



## Oakville Horticultural Society Newsletter February 2017

### February Monthly Meeting

<b>Date:</b>	February 13, 2017
<b>Location:</b>	Knox Presbyterian Church 89 Dunn Street
<b>Set-up Volunteers:</b>	Margaret Larson, Pat Hooper, Marion Campbell
<b>Hospitality Volunteers:</b>	Beryle Lowther, Cathy Ryan, Celia Roberts and John Raynor

## Speaker's Corner



### Container Gardens: A Moveable Landscape

#### Suzanne Zacharczyk



Suzanne has been gardening locally for many years, and her interests in foliage plants and hostas are reflected in her personal garden which was featured in a Community Garden Tour in 2012. As an active community member, Suzanne has been involved with multiple events, speaking at community garden workshops, and coordinating fund raising plants sales. Suzanne is also Past President of the Applewood Garden Club where she lives in Mississauga. She is an active member of the Etobicoke Master Gardeners, currently supporting the group as coordinator and also holds the position of director of operations for Master Gardeners of Ontario (MGO).

She will be speaking to us on the topic of:

#### **Container Gardening: A Moveable Landscape**

Not only can containers be moved from one home to another, they can also be moved within one's home to change décor and atmosphere. They can be moved to safety during a storm, or to allow for changing sun and moisture needs. Almost anything can be grown in a container, as long as they are given the care you would a regular garden. Learn about '**moveable landscapes**', what grows in containers, container garden design concepts, and the fundamentals of success.

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#### General Information:

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## President's remarks

I like to think that all gardeners are optimists at heart – how else to explain the unshakable belief that next season's garden will be even better than the last? Or that whatever winter brings, whether it's snow or rain or sunny days or hungry rabbits, it's all good for our gardens? And I would add that gardeners who join a Horticultural Society want to share their enthusiasm with others as often as they can.



I've been thinking about this as we enter our 60th year as a Society. As you know, Jana Schilder has agreed to help us organize our thinking about how we should celebrate this important milestone. We have already started to mark the event – we are hosting the District 6 Breakfast meeting on February 25 and we are initiating a scholarship for someone entering graduate studies in horticulture. Now we would like to hear from you. What kind of event or activity would you like to see? Should we plan more social time to give us a chance to learn from one another? How about some dedicated plantings such as 60 trees for 60 years? And maybe they should be sugar maples because Canada is celebrating too. Or do some of you think we should gather stories about what made us become gardeners in the first place? Whatever you feel about it, please let us know, as we want to make this a very special year.

The month of February may be short, but we have a lot planned. In addition to hosting our counterparts from across the District (thanks to Marie Decker for her leadership on this), we will be having Fun with Flowers on Monday the 20th. This family-friendly event is well in hand under Linda Tock's careful management and should be as rewarding as all those held in the past. Many thanks to everyone who has volunteered to help on both activities.

I look forward to seeing all of you at our next meeting on Monday February 13, when we will be recognizing our award winners, and enjoying another excellent speaker who is sure to have us planning even more improvements to our gardens. Until then, stay warm and think green!

Paula



## *In Memory of Rosanne Bateman* *In Memory of Geoff Arron*

It is with great sadness we note that our gardening community has lost two valued members this month, long time OHS member, Roseanne Bateman and Geoff Arron, Chair of the RBG and Past President of Bronte Horticultural Society. We offer our condolences to their families.

There names will be added to the Ontario Horticultural Association "In Memoriam" book.



# Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Oakville Horticultural Society Held on December 21, 2016

## Officers and Directors Present:

Marie Decker - Co-President  
Paula Clayton – Vice President  
Larry Urbanoski – Treasurer  
Florenda Tingle-Director  
Valerie Westwood-Director  
Joan Paris-Director

Catherine Kavassalis- Co-President  
Heather Reccord – Secretary  
Stu Gough – Past President  
Margaret Jeffery-Director  
Cathy Ryan-Director

**Invitees:** Lianne Krane – Assistant District 6 Director

**Members:** 62 of 135 voting members present

## Call to Order:

The Chair (Cathy Kavassalis) called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m.

## Agenda:

It was moved by Joan Paris that the circulated agenda be adopted. Don Dusha seconded the motion and the members consented to it as written.

## Awards (Cathy Kavassalis and Marie Decker):

An Extraordinary Special Award was presented to: Margaret Jeffery

Presidents Awards were presented to Joan Paris, Gilbert Jeffery, Myroslawa Lukiwsky, Heather Reccord

## Co-President's Annual Report:

Cathy Kavassalis addressed the members and briefed them about the accomplishments of the OHS during the past year. She noted the society's contribution to Family Day, the Junior Gardener Program, the Plant Sale and the Garden tour, the Speaker series, the District 6 events (including Highway of Heroes), the Floral, Horticultural and Photography Shows, and the society's Community Gardens including the Garden for Life and the two Fields of Spring trial gardens and the new planting of bulbs at Wellspring Birmingham Gilgan House in addition to Buckthorn removal initiatives along the Glen Oak Creek Trail. She encouraged all members to become involved in the activities of the society.

## Treasurer's Report:

The Chair requested that the Treasurer present the audited Financial Report for 2015-2016.

Total Revenue: \$19,304.00

Assets: Bank Account \$10,880.00

Total Expenses: \$14,406.24

Savings Account \$44,452.00

Net Income: \$ 4,897.76

Prepaid Expenses \$ 592.00

Total Assets \$55,924.00 (this includes \$5,017.00 in restricted funds)

Larry Urbanoski moved that the financial statement of October 31, 2016 be accepted. Veronica Heiderich seconded the motion and it was carried.

The Chair of the Budget Committee, Larry Urbanoski, then presented the proposed budget for 2017.

**Motion** for the creation of a scholarship in the amount of \$1000 to be awarded annually to a Post Graduate student choosing to study Horticulture was made by Marion Campbell. Bill Kirkpatrick seconded the motion and it was carried.

**Motion to approve** the amended 2016-2017 budget was made by Larry Urbanoski, seconded by Marie Decker and carried.

## Elections:

The following individuals presented themselves as candidates: Paula Clayton for President; Larry Urbanoski for Treasurer and Heather Reccord for Secretary. The executive officers were acclaimed and sworn in by Assistant District Director Lianne Krane.

The following individuals were presented as candidates for the Board of Directors:

Margaret Jeffery, Myroslawa Lukiwsky, Joan Paris, Wade Pitman, Jana Schilder, Florenda Tingle, Linda Tock, Valerie Westwood and Cathy Ryan. The directors were acclaimed and sworn in.

**Conclusion:** A motion to adjourn the AGM was made at 8: 57 p.m. by Cathy Kavassalis and carried.



As I write this, it is near the end of January and there is no frost in the ground. Although at first glance that seems good, I hope it doesn't last too long because it is way too early for my perennials to start growing, only to be ruined by a late frost. However, that will not bother my indoor seedlings which I have already started in preparation for a plant sale to raise funds for my granddaughter who is going to China next year with **Craig Kielburger's Me to We Charity**. She went last year to Tanzania, and it made a lasting impression on her.

I buy most of my seeds from mail order seed houses because of the great variety they offer. These are the ones I usually use:

William Dam Seeds	<a href="http://www.damseeds.ca">http://www.damseeds.ca</a>	905 628 6641
Stokes Seeds	<a href="http://www.stokeseeds.com">http://www.stokeseeds.com</a>	1800 396 9238
W H Perron	<a href="https://www.whperron.com">https://www.whperron.com</a>	1 800 723 9077

They will be happy to send you a catalogue, and they make good winter reading with lots of good cultural information.

If you have always wanted to grow your own seeds or cuttings but have been unwilling to pay several hundred dollars for a decent light stand, you can easily make one for a fraction of that price. They use wide spectrum compact fluorescent 13 watt bulbs.



## Project 1

The first one is a very simple 24 inch square one for two flats of seedlings.

You will need:

1. One ¾ inch thick Styrofoam Handipack (back right at Home Depot) which contains six 48 inches by 14 ½ inch sheets for about \$14. (More than enough for two units).
2. Four plastic ceiling lamp holders (\$2.40 each).
3. Four 13 watt daylight CFLs (\$3 each at Dollarama)
4. A piece of ½ inch plywood 24 inch by 15 inch on which to mount the lamp holders.
5. Two strand electrical wire with a plug.
6. A few approx. 2 ½ inch nails and some white glue.

**Buy daylight**, not cool white nor warm white.

Instructions:

1. Cut three 24 inch pieces of Styrofoam and make a three sided box, pinning together with nails and a few dabs of glue. ( If you want to dismantle the box later do not glue the full length of the joints.) Attach a three inch strip of Styrofoam along the top edge of the open end for stability.
2. Wire the four lamp holders and plug together, attached to the plywood sheet evenly spaced.
3. Plug into a timer (about \$12) set for 16 hours and you are good to go. 14 to 16 hours is necessary because indoor light is much less intense than outdoor, so you need the long duration to compensate.



**Have you renewed your 2017 Oakville Horticultural Society Membership? You need to do so by March 31, 2017. Please bring a cheque or cash to the next meeting on February 13, 2017 and renew!!!**





## Project 2

The second system is for a three level six flat unit which can be assembled and disassembled for storage in a few minutes.

You will need:

It is based on an HDX resin storage unit, 26 inch by 15 inch by 52 inch high (\$30 from Home Depot. Aisle 14) other sizes are available.

Instructions:

1. Assemble the unit and mount four ceiling lamp holders on each of three 25 inches by 12 inch pieces of plywood. You can cut them from a 24 by 48 inch piece. One will be only 24 inches long, so just put a couple of screws or nails in one end to lengthen it.
2. To support the lamps, set the plywood on 15 inch lengths of Styrofoam placed vertically alongside the posts.
3. Plug one or more sets of lights into a three way plug and then into a timer and you are done!

**Good luck. Call me at 905 827 2564 if you have any questions.**

**David Marshall**



On February 25, 2017, the Oakville Horticultural Society will be hosting the District Six Breakfast for all District 6 Members. The event will be held at St. Simon's Anglican Church located at 1450 Litchfield Rd., in Oakville. The Breakfast Meeting will provide an opportunity for all attending to discuss matters important to their societies, develop educational programmes, horticultural concerns, and environmental matters in Ontario, in particular involving their communities. It is an opportunity to discuss, share and develop strategic solutions.

### **Who are they?**

District Six is one of 19 divisions of the Ontario Horticultural Association grouped together for geographical reasons. Composed of 21 Societies and Clubs, the District covers a large geographic area from Acton in the north, Oakville in the east, Port Dover in the south and Paris in the west.

The Districts are basically executive bodies created to run the business of the District and keep our 21 societies connected and working together. The Ontario Horticultural Association's vision is to create a supportive environment for gardeners of all ages. They achieve these goals by providing grants for trees, community beautification projects throughout Ontario, and the development of programs in the areas of conservation, the environment, youth and horticulture. They convene annual conventions to promote fellowships and create educational opportunities. (Our Cathy Kavassalis will be a guest lecturer at the 2017 April Convention.) They produce the **Trillium Newsletter**, the **Rain Barrel Booklet**, and establish the **Ontario Judging Standards**. The OHA depends on the support of its members and charitable donations to carry out its work.

OHA Trillium Newsletter: <http://www.gardenontario.org/gar/news1.php>

Rain Barrel Booklet: <http://www.gardenontario.org/gar/news1.php?news=198>



**Can you help us ? We need you to sign-up for the Feb. 25 District 6 Breakfast Meeting. We need volunteers, please join us on that day.**





# Magnolia Plantation & Gardens

in the garden of....



One evening, I chanced on an episode of Antiques Roadshow. An Art Expert, Nan Chisolm, was appraising a oil painting called the Garden of Dreams (see left). The artist, William P. Silva, was inspired by the Magnolia Plantation and Gardens in Charleston, South Carolina. This tweaked my interest and thus began my search.

I discovered that the Magnolia Plantation and Gardens were founded in 1676 by the Drayton family, and is still owned by the Family. It claims to be the oldest public gardens in America, opening its doors to visitors in 1870 to view the thousands of beautiful flowers and plants in its famous gardens. The Magnolia Plantation and Gardens encompasses 464 acres with a historic house and gardens located on the Ashley River at 3550 Ashley River Road, Charleston County, South Carolina. Plantation includes a number of gardens - in particular one of the last large scale Romantic Gardens in the United States. In addition, it features a 60-acre cypress and tupelo swamp named after the



ornithologist and artist John James Audubon who visited the plantation before the Civil War, and collected waterfowl specimens that were used as models for his paintings. A former reservoir for the plantation's rice cultivation, today, the swamp garden includes native flora but also non-native, exotic plantings and is home



to herons, ibis, turtles, otters, alligators, and other wildlife. Many parts of the gardens are much



older; some sections are more than 325 years old, making them the oldest unrestored gardens in America. Today there are various varieties of flowers from camellias, daffodils, to azaleas and countless

other species in bloom year round, with the climax of incredible beauty building towards the spring bloom.



For more information, please visit: <http://www.magnoliaplantation.com/>

For more information on the Charlestown Renaissance, please visit:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charleston\\_Renaissance](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charleston_Renaissance)



***"All gardening is landscape painting," said Alexander Pope."***

***— Rebecca Solnit, Wanderlust: A History of Walking***



## Why does the Magnolia Plantation and Gardens contain a large romantic garden?

Searching the web, I discovered that these gardens began during the industrial revolution in Europe. The common man went to work in factories facing a mundane life. To improve his dreary life, he began to design gardens that would help him forget the life offered during the workday. One author stated that: "A good definition of a romantic garden is an "Extravagant Liar". Truly, this is what a romantic garden is designed to do, to "lie" you into forgetting the normality of everyday life."



of the gardens and a renowned horticulturalist.

"A place where man, God and nature could be in harmony together."

**How did they accomplish this?** They designed gardens to evoke strong feelings of love and tranquility. They planted beautiful flowers, flowers with seductive fragrances, foliage and blooms. They built inviting structures, supporting trailing roses and clematis, while sheltering an alcove with a stone seat. As they created their oasis, they added water features such as water tumbling over stones, a rustic pond or a classic water fountain. They featured plants to attract birds who would sing happily. All these elements helped these workman

to a find a refuge to forget their daily drudgery.. "Form, balance and symmetry are thrown to the wind and these gardens are designed to appeal directly to the soul." Many people in this day and age are searching for their Garden of Eden.

Read more: <http://www.smithsonianmag.com/travel/worlds-most-beautiful-swamp-gardens-180956462/#w2WRgxlYgAWoG0w.99>

**Next issue we will explore "America's Romance with the English Garden", please visit:**  
<http://www.ohioswallow.com/book/America%E2%80%99s+Romance+with+the+English+Garden>

## invasive plant management strategy workshop in Oakville

If you are concerned about the invasive plants in Oakville, Ontario Invasive Plant Council (OIPC), are inviting you an **invasive plant management strategy workshop** in Oakville. Tentative date is April 5, or 7<sup>th</sup>. They are also planning a Niagara workshop on April 6th.

If you are interested in attending, or looking for more information, please contact:

Cathy Kavassalis : [c.kavassalis@gmail.com](mailto:c.kavassalis@gmail.com) or

Giuliana Casimirri at: [ed@oakvillegreen.org](mailto:ed@oakvillegreen.org)

Please view on our website 2 **PDF Files:**

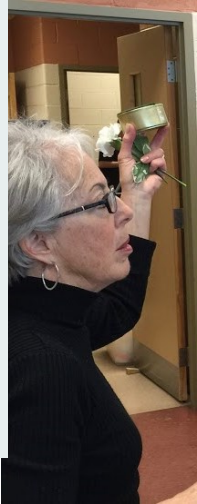
OIPC Invasive Plant Management Strategy  
 Plant Management Strategy



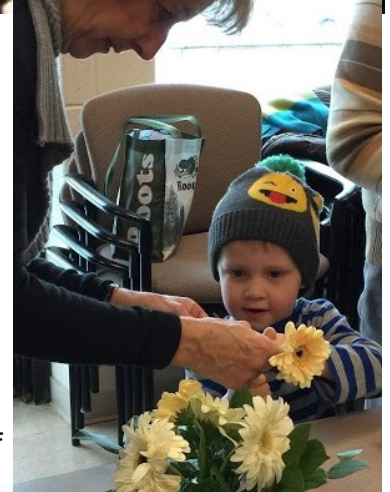
# Monday, February 20, 2017

## Family Day - Fun With Flowers

### Family Day



Believe it or not, this will be the Oakville Horticultural Society's seventh year, celebrating Family Day by hosting "Fun With Flowers". Many of the same families participate every February – over 100 people – that's a lot of fish tins! Participants and volunteers alike are delighted by the abundance of beautiful flowers so generously donated by local businesses. The rich colours, varied shapes and textures must remind many of being in a candy shop – so much choice! Eye Candy. Incredibly, many original designs evolve in a very limited time frame. "The practiced" are also extremely clever at packing as many flowers as possible into a tiny can. This feat takes years of experience!



If you've never attended this event, you may want to join us on February 20 at Iroquois Ridge Community Centre, 1051 Glenashton Drive in Oakville. The chaos starts around 10:00 am. Just follow the big smiles (and line ups). Bring along your secateurs!



*If a child is to keep his inborn sense of wonder, he needs the companionship of at least one adult who can share it, rediscovering with him the joy, excitement, and mystery of the world we live in. Rachel Carson*

## Oakville Horticultural Society 60 years this year!

### What can you do?



Volunteer to honour our 60th anniversary. If you are interested, please contact Jana Schilder at Mobile 416.831.9154 or Email [jana@janaschilder.com](mailto:jana@janaschilder.com)

Lets make this a memorable anniversary!



Your Membership

## February

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

- 17 Starting Plants from Seed For Your Hort Therapy Program

## March

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

- Royal Botanical Gardens
- 4 Growing Carnivorous Plants Indoors
- 10 Myths and Truths about Clematis
- 11 Spring Pruning
- 24 Horticultural Therapy And Herbs

## April

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

- Plant Paradise Country Gardens
- 15 Dividing Perennials (outdoors)
- 22 Creating a Perennial Garden of Continuous Bloom
- 29 Sensational Shade Perennials



Recently, Oakville celebrated the results from its 2015 i-Tree forestry survey indicating that our city's tree canopy had increased 1.3% over the past decade ([Oakville's Tree Canopy Reaches new Heights](#), Nov 2016).

Tree canopy is assessed by the Town to determine how we are doing at reaching our 'Urban Forest Management Plan' goal of having 40% urban canopy cover in Oakville by 2057.

Oakville's current tree canopy cover is estimated to be 27.8%. The original canopy cover estimate in 2005 was 29.2%. This 2005 data was reassessed in 2015 using a 'more accurate' methodology and the updated 2005 canopy cover was 26.5%. Therefore, while the report identifies a canopy cover increase, our current tree canopy cover is actually 1.4% lower than what we thought it was in 2005!

However, within the new report entitled [Growing Livability – A Comprehensive Study of Oakville's Urban Forest](#), are some troubling statistics about invasive species and the health of our urban forest that make a celebration somewhat premature.

According to the study, Oakville has added about 167,200 trees to its tree population over the past ten years, (p8). Alarming, the report also noted a population increase of an invasive Eurasian shrub called European buckthorn (*Rhamnus cathartica*). It was estimated that the European buckthorn population has increased by approximately 192,000 trees (p9). Therefore, the population increase (number of trees) of this one invasive species exceeds the total tree population increase in the last ten years in Oakville. It is possible to conclude that the increase in canopy cover in Oakville can be largely attributed to the expansion of invasive alien species (IAS). It's difficult to laud a canopy cover increase of 1.3%, when the composition of that increased canopy cover is likely invasive species.

IAS are among the most significant threats to biodiversity in urban areas. IAS are species which have been introduced into an ecosystem that they didn't evolve in and by monopolizing food and space, and altering habitats, IAS can have a range of negative impacts on native species and ecosystem functioning. In addition to their impact on biodiversity, IAS ultimately damage human health and negatively impact the economy through removal costs, damage to infrastructure and the loss of environmental services. More info on IAS affecting Oakville's environment here - <http://oakvillegreen.org/discover-your-creek/urban-creek-challenges/>.

In Oakville there are numerous IAS expanding their populations. These species can work in tandem to decimate native species. Most of us are now familiar with the immediate impact of the Emerald Ash Borer, an invasive alien beetle, on our ash trees and woodlands. However, in the wake of the loss of mature ash trees in woodlands, comes the expansion of invasive alien plants. As buckthorn (*Rhamnus cathartica* and *R. frangula*) and groundcovers like garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*) and dog strangling vine (*Cynanchum rossicum*) take hold, natural forest renewal processes are almost impossible, and costly IAS removal and herbicide applications are required. Our woodlands can no longer be expected to effectively regenerate naturally, and native species must be coaxed along with tree planting, watering and maintenance. Exacerbating the problem are invasive alien earthworms (Yes, earthworms are not native to Ontario!), which alter the soil, making it more difficult for native plant species to thrive. The result of all this is a rapid expansion of invasive trees, shrubs and ground covers and the loss of environmental services that we depend on our tree canopy and native ecosystems to provide.

Oakville's forestry report acknowledges that European buckthorn will impact the viability of woodlots and natural areas and their attendant ecosystem benefits, however the report's one recommendation about invasive species and Town policy action to date fall well short of what is needed.

"If European buckthorn continues to expand its population and distribution at the expense of native trees, Oakville's future urban woodlands could be characterized by understories dominated by European buckthorn and a gradually declining canopy of native trees. Over time, this will likely result in decreased overall species diversity, poor wildlife habitat, and unattractive aesthetics ... (and) reduce the environmental services. (p33)"



A concrete IAS management strategy and budget for implementation should be a top priority to address this growing problem. The management of buckthorn (as well as other invasive species) should be approached with the understanding that we need a long-term approach and we need to identify areas and management tools that will be the most effective and efficient. The cost of IAS management and remediation will only increase with time.

Unfortunately, the 'next steps' identified in the staff report to the Community Services Committee about the i-Tree report on October 11, 2016, are very broad and it is unclear where, when or by whom, any specific policies or strategic action plans will be put in place.

The staff report identified implementing the 20 i-Tree report recommendations within a forthcoming update of the 'Urban Forest Management Plan' and in conjunction with the biodiversity strategy in 2017. A recommendation that the Town develop a strategy for the monitoring and control of invasive species was already made in the 2008 UFMP.

(link to doc : <http://www.oakville.ca/residents/urban-forest-strategic-management-plan.html> pg.

Oakvillegreen Conservation Association and Oakville Horticultural Society (OHS) have had success in organizing local action against IAS. As organizations on the front line of IAS community education and action, we are eager to continue to work with the Town to protect, plant and restore a healthy and diverse urban forest and native ecosystems. Together we can make a difference.

One good news story is the work initiated by a resident along Glen Oak Creek Trail. Representatives from Oakvillegreen and OHS met with field experts from Conservation Halton, Protect Our Water and Environmental Resources, (POWER), the Early Detection Rapid Response (EDRR) network and Oakville Parks and Open Space Department to assess the site and scope the problem. Neighbours were informed of the impending activity and invited to participate. While Town staff cut down large specimens and treated invasive tree stumps with herbicides, community volunteers worked on removing seedlings and saplings and planting native shrubs and trees. Having members of the community take local ownership of the problem and the solution was key to success. Multiple visits to the site by volunteers have resulted in a greatly reduced buckthorn population and native species are now able to regain their proper place. (<http://www.insidehalton.com/community-story/6715666-oakville-groups-tackle-invasive-plant-species-along-glen-oak-creek-trail/> ).

We invite more people to get involved in restoring Oakville's forest health. Our urban forest faces many threats and challenges but with a little TLC local residents can help them thrive and expand!

Removing invasive species and adding native trees in woodlands requires some training and coordination with the Town of Oakville, but it can and must be done. Residents can join the Oakville TreeKeepers program (<http://oakvillegreen.org/programs/oakville-treekeepers/> ). With financial support from the Oakville Community Foundation and Ontario Trillium Foundation, the program provides free trees for forest restoration, invasive species removal help, stewardship training, and fun neighbourhood events. Residents can also join Oakville Horticultural Society to learn about the care and culture of plants and work to protect the native plant diversity in our community (<http://oakvillehort.org/wp/>).

Educating the public about the issue and encouraging the public to stem the tide of IAS is also critical. Oakvillegreen has produced a lawn sign to encourage residents to stop the spread invasive plants by not throwing garden clippings and yard waste into neighbouring woodlands and trails (include image). Also, each spring Oakvillegreen organizes a native tree sale to help Oakville residents purchase low cost, Halton-adapted native trees, shrubs and pollinator garden kits to support native biodiversity (<http://oakvillegreen.org/native-tree-pollinator-garden-kit-sale/>).

Giuliana Casimirri, Executive Director, Oakvillegreen Conservation Association  
(oakvillegreen.org)

Catherine Kavassalis Co-Chair, Oakville Horticultural Society (oakvillehort.org)

Your are invited to attend:

**Oakvillegreen Conservation Association AGM March 21, 2017**



**Please note: Attached, you will find the Amendments to the District 6 Constitution and By-Laws along with the rationale for the proposed changes. In order to understand such, you will need to refer to the District Constitution located on pages 15-19.**

The following six amendments to the District 6 Constitution and By-Laws will be brought before and voted on at the 2017 District 6 AGM on April 22, 2017. Please read each amendment carefully and be prepared to vote on each one on April 22, 2017.

## 1. Constitution

## Article IV, Membership

**Present wording:**

Membership in the District shall be open to Organizations interested in supporting the District's mission, and who are identified by the OHA as resident within the geographical boundaries of the District. Hereinafter all these organizations will be referred to as "Societies".

**Proposed wording:**

Membership in the District shall be open to Organizations interested in supporting the District's mission, and who are identified by the OHA and District 6 as in good standing and as resident within the geographical boundaries of the District. Hereinafter all these organizations will be referred to as "Societies".

**Rationale:** The addition of "in good standing" refers to OHA approval. The addition of District 6 ensures that any organization joining the District will confer with the OHA and District 6 Constitution and By-Laws.

## 2. By-Laws

## By-Law 1., MEMBERSHIP

**Present wording:**

Membership shall be open to all horticultural societies incorporated under the Agricultural and Horticultural Organizations Act (hereinafter called the Act), and who report annually to the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA), providing they are located in the geographical sector identified by OHA as District Six.

**Proposed wording:**

Membership shall be open to all horticultural societies incorporated under the Agricultural and Horticultural Organizations Act (hereinafter called the Act), and who report annually to the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA), providing they are located in the geographical sector identified by Ontario Horticultural Association (OHA) as District Six (hereinafter called the District.)

**Rationale:** The acronym "OHA" appears here for the first time in the By-Laws document will be written out in full to prevent any misunderstanding as to what the acronym refers to and will be followed with clarification of District 6 by adding (hereinafter called the District.)

### 3. By-Law 2.3

**Present wording:**

The Secretary and Treasurer may be selected from among the Assistant District Directors or elected separately. Auditors shall be elected annually. The Executive Committee may fill vacancies in office occurring during the year.

**Proposed wording:**

The Secretary and Treasurer may be selected from among the Assistant District Directors or elected separately. Auditors shall be elected annually.



## Bylaw 2.4:

Vacancies occurring in the Executive Committee during the year may be filled by appointment of the Executive Committee. Any persons so appointed shall serve until the next general election.

**Rationale:** Bylaw 2.3 will be divided into By-Law 2.3 and By-Law 2.4 as the action of filling vacancies refers to all Executive Committee position vacancies not just the secretary, treasurer and auditors.

## 4. By-Law 3.5

### CODE OF CONDUCT

All OFFICERS and BOARD MEMBERS are committed to acting honestly, truthfully and with integrity in all our transactions and dealings for the District and being responsible, transparent and accountable for all of our actions. The District shall be operated and maintained without discrimination against any person or group of persons.

**Rationale:** This By-Law will be added as it is required by the OHA to bring the District By-Laws into agreement with the OHA By-laws.

## 5. By-Law 2.6

### INDEMNIFICATION OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

Every Director and Officer of the District and his or her heirs, executors and administrators respectively shall from time to time and at all times, be indemnified and found saved harmless out of the funds of the District only from and against:

a) all costs, charges and expenses whatsoever such District Director or Officer sustains or incurs in or about any action, suit, or proceeding that is brought, commences or prosecuted against him or her for or in respect to any deed, act, matter or thing whatsoever made, done or committed by him or her, in or about the execution of the duties of his or her office;

b) all other costs, charges and expenses he or she sustains or incurs in or about or in relation to the affairs of the District; except such costs, charges or expenses as are occasioned by his or her own negligence or default or failure to act honestly and in good faith with a view to the best interests of the District. The Ontario Horticultural Association may provide insurance to cover this liability of the District.

**Rationale:** This By-Law will be added as it is required by the OHA to bring the District By-Laws into agreement with the OHA By-Laws.

## 6. By-Law 6.3

### Present wording:

Quite apart from the aforementioned duties, each Assistant District Director is assigned up to four societies in their area for the purpose of establishing a strong liaison with those societies. This includes sitting in on their meetings, installing their officers, and serving as a source of information for societies and their officers.

**Proposed wording:** Quite apart from the aforementioned duties, each Assistant District Director is assigned up to four societies in their area for the purpose of establishing a strong liaison with those societies. This includes sitting in on their meetings when requested, installing their officers, and serving as a source of information for societies and their officers.

**Rationale:** The wording has been changed to reflect that it is not possible, preferred or financially feasible for the ADD's to attend all meetings of their liaison Societies. ADD's will attend to fulfill their duties of performing elections and inductions and otherwise, as requested by the individual Societies.



# Calendar of Events

<b>February 13</b>	<b>February Monthly Meeting at MacMillan Hall 89 Dunn Street</b>
	Monthly meeting will be held once again at Knox Presbyterian Church 89 Dunn Street
<b>February 18</b>	<b>Hamilton District Chrysanthemum and Dahlia Society presents "Summer in Winter: The Secret World of Dahlias Uncovered"</b>
	A free winter seminar, open to up to the public will be held at the Dundas Museum & Archives on Saturday February 18th, 2017. There will be 2 guest speakers Michael Parrish and Master Gardner Kate Sault, who will walk the audience through the different varieties of dahlias and the basics of growing and storing. There will also be members available to answer questions, small demonstrations, and spectacular photos of past dahlia shows and winning gardens. Location: Dundas Museum & Archives, 139 Park Street West, Dundas, ON L9H 1X8 Tel. 905.627.7412
<b>February 18</b>	<b>Mississauga Seedy Saturday February 18, 2017</b>
	9 to 3:30 Unitarian Congregation Mississauga, ON 11th annual event. Workshops, vendors, environmental groups and the Cozy Café – all favorites. Free admission. Vendor/exhibits welcome. Contact: Carole.berry@rogers.com 905-790-6983. More information: www.uucm.ca
<b>February 20</b>	<b>Family Day: Fun with Flowers - Family Day in February</b>
	What could be more fun than flower arranging for a mid-winter horticulture celebration? Iroquois Ridge Community Centre, 1051 Glenashton Drive in Oakville. Start time: 10:00 am Bring along your
<b>February 25</b>	<b>District 6 Spring Breakfast meeting at St. Simon's Anglican Church</b>
	Saturday, February 25, 2017 - 9:30 a.m. to 12:00: District 6 Spring Breakfast Meeting Location: St. Simon's Anglican Church: 1450 Litchfield Rd. Oakville, Ontario L6H 5P4. Hosted by the Oakville Horticultural Society. Everyone is welcome. Click on the District 6 logo above, to see the full brochure.
<b>February 25</b>	<b>Toronto Seedy Saturday February 25, 2017</b>
	Saturday February 25, 2017, 10 to 4 Toronto Botanical Garden, 777 Lawrence Ave. E Toronto, ON What's happening: Seed-related talks and workshops; a community seed exchange; 'tours' of our seed library; as well as local seed vendors and environmental organizations. Contact: Mark Stewart: librarian@torontobotanicalgarden.ca
<b>March 2 - 5</b>	<b>Stratford Garden Festival March 2 to 5, 2017</b>
	Join us for The Lung Association's 17th annual Stratford Garden Festival Earthly Delights Sponsored by Pro Resp There will be many Speaker Series, Marketplace, and special events. Where: Stratford Rotary Complex 353 McCarthy Road, Stratford, Ontario; for further information, please visit our website: <a href="https://www.on.lung.ca/stratfordgardenfestival">https://www.on.lung.ca/stratfordgardenfestival</a>
<b>March 10-19</b>	<b>Canada Blooms</b>
	For more information: <a href="http://canadablooms.com/">http://canadablooms.com/</a>
<b>March 21</b>	<b>Oakville Green AGM Meeting, March 21, 2017</b>
	Oakville Green will hold their Annual General Meeting on March 21, 2017 commencing at 7:00 pm. At this meeting, they will screen the film: Hometown Habitat <a href="https://themedadowproject.com/hometown-habitat/">https://themedadowproject.com/hometown-habitat/</a>



*You must give some time to your fellow man. Even if it's a little thing, do something for which you get not pay but the privilege of doing it. -- Albert Schweitzer*



# ONTARIO HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION

## DISTRICT SIX

### CONSTITUTION

#### Article I      NAME

The name of the organization shall be District Six of the Ontario Horticultural Association (OHA), hereinafter referred to as the District. Because the district is located at the northern edges of the Carolinian forest, it often refers to itself as a Carolinian District.

#### Article II      AUTHORITY

The *Agricultural and Horticultural Organizations Act* (hereinafter called the Act) is the legislation that provides legal status and direction for agricultural societies, horticultural societies and agricultural associations in the Province of Ontario. The proper name of the Act is the *Agricultural and Horticultural Organizations Act*, R.S.O. 1990, chapter A.9.

#### Article III      MISSION

The mission of the District is to provide leadership and assist in the promotion of education and interest in all areas of horticulture and related environmental issues through an expanding network of horticultural societies, as outlined in Article 36 of the Act.

#### Article IV      MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the District shall be open to organizations interested in supporting the District's mission, and who are identified by the OHA and District 6 as in good standing and resident within the geographical boundaries of the District. Hereinafter, all these organizations will be referred to as "Societies."

#### Article V      ORGANIZATION

The District shall function as a non-profit organization dedicated to carrying out its mission without purposes of gain, and any profits or other accretions shall be used in promoting its mission.

#### Article VI      ADMINISTRATION

The District shall manage its affairs with the assistance of elected Officers and other Executive Members. The Terms of reference for election and the duties to be performed shall be provided in the By-Laws.

# ONTARIO HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION

## DISTRICT SIX

### CONSTITUTION

#### Article VII      AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION

The Constitution may be amended or revoked by three-fourths of the members present at an Annual General Meeting of the members, provided that: (1) a notice of motion in writing of such proposed amendment or revocation has been given at the previous annual meeting; or (2) the Secretary is notified in writing of the proposed changes in time to notify all societies at least 60 days before the next annual meeting.

#### By-Law 1.      MEMBERSHIP

Membership shall be open to all horticultural societies incorporated under the *Agricultural and Horticultural Organizations Act* (hereinafter called the Act), and who report annually to the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA), providing they are located in the geographical sector identified by Ontario Horticultural Association (OHA) as District Six (hereinafter called the District.)

The Executive shall recommend the District fee per member for all societies. Any change to the membership fee must be approved by a majority of delegates at a District Annual General Meeting. The District Secretary shall notify societies of any proposed change at least 60 days prior to the next Annual General Meeting.

#### By-Law 2      OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. The OFFICERS of the District shall be the District Director, Secretary and Treasurer.
2. The EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE shall include the officers of the District and all Assistant District Directors. A minimum of six Assistant District Directors shall be elected. A quorum for meetings shall be a simple majority plus one.
3. The Secretary and Treasurer may be selected from among the Assistant District Directors or elected separately. Auditors shall be elected annually.
4. Vacancies occurring in the Executive Committee during the year may be filled by appointment of the Executive Committee. Any persons so appointed shall serve until the next general election.

#### 5.      CODE OF CONDUCT

All OFFICERS and BOARD MEMBERS are committed to acting honestly, truthfully and with integrity in all our transactions and dealings for the District and being responsible, transparent and accountable for all of our actions. The District shall be operated and maintained without discrimination against any person or group of persons.

**ONTARIO HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION**  
**DISTRICT SIX**  
**CONSTITUTION**

**6. INDEMNIFICATION OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS**

Every Director and Officer of the District and his or her heirs, executors and administrators respectively shall from time to time and at all times, be indemnified and found saved harmless out of the funds of the District only from and against:

a) all costs, charges and expenses whatsoever such District Director or Officer sustains or incurs in or about any action, suit, or proceeding that is brought, commences or prosecuted against him or her for or in respect to any deed, act, matter or thing whatsoever made, done or committed by him or her, in or about the execution of the duties of his or her office;

b) all other costs, charges and expenses he or she sustains or incurs in or about or in relation to the affairs of the District; except such costs, charges or expenses as are occasioned by his or her own negligence or default or failure to act honestly and in good faith with a view to the best interests of the District. The Ontario Horticultural Association may provide insurance to cover this liability of the District.

**By-Law 3. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)**

1. The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING shall be held at such time and place as the Executive Committee may decide for the purpose of reviewing the work of the year, preparing policy, and such other business deemed necessary. The Executive shall provide a notice of the meeting to member societies at least 60 days in advance of the meeting. This notice shall provide details of any Constitution or By-Law amendments.
2. Each society member in good standing, attending the meeting, is entitled to a vote.
3. The Executive Committee shall have the power to call special meetings of the District whenever it deems advisable. Notice of all special meetings, with a statement of the subjects to be discussed, shall be sent to all societies at least 30 days prior to said meeting.
4. The District Director, in conjunction with the Executive Committee, shall prepare an agenda and order of business prior to calling the Annual General Meeting, and a copy of such agenda shall be sent to each society together with notice of such meeting. When possible, this meeting will be held in conjunction with the District Six Spring Workshop and Flower Show.
5. For the Annual General Meeting or any special meeting of the District, a minimum of 40 society members and eleven societies shall be present.
6.
  - a) The Treasurer shall present an audited financial report to the members at the Annual General Meeting. Copies of the financial statement and auditors' report shall be distributed to each Society, preferably before the meeting.
  - b) The Fiscal Year of the District shall be the calendar year.

**ONTARIO HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION**  
**DISTRICT SIX**  
**CONSTITUTION**

7. Between general meetings of the District, the Executive Committee shall manage its affairs and, at the Annual General Meeting, a motion will be made approving the actions of the Executive Committee for the previous year.

**By-Law 4.**      **ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND AUDITORS**

1. The Offices of District Director, plus at least six Assistant District Directors, and two Auditors shall be filled by election at the Annual General Meeting of the District.
2. The Executive shall appoint a Nominating Committee that shall provide at least one candidate for each office. Current Executive members may not serve on the Nominating Committee. Societies may provide nominations that should be sent to the Nominating Committee; the Nominating Committee must report all nominations received. Nominations will also be received from the floor, provided the proposed nominees have agreed for her/his name to stand.

**By-Law 5.**      **DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

1. The District Director, or appointed delegate, shall preside at all meetings of the Executive and General Meetings, shall decide all questions of order and advance the interests of the District whenever possible, and shall be a member ex officio of all committees.
2. The Secretary, or appointed delegate, shall assist the District Director with correspondence, attend all Executive and General Meetings and keep minutes thereof.
3. The Treasurer shall keep an accurate record of all monies received and dispensed and shall maintain an account in a chartered bank or trust company approved by the Executive Committee. The Treasurer shall prepare an annual financial report, duly audited, for presentation at the Annual General Meeting.
4. The Treasurer must have a 'Standby Letter of Credit' issued annually by the OHA and signed by the President and Treasurer of the OHA.

**By-Law 6.**      **DUTIES OF ASSISTANT DISTRICT DIRECTORS**

1. The Assistant District Directors, and the District Director, constitute an Awards Committee for the District. Only one nomination per District may be made annually according to the guidelines for awards described in the OHA Awards Booklet, these being the District Service Award, and a candidate for the OHA Honour Roll. The Awards Committee shall invite and receive nominations from societies for these awards, and will make the final decision for submission to the OHA.

**ONTARIO HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION**  
**DISTRICT SIX**  
**CONSTITUTION**

2. An Assistant District Director may function as Secretary, Treasurer, or in other specific capacities as identified by the District Director, such as web-site manager or communications officer.
3. Quite apart from the aforementioned duties, each Assistant District Director is assigned up to four societies in their area for the purpose of establishing a strong liaison with those societies. This includes sitting in on their meetings **when requested**, installing their officers, and serving as a source of information for societies and their officers.

**By-Law 7.**      **SOCIETIES**

1. Each society may establish its own membership, manage its own business, finances, meetings, officers, publications, and election, and may develop its own constitution and by-laws, provided that they do not conflict with those of the District and the OHA.
2. Societies are encouraged to nominate candidates for awards, as described in the OHA Awards Booklet, by submitting nominations and appropriate documentation about the potential recipient through the District Director.

**By-Law 8.**      **RULES OF ORDER**

Bourinot's Rules of Order (or Robert's Rules of Order) shall govern the District on all matters not covered by this Constitution and By-Laws

**By-Law 9.**      **AMENDMENTS TO THE BY-LAWS**

These By-Laws may be amended, or revoked by a majority of the members present at any Annual General Meeting or special meeting of the members provided that:

1. A notice of motion in writing of such proposed amendment, or revocation, has been given at the previous AGM, or
2. The Secretary is notified in writing of the proposed changes in time to notify all societies at least 60 days before the next AGM.