</sup>. Come and be part of this wonderful event at Iroquois Ridge Community Centre. Contact Linda Tock [linda.tock@sympatico.ca](mailto:linda.tock@sympatico.ca) if you would like to volunteer. A special thank you to Wayne Curtis for supplying the tins that will be used by the families to create their floral arrangements.

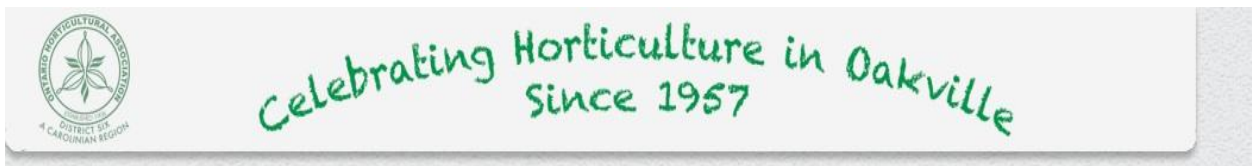
The beautiful flowers will remind us that spring is just around corner. I can't wait to see the hidden treasures we secreted away this fall explode into colour come April and May. The over 4000 bulbs our OHS team planted should produce quite the show. I have submitted our “Fields of Spring” project for a 2015 OHA Community Improvement Award. We feel it is worthy of provincial recognition.

The above projects, like many of our activities help us meet our Provincial mandate. As we have many new members, it is a good time to reflect on our goals. Our society was incorporated under the Agricultural and Horticultural Organization's Act R.S.O. 1990, c. A.9, s. 36. This requires that we strive to meet the following objectives:

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

- a) by holding meetings respecting the theory and practice of horticulture;

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- b) by encouraging the planting of trees, shrubs and flowers on public and private grounds;
- c) by promoting balcony and community gardening and outdoor beautification;
- d) by arranging field trips, contests, competitions and exhibitions related to horticulture and awarding prizes;
- e) by distributing seeds, plants, bulbs, flowers, trees and shrubs;
- f) by promoting the protection of the environment;
- g) by promoting the circulation of horticultural information through any media;
- h) by promoting the benefits of therapeutic horticulture; and
- i) by stimulating an interest in the study of horticulture.

We work hard to meet these objects and in doing so we make our community and our world a more wonderful place. Your help is needed to make this society successful. Call or email me if you have ideas or would like to contribute more of your time and talent.

([c.kavassalis@gmail.com](mailto:c.kavassalis@gmail.com) or call 905-849-7581). Together we make a difference and have great fun doing it. I hope to see you at our February meeting.

### Presenting the Opportunity of a Life Time!

OHA District 6 is holding a Day Lily Fund Raiser to help offset our district costs for putting on the Friday night entertainment at the OHA Convention in Ancaster in July, 2015.

The Day Lily, developed at "The Potting Shed" especially for District 6, has been named "The Southern Tier Belle" in honour of our convention. It is lovely lemon-yellow day lily with a dark red throat. The cost is \$15 per bulb. If you are interested in having one of very own Day Lilies in your garden you can order it at the Monday February 9th OHS meeting. Please speak to Marie Decker at the meeting, call her at 905-844-1837 or email [mardecker12@gmail.com](mailto:mardecker12@gmail.com)

## 109th Convention draws ever closer!

Our District Six members are thrilled to be the OHA's 109th Convention hosts and invite you to experience our "Summer in the Southern Tier" hospitality first hand! July 3, 4 & 5, set your navigational devices to 777 Garner Road East, Ancaster and head to Redeemer University College to enjoy a fun-filled 2 1/2 day OHA Convention. Our volunteers have some cool activities in store for you! District Six, a Carolinian district, lies at the northern-most reaches of the Carolinian zone. Comprised of 21 societies, the district covers a large geographic area from Acton in the north, Oakville in the east, Port Dover in the south and Paris to the west. Our venue site is at the beautiful campus of Redeemer University College, a Christian University committed to academic excellence since 1982. Redeemer's campus is situated close to many shops and restaurants however Redeemer's Chef will cater great meals for us! For your convenience, Williams Coffee Pub will be open daily for your coffee or latte fix...just 5 minutes down the road is a Timmies! Friday evening District 6 will host a BBQ, Silent Auction and entertainment. The Saturday Night Banquet will feature a delicious turkey dinner with all the fixings. Enjoy a glass of sparkling cider courtesy of OHA.

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**FEBRUARY MEETING**

**MONDAY FEBRUARY 9TH**

ALL THE REGULAR FUN

AND EXCITEMENT WITH SPECIAL GUEST

JENNIFER MARK

**Location**

Knox Presbyterian, MacMillan Hall  
89 Dunn Street

**Hall Set Up (9:00am)**

David Lewis, Diana Wright

**Clerking**

no flower show this month

**Hospitality**

Leslie Egger, Christel Mahncke,  
Kathie Dick

**March Meeting:**

Monday, March 9th, 2015

Even as Winter holds us in Her  
(or just maybe His) icy grip:

A gardener knows there is much going on below the snow. So it is with our society. New members arrive and thrive as winter ever so slowly loses the battle of the seasons passing.

Today it is my pleasure to announce the arrival of Liza Drozdov, Lee Manley, Stephanie Morris, John W. Wright and Larry Stadnyk.

Please take a moment to greet them and make them feel welcome at the February Meeting.



*Get Your Cameras out for March 2015:*

Class 17 ... *Go Wild*

Wildflowers in Ontario

Class 18 ... *Art in the Garden*

Your favourite piece - must include horticultural elements

Class 19 ... *Abstracts in the Garden*

Let your imagination run free - must be of a horticultural nature

Class 20 ... *2013 Spring Fundraiser*

Crocasmias

Class 21 . *Grass Free*

Photo of a landscaped front or rear yard that has no lawn (grass)

Class 22 . *Front Row Seat*

Photo of a bench or chair, in or looking over your garden.

**Guidelines:**

Only one entry per exhibitor is permitted in each class. Each entry must be the work of the exhibitor and must have been taken within the last 24 months. **Photos for OHA competition** must have been taken in Ontario. All entries must be 4 x 6 inches in size, matted to 5 x 7 inch.

**For the OHS shows,** You may mount your work but consider matting your photo rather than mounting it.

A matte sits over your photo and helps set your photo off from the background in ways mounting may not. Photos may not be entered in frames.

No name, date, title of any kind is permitted on the front side of the photograph.

All photos should reflect the theme and contain some horticultural materials.

The judging scale for photographs:

Horticultural Value 40%    Photographic Value 40%

Appearance and Impact 20%

**Photography of my garden?**

**In the Winter??**

***Are You Mad???***

Not at all. In fact some of the best photographs of gardens can be taken in the winter. If ever there was a time to examine the texture of your garden, winter is it. Gardens should never be flat. They should have hills and valleys and humps and bumps. Sometimes you can only see them clearly in winter.

Tall grasses poking out from under the snow. That once pleasant summertime bench now abandoned for a fire place and warm cocoa.

Those very first little signs of spring. Tiny Flowers hugging the ground for warmth. They poke up early when the competition is scarce.

That magnificent Sundial in the middle of an unseen lawn.

Pictures abound. Go! Take them now. Before it's too late.

The big event in April nears. We're still in need of volunteers.  
Let Town of Oakville be the place where you show off your happy face  
and all your gardening acumen at District 6's AGM

## The OHS is in the Spotlight!

This is the year to make ourselves known as a hard-working, forward-thinking, and versatile society in the world of horticulture societies and garden clubs. Our society will play a key role in several events.

First you are invited to attend the District Six Breakfast Meeting on Saturday February 21, 2015. This informative meeting runs from 9am to noon. The location will be Milton Bible Church at 200 Main St. East, Milton, ON. Large parking lot on the street behind the church. The main topic at this breakfast meeting will be our Spring Workshop and Flower Show.

We are hosting this spring event on Saturday, April 11th at the Halton Regional building on Bronte Road just north of the QEW. When we last hosted this meeting, in 2007, we did a "bang-up" job. Let's make this one even better! We have an exciting, inspirational speaker booked; the flower show schedule is written and all the committee heads are in place and working hard. Now we are depending on YOU to fill in the volunteer positions. We need:

- 8 people to help us set up and take down the flower show,
- 4 people to get grocery store sponsorships (\$25 voucher) to provide condiments and food for the event,
- 15 of you to provide your delicious finger-food baking for the refreshment table,
- 2 people to help take registrations the morning of the event, and
- 2 people to help put up and take down the indoor and outdoor signs.

The meeting starts at 9 a.m. but the doors to the Regional Centre do not open to us until 8 a.m. Therefore, we need a large crew to set up quickly. If we have enough willing hands, we can easily accomplish the task on time. There will be a job-specific list circulated at the January meeting so you can fill in the blanks. Let's make this a great event for our fellow societies and get excited for the BIG EVENT.

The 109th OHA Convention will be held July 2-5, 2015, at lovely Redeemer College in Ancaster. All the area societies are working together to make this a great experience. Members of our society are spearheading several committees, but we badly need your volunteer help here too. If you can assist presenters with audio-visual equipment or are available to assist with show entry, classification, clerking, supervision sign-up on the lists that will be shared at the January meeting. If you volunteer at least 15 hours toward the convention you will be able to purchase your registration for \$25 instead of \$125 and you will receive a free tee shirt.

**Help the OHS shine and volunteer!**

**Just call Marie Decker 905-844 1837 or [mardecker12@gmail.com](mailto:mardecker12@gmail.com)**

## This February we are Presenting Jennifer Mark!!

At this time of year, we are looking for ways to help our current houseplants thrive (survive?) or choose something that will do well indoors if we provide the right conditions. Some of us want to gear up and prepare to start trays of seeds when the timing is just right.

Lucky for us, Jennifer Mark from Sheridan Nurseries, will be joining us on February 9, 2015 to share the knowledge and expertise she has developed with almost 20 years in the Horticultural Industry. Her presentation will involve demonstrating some techniques, highlighting common challenges and offering tested solutions for us to consider. Jennifer said she has, "a weakness for exotic tropicals and hopes that this enthusiasm will be transferred to the members of the Oakville Horticultural Society!"

Our February meeting will be held in MacMillan Hall, so this will give Jennifer the opportunity to spread out her display material, get her hands into it and we can keep the lights on!

### OHS District 6 and OHA Events:

Feb. 16, Family Day Monday, Iroquois Ridge Recreational Centre

Feb. 21, District 6 Breakfast Meeting Saturday, 9AM -12AM at Milton Bible Church 200 Main St. E. Milton. Come to this fun breakfast and meet gardeners from the Southern Tier

March 9th OHS regular meeting

April 11, OHS is hosting our District 6 Workshop & Flower Show 8AM - 1PM | Halton Region Centre. We need you here!

May 16, Plant Sale Saturday, 9AM to 11AM at 454 Rebecca St. St. Paul's.

July 3-5, OHA Convention at Redeemer College, 777 Garner Road East, Ancaster  
**Get involved** with the convention by entering one of its many competitions from Art, Creative Writing, Flower Show, Photography, Publications and Youth events. Contact Cathy or Marie to volunteer at the Convention

"He knows no winter, he who  
loves the soil,  
For, stormy days, when he is free  
from toil,  
He plans his summer crops, selects  
his seeds  
From bright-paged catalogues for  
garden needs.  
When looking out upon frost-  
silvered fields,  
He visualizes autumn's golden  
yields;  
He sees in snow and sleet and icy  
rain  
Precious moisture for his early  
grain;  
He hears spring-heralds in the  
storm's ' turmoil  
He knows no winter, he who loves  
the soil."  
- Sudie Stuart Hager, *He*

## *Let us celebrate the accomplishments of these fine people*

Congratulations to:

the following OHS members, whose excellent horticulture and design abilities, have earned trophies and cash awards for the show year Nov. 2013 – Oct. 2014! *Marie and Valerie*

Trophy Winners Nov. 2013 – Oct 2014

**Class of Distinction (Eaton Trophy)**      1st Celia Roberts 2nd Marie Decker 3rd Florrie Abbess

"T. Eaton Company Limited" Presented by the T. Eaton Co. on 1964. Awarded annually for the highest points in the most advanced flower design class, the Class of Distinction.

**Chairman's Trophy (Wand Trophy)**      1st Michelle Durrant 2nd Marie Decker 3rd Mary Cameron

Donated by the Oakville Horticultural Society in 1978. Awarded annually for the highest points in the Chairman's Trophy class. Chairman's Trophy is the second most advanced design class.

**Allison Trophy (General/Novice Trophy)**      1st Michelle Durrant

Donated by a past member, Mr. J. V. Allison in 1989. Awarded annually for the highest points amassed in the combined General and Novice design classes.

**Noad Trophy (Miniature)**      1st Marie Decker 2nd Jean Latham 3rd Michelle Durrant

Donated by the Noad family in 1974. Awarded annually for the highest points in miniature designs.

**Cup of Excellence (Overall Decorative)**      1st Celia Roberts 2nd Marie Decker 3rd Michelle Durrant

Donated by the Oakville Horticultural Society in 1980. Awarded annually for the overall highest points in design classes.

**Stratton Trophy (Highest Horticulture)**      1st Marie Decker 2nd Mary Cameron 3rd Rob Welsh

"Stratton Trophy" Donated by the Stratton family in 1971. Awarded annually for the most points amassed in horticulture classes.

**Wye Trophy (Combined Hort / Decorative)** 1st Marie Decker 2nd Mary Cameron 3rd Celia Roberts

"Dana Trophy" Donated by Parfums Paris, France in 1958. This trophy was replaced by the "Mary Jane Wye Trophy" in 1992. Donated by OHS past member Grace Irvine and family. Both the Dana Trophy and the Mary Jane Wye Trophy were/are awarded for the highest points amassed annually in both horticulture and design.

**Men's Highest Horticulture (Bell Trophy)**      1st Rob Welsh 2nd Don Dusha 3rd John Comber

Donated by the Oakville Horticultural Society in memory of well-loved member, John Bell. Awarded annually for men's highest total points in horticulture.

**Red Rose Tea Trophy (Best Red Rose)**                      Don Dusha

Cash Awards Nov. 2013 – Oct. 2014

The following members who earned ten points, or more, in our Monthly Shows, were presented with cash awards of 20 cents per point. Trophy winners and runners up are also awarded additional prize money. Cash is awarded for points in Judge's Choice and Educational Exhibits but these points do not count toward trophies

Abbess, F., Cameron, M., Comber, J., Decker, M., Durrant, M., Dusha, D., Hall, M., Latham, J., Mahncke, C., Pittman, W., Roberts, C., Ryan, C., Schleicher, E., Walsh, R.



These fine people you see on the left are the champions of the OHS for 2013/14. Have you noticed how happy they look? Why don't you try to be the next big winner? Every Month we print the upcoming Flower Show Categories. All you have to do is look at your garden and say to yourself "That is a darn fine Rose. (or whatever you have) I think I will enter that." Come to the meeting a few minutes early and see Marie or Valerie and that's about it. Easy Peasy and then that could be you smiling